

Ridgeway R-V School

Elementary Student Handbook
2022-2023



MISSION STATEMENT

The Ridgeway R-V School District consistently strives for academic achievement by promoting a positive learning environment. We promote citizenship, communicate high expectations, and recognize success.

Ridgeway R-V

2022-2023

FACULTY/STAFF

Board of Education

Scott Billups.....President	Matt Whitaker.....Member
Sydney Craig.....Vice President	Austin Booth.....Member
Amber McFall.....Secretary / Treasurer	Jim Wilson Member
	John Meek.....Member

Administration:

Jonnie Beavers, Superintendent
Chris Thomas, Principal/AD

Office:

April Holcomb, Board Secretary and District Bookkeeper
Marcia Meek, Secretary
Rhonda Booth, Counselor

Kindergarten	Devon Kilton	Music/Art	Annette Wilson
1st/2nd Grades	Jandy Whitaker	PE/Health	Tom Hogan
3rd/4th Grades	Penelope Wallace	Computers/Business	Betsy Friesz
5th/6th Grades	Kadie Wagner		
Title I	Ginger Bennett	7-12 English	Patrick Friga
Library / PAT	Shelley Lovitt	7-12 Science	Sharon Reynolds
Preschool	Brandy Cook	7-12 Social Studies	Karl (KJ) Dailey
Special Education	Stacie Foster	7-12 Mathematics	Brooke Hecker

Maintenance/Custodian	Scott Boswell
Custodian	Betty Seymour
Tammy Bennett	Paraprofessional
Cammie Vaughn	Paraprofessional
	Paraprofessional
Food Service Director	Kay Meek
Cook	April Vandiver

Ridgeway R-V School District

2022-23 School Year Calendar

July							August							September												
					1	2		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3						
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17						
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24						
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30							
31																										
7/4 4th of July- District Closed							8/17- 8-19 Teacher In-Service 8/23 First Day Of School Dismissal 12:45							9/5 Labor Day- No School												
October							November							December												
						1			1	2	3	4	5					1	2	3						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	4	5	6	7	8	9	10						
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30	31																									
10/14 1st Quarter Ends- 32 days 10/20 12:45 dismissal P/T Conf 2-7pm 10/21 NO School							11/23-25 Thanksgiving Break							12/21 2nd Quarter Ends- 38 days 12/21 First Semester Ends- Dismiss 12:45 12-22-01/3 Winter Break												
January							February							March												
						1				1	2	3	4					1	2	3	4					
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28	26	27	28					26	27	28	29	30	31							
29	30	31																								
1/3 Teacher In-Service 1/16 ML King Day- No School							2/21 President's Day- No School							3/10 End Of 3rd Quarter- 39 days 3/23 12:45 Dismissal P/T Conf 2-7 pm 3/24 No School												
April							May							June												
						1		1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3	4					
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11						
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31				26	27	28	29	30								
30																										
4/7- NO School Good Friday NO In-Service this Month 7:42-3:30 Full Day 144x7.4=1065.6 5x4=20 1085.6 Total Hours							5/19 Last Day of School- Dismiss 12:45 5/19 12:45-3:30 Teacher In-Service 5/19 End of 4th Quarter- 40 days 5/19 Teacher Check Out 5/30 Memorial Day							<table border="1"> <tr> <td style="background-color: #d9ead3;"> </td> <td>Teacher Inservice- No School</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #f4cccc;"> </td> <td>Holiday/Vacation No School</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="background-color: #fff2cc;"> </td> <td>Early Dismissal 12:45</td> </tr> </table>								Teacher Inservice- No School		Holiday/Vacation No School		Early Dismissal 12:45
	Teacher Inservice- No School																									
	Holiday/Vacation No School																									
	Early Dismissal 12:45																									
														149 Student Days												
														160 Staff Days												

FOREWORD

The procedures and guidelines outlined in this handbook have been formulated to provide information to the students and parents of Ridgeway R-V School. These rules are necessary for the effective day-to-day operation of our school and shall be applied in a firm, fair and consistent manner.

We know that everyone associated with Ridgeway R-V School District wants the best education experience for all of our students. Please read this handbook carefully, then sign and return the attached Handbook Consent Form before the end of the first full week of school.

SCHOOL SCHEDULE INFORMATION

SCHOOL HOURS: 7:45 am to 3:30 pm Tuesday - Friday. NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY.

Students who walk or are dropped off by parents should enter the building by the North door, into the cafeteria. Students riding the bus will be dropped off at the cafeteria (North) door. Parents are asked to keep the area in front of the north door clear so the buses can navigate without having to work around parked cars. No students should arrive at school before 6:45 am. Students who arrive between 6:45 and 7:45 should go to the cafeteria upon arrival.

