

# RHS Encore Academy Merit System

## **ACTIONS TAKEN**

***One or more of the following may apply:***

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*Academic penalty*

*Alternative education program*

*Community service*

*Conference with student/parent(s)*

*Confiscation of items*

*Exclusion from attendance at extracurricular activities*

*Expulsion*

*Instructional intervention*

*Loss of computer and/or internet privileges*

*Loss of privileges*

*Mediation/conflict resolution*

*Out of school suspension*

*Referral to counseling/student assistance program*

*Referral to school resource officer/law enforcement*

*Required drug screenings*

*Revocation of technology access/privileges*

*Depending upon the age of the student and the severity of the incident, student bullying could be classified as a class one, class two, or class three level and students will be disciplined according to each level. Bystanders who fail to report incidences of bullying may be subject to disciplinary actions.*

RHS Encore Academy is dedicated to learning, to growing, and to developing positive friendships. This is a school where students and staff work hard on academics and at the appropriate time enjoy athletics, social and recreational activities. It is essential that students and their families understand that high standards of behavior will be maintained at RHS Encore Academy in accordance with the Reynoldsburg City School District's Code of Conduct.

Students are responsible for their own behavior and are expected to follow all campus rules and regulations. *These expectations apply on campus, at all school activities and on the way to and from school or school activities.*

### **All students are expected to:**

- \* Carry an RHS Encore Academy ID card at all times and present it to school personnel upon request.
- \* Treat all students, staff members and visitors with dignity and respect.
- \* Follow the direction of any RHS Encore Academy employee.
- \* Obtain teacher permission and hall pass before leaving class during the period.
- \* Be responsible for all class and homework assignments.
- \* Dispose of trash in appropriate receptacles.
- \* Report any conflicts, threats or harassment to an RHS Encore Academy staff member immediately.
- \* Avoid any physical violence and walk away from any situation that may lead to a physical altercation and seek assistance from a staff member. Self-defense is not an acceptable reason for engaging in physical violence.

### **Further Expectations**

In addition to those behaviors prohibited by state laws, the following expectations apply to students at RHS Encore Academy. Violations will result in disciplinary action.

- \* Students will not disrupt instructional time.
- \* Students will only use cell phones and other electronic devices in strict accordance with the RHS Encore Academy "Technology for Educational Purposes Only" policy.
- \* Students will stay on campus in the appropriate location during the appropriate time.
- \* Students will eat only within the designated areas.
- \* Students will avoid cheating, fraudulent activities, and falsification of any type.
- \* Students will limit displays of physical affection to holding hands.
- \* Students will park within authorized areas only (not in visitor or staff parking).

# RHS Encore Academy Merit System

## Discipline

### Merit System

Teachers and administrators are expected to handle minor discipline incidents in the classroom as well as in common areas of the school such as the hallways, cafeteria and during assemblies.

While verbal reprimands are usually appropriate and sufficient to correct minor misbehavior, some incidents may be disruptive enough or persistent enough to warrant interventions such as losing privileges, staying after class, or receiving demerits.

The demerits are designed to document and track repeated minor discipline infractions.

Accumulation of demerits by students who consistently disrupt the learning environment will eventually result in administrative discipline.

Major infractions may result in disciplinary action that is not addressed through the use of demerits.

### Level I Offenses

#### 1-3 Demerits

1. Forgery
2. Cutting assemblies or lunch
3. Inappropriate conduct/horseplay
4. Misuse of hall pass or privilege
5. Inappropriate public displays of affection
6. Dress code violation
7. Horseplay in common areas or classroom
8. Unprepared for class
9. Malicious remarks
10. Misrepresenting facts
11. In unauthorized area
12. Vulgar literature / Drawings / Items
13. Profanity / Vulgarity / Obscene gestures
14. Arguing / Rudeness
15. Class disruption
16. Late to class
17. Other minor offenses

### Level II Offenses

#### 3-5 Demerits

1. Vandalism/Minor damages to school property/misuse of school equipment and supplies
2. Disrespect for authority
3. Abusive language (including profanity and/or inappropriate gestures)
4. Failure to report to office when requested
5. Misuse of school technology (inappropriate searches, password sharing, pornography)

#### 5-10 Demerits

1. Leaving class without permission.
2. Leaving school building or property without permission
3. Violation of Tobacco Use Policy (referral to law enforcement if required)
4. Truancy (class cut = 5 demerits)
5. Truancy (whole day cut = 10 demerits)
6. Open defiance and contempt for authority
7. Refusing to leave area when instructed to do so
8. Disruptive behavior which causes an interruption or disruption to the school and education environment and process
9. Peer harassment (verbal)
10. Reckless horseplay

## *We are Encore!*

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# RHS Encore Academy Merit System

## Level III Offenses

### 15-20 Demerits

1. Peer harassment (physical)
2. Willful destruction of school property (extreme cases may lead directly to expulsion)
3. Accomplice to a theft (will be referred to law enforcement)

### 20-30 Demerits

1. Theft (will be referred to law enforcement)
2. Intentional entrance without consent from the principal into restricted non-educational area(s) such as electrical rooms/maintenance rooms, ceiling, roof, and storage areas

### 30 Demerits – IMMEDIATE ten-day suspension (will be referred to law enforcement)

1. Deliberate physical attack on school personnel
2. Fighting – two (2) or more individuals engaged in harmful and/or offensive contact (will be referred to law enforcement)
3. Assault and Battery – the application of force to another resulting in harmful or offensive contact (will be referred to law enforcement)
4. Violation of Weapons Policy (will be referred to law enforcement)
5. Violation of Drug Abuse Policy (including being under the influence)
6. Violation of the Sexual Harassment Policy
7. Violent criminal offenses (refer to law enforcement for determination)

## Penalties for Accumulated Demerits

Encore Academy believes that a progressive discipline plan best allows students the opportunity for positive behavior change. For the **1<sup>st</sup> inappropriate occurrence**, the teacher and student will conference regarding the behavior. For the **2<sup>nd</sup> inappropriate occurrence**, the teacher will inform the parent via e-mail/phone call. For the **3<sup>rd</sup> inappropriate occurrence**, the student's assigned administrator will issue demerits. Teachers can also use other interventions for dealing with inappropriate behaviors in their classroom.

1. A student who reaches a level of **five (5) demerits** will have the option to complete 1 hour of approved community service or serve one 1-hour detention.
2. A student who reaches a level of **ten (10) demerits** will have the option to complete 2 hours of community service, serve two 1-hour detentions, or will be suspended from school for one day.
3. A student who reaches a level of **fifteen (15) demerits** will have the option to complete 3 hours of community service, serve three 1-hour detentions, or will be suspended from school for up to three days.
4. A student who reaches a level of **twenty (20) demerits** will have the option to complete 5 hours of community service, serve five 1-hour detentions, or will be suspended from school for up to five days.
5. A student who reaches a level of **twenty-five (25) demerits** will have the option to complete 7 hours of community service, serve seven 1-hour detentions, or will be suspended from school for up to seven days.
6. A student who reaches a level of **thirty (30) demerits** will be suspended for up to ten (10) days.
7. Any student who is subject to school suspension for a second time or has more than thirty (30) demerits during the school year will be ineligible to attend or participate in interscholastic athletics, or attend and participate in student activities for the remainder of that school year. This includes all school activities, during the day and evening, including commencement and commencement activities.
8. A student who has exceeded thirty (30) demerits will be suspended for up to ten (10) days for each multiple of ten (10) demerits beyond thirty (30) demerits AND will be recommended to an alternative learning center.

*“We have an obligation and a responsibility to be investing in our students and our schools. We must make sure that people who have the grades, the desire and the will...can still get the best education possible.”*

*~ President Barack Obama*

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9. A student who accumulates **forty (40) demerits** or more may be recommended to the School Board for expulsion.

### Additional Sanctions

1. A student who has been suspended from school WILL NOT be permitted to participate or attend any school-sponsored curricular or extracurricular activities or student activities conducted on or off school premises for the duration of the suspension.
  2. In addition to the consequences listed, privileges that relate to a specific offense can also be revoked.
  3. Any student in violation of the following infraction(s) during the school day or while attending or participating in school-sponsored curricular or extracurricular activities, conducted on or off school premises, shall be ineligible to seek election or serve as a class officer or member of student government, participate in interscholastic athletics, or participate in student activities for one (1) calendar year from the date of the incident:
    - Violation of Drug Abuse Policy.
    - Possession, use and/or under the influence of alcohol.
    - Stealing or vandalism requiring severe disciplinary action.
    - Violation of Weapons Policy.
    - Violation of Sexual Harassment Policy.
  4. Any student who receives an expulsion from the school district shall be ineligible to seek election or serve as a class officer or serve as member of student government, participate in interscholastic athletics, or participate in student activities for a period of one (1) calendar year from the date of the expulsion.
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### Earning Merits / Demerit Removal

Any student may have merits assigned to help to facilitate the importance of good behavior and to reward positive changes in behavior. A student who goes through a thirty (30) school day attendance period free of any demerits will receive 2 merits. In addition, the following are also ways for students to earn merits.

Promptness → no tardies to any classes = 2 merits; only 1 tardy = 1 merit (in a period of 30 school days)

Attendance → perfect attendance = 2 merits; 1 absence = 1 merit (in a period of 30 school days)

Superior Academic Performance → a GPA of 4.0+ = 4 merits; 3.5-3.99 = 3 merits; 3.0-3.49 = 2 merits; 2.5-2.99 = 1 merit (per grading period)

Significant Academic Improvement → a GPA that increases by 2.0 points from one grading period to the next = 4 merits; an improvement of 1.5 = 3 merits; an improvement of 1.0 = 2 merits; an improvement of 0.5 = 1 merit (per grading period)

\*Additional merits can be earned for other appropriate behaviors and can be assigned by the staff at RHS Encore Academy.

Earned merits can remove demerits and/or be used for Encore semester raffle prizes.

### Merit Reward Options

1. No demerits for an entire month = front of lunch line pass or pizza with the principal
2. No demerits for an entire quarter = movie in PAC
3. No demerits for an entire semester = party in the PAC
4. No demerits for the entire school year = King's Island (ticket and transport provided)