Students are not permitted to leave the school grounds during the school day without written or oral parental approval and the permission of the principal/superintendent. EVERY STUDENT LEAVING THE BUILDING BEFORE THE END OF THE SCHOOL DAY WILL SIGN OUT IN THE OFFICE. EVERY STUDENT ARRIVING AT SCHOOL AFTER THE BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL DAY WILL SIGN IN AT THE OFFICE AND GET A PASS TO GO TO CLASS.

Academic Suspension From Extracurricular Activities:

Student's eligibility is calculated approximately every two weeks, at midterm, and at quarter during each semester by the following:

Grades will be checked approximately every 2 weeks. If a student has one or more F's during the grade check, the student will be on probation until the next grade check. If a student continues to have one or more F's the subsequent grade check, the student will become ineligible (and remain ineligible) until the next grade check is conducted.

Ineligible activities include, but not limited to: field trips that are not given a class grade or percent, dances, pep assemblies, being a spectator at all home events unless accompanied by a legal guardian, elementary basketball games, clubs, athletic events, and games.

Ineligible students may continue to practice as long as ineligibility requirements are met. Ineligibility requirements take precedence over all practices. It is the responsibility of the student to communicate with the instructor to schedule tutoring.

Any student who is observed by a staff member or law enforcement official, or admits to, or at a judicial or administrative proceeding is found substantial evidence to have any of the following has violated his/her eligibility to participate in extracurricular activities:

- Possessed alcoholic beverages with knowledge, intent, and control thereof:
- Consumed alcoholic beverages.
- Possessed controlled substance as they are defined by the Code of Missouri, and without legal prescription, and with knowledge, intent and control thereof.
- Used controlled substances, as they are defined by the Code of Missouri, and without a legal prescription.
- Use or possession of tobacco, in any form.
- Committed theft, vandalism, or any other serious offenses, including those which would violate the Missouri Criminal Code, as to make the student unworthy to represent the ideas and standards of this school.

Accidents at School/Emergency Procedures:

Parents will be notified by phone or in writing in case of an accident or illness to their child. If you cannot be reached to make necessary arrangements, or in a critical emergency requiring medical care, the school will phone the person/persons you listed on your child's enrollment form to authorize treatment. All major and minor injuries will be documented and an accident report will be filled out and sent home with the child explaining the injury. A copy of the accident report will also be given to the principal.

Athletic Event Admission Charges:

Adults	\$4.00	Students	\$3.00	65 years+	Free
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ATTENDANCE

Attendance Philosophy:

Absence from a class can never be fully made up because the student will have missed class discussion, teacher presentation and his own opportunity to participate. In addition, regular attendance in class promotes habits of punctuality, responsibility and self-discipline.

Students with good attendance earn better grades, do better on standardized tests, and have a more positive attitude toward school. Good attendance generally indicates success in

school. The State Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) recognize that good attendance is necessary for students to receive a good education. Ridgeway R-V School has set 98% as an attendance goal each year.

- A. All Students are allowed six (6) absences for the school year. When the student reaches the sixth absence, any additional absence will be considered unexcused and no make-up work will be allowed, unless the student presents a doctor's note upon return to school.
- B. On the morning of an absence, parents should contact the school office by note or telephone 872-6813 before 9:00 AM and report the absence and the reason for the absence. If contact is not made to the school office by note or phone call by 9:00 AM, the school will call the parents. This early contact also allows for assignments to be collected and ensures the SAFETY OF YOUR CHILD. If parents are not reached, the absence will be recorded as unexcused and students will not be allowed to make up work. **A letter will be sent to the parents at the occurrence of the 3rd and 5th absence. A letter will also be sent to the parents in the event of three consecutive unexcused absences. In such cases a copy will be sent to the Juvenile Court and Children's Division of Family Services for follow-up.**
- C. Parents or guardians are asked to help the school to promote good attendance in students. A student and his/her parents/guardian may appeal the unexcused absences by providing the Appeals Committee with a written appeal within 5 school days of the unexcused absence. Written material may include doctor's or dentist's notes, court summons. The attendance committee consists of the principal, three teachers, and counselor. Absences that occur during either semester may be appealed during that semester only.
- D. School sponsored activities are not counted as absences. When non-school related absences are known in advance, the student must contact the school so that arrangements can be made with teachers for work to be completed. Students failing to make the necessary contact in sufficient time to arrange for completed work will not receive credit for the work.
- E. Regardless of the reasons for the absence, students are expected to complete all assignments and tests. When students return they will have a minimum of two additional school days to complete their work (the day they return counts as day one and the work is due on the second day). The teacher may allow more time for the work to be completed (i.e. projects, etc.).
- F. In order to be eligible for any school activity, a student must be in attendance the entire day of the activity, unless excused by the principal.

Attendance Incentive:

Ridgeway School recognizes students with outstanding attendance records. Students will be recognized at quarterly awards assemblies. Attendance awards will be given at the assemblies to students with the highest rates of attendance; they will receive pop, gift-cards, cash, or other appropriate rewards for quarter, semester, and year.

Bulletins:

To help keep students and faculty informed, daily bulletins will be issued. Bulletins will be read over the intercom at the beginning of each day and emailed to the district announcements email list.

Bus Rules:

Any offense committed by a student on a district-owned or contracted bus shall be punished in the same manner as if the offense had been committed at school. Misconduct will be treated the same as school building misconduct. Students may be subject to loss of bus privileges as a result of disruptive behavior.

1. The driver is in charge of the pupils on the bus. Students must obey the driver promptly and respectfully.
2. Classroom conduct is to be observed by students while riding the bus, except ordinary conversations.
3. The use of tobacco is not permitted on the bus.
4. Loud or abusive language is not permitted.
5. Exit and load from front door of bus, unless directed otherwise by the driver.
6. Students must cross the road in front of the bus in full view of the driver.

You must keep your vehicle behind the bus and honor the bus stop sign whenever the driver activates it.

*You **cannot** pass a school bus when the stop sign is activated and the lights are flashing.*

Bus to Activities:

A student riding the bus to a school activity shall ride the bus home unless a parent/guardian signs a sign out sheet provided by the activity sponsor.

Cell Phones:

Cell phone usage is not permitted by elementary students. We understand that some students might need to bring a phone to the school for use after school. It is up to the classroom teacher where the phone will be kept in the classroom during school hours.

Cafeteria/Hallways/Restrooms:

Exemplary behavior is expected outside of the classroom. Students are expected to walk quietly down one side of the hall. While waiting in the hallway, talking should only be done with the permission of the teacher and should be limited to the person standing next to you.

Curriculum, State Mandated Human Sexuality (Policy 6116):

Any course materials and instruction related to human sexuality and sexually transmitted diseases will be medically and factually accurate. Parents/guardians have the right to remove their student from any part of the District's human sexuality instruction.

Clubs:

Clubs will be organized when there is enough student interest and the goal is in accordance with the school's philosophy. A staff member must act as the advisor. Students must be academically eligible to participate.

Dances:

Generally, dances will be limited to 7-12 grade students and their dates. Students younger than 7th grade will not be admitted.

Distribution of Non-Curricular Student Publications:

There are times when students would be permitted to distribute unofficial materials, which are non-curricular in nature. i.e. Race For Life, Ronald McDonald House etc. To be allowed to distribute such materials students must adhere to the following guidelines:

- A. No obscene materials
- B. No materials which could be considered libelous
- C. No indecent or vulgar language or graphics
- D. Nothing advertising products or services not permitted by law to minors
- E. Nothing insulting, intimidating or harassing by its nature
- F. Nothing that would be deemed to cause a disruption of the learning environment

Students wishing to distribute unofficial materials must submit a copy for approval to the administration 24 hours in advance, listing the names, dates, and location of the distribution.

Emergency Procedures:

Procedures are posted in all classrooms and drills are scheduled throughout the school year.

Exams/Screenings:

Throughout the school year various non-emergency physical exams or screenings are conducted on students, including but not limited to hearing, vision, scoliosis, and dental. Parents

have the right to opt out of such exams/screenings by providing the school with written notice of their wishes. This should be done prior to the start of each year.

Fees (Policy and Regulation 6231, Textbook Usage):

There will be no student fees to cover the cost of textbooks, workbooks, library books, technology or laboratory fees (with the exception of online courses and non-routine curriculum). Normal wear and tear is expected. Malicious damage, writing in or losing a textbook, library book or electronic device is grounds for assessing up to the full replacement cost to the individual student. Grades and credits will be withheld until payment is made.

FERPA Policies:

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA, U.S. Code (20 USC 1232g). FERPA requires schools and local education agencies to annually notify parents of their rights under FERPA. Parents may inspect and review records and, if they believe the records to be inaccurate, they may seek to amend them.

FERPA gives both parents, custodial and noncustodial, equal access to student information unless the school has evidence of a court order or state law revoking these rights. When students reach the age of 18, they become "eligible students" and rights under FERPA transfer to them. However, parents retain access to student records of children who are their dependents for tax purposes.

PERSONAL NOTES MADE BY TEACHERS AND OTHER SCHOOL OFFICIALS THAT ARE NOT SHARED WITH OTHERS ARE NOT CONSIDERED EDUCATION RECORDS. Information about disciplinary actions taken against students may be shared, without prior consent of the parent, with officials in other education institutions. The complete FERPA policy is on file in the superintendent's office. See the Principal for more information on FERPA Policies.

Grading Scale - Grades 1-12:

95-100	A
90-94	A-
87-89	B+
83-86	B
80-82	B-
73-76	C
77-79	C+
70-72	C-
67-69	D+
63-66	D

Continued on next page

60-62	D-
0-59	F

Teachers may have valid reasons and/or methods of giving credit which do not fit the recommended scale. If so, teachers will inform students of any variations from the recommended grading scale.

Guidance Program:

A Guidance Program is designed to help students acquire competencies in Career Planning and Exploration, Knowledge of Self and Others, and Educational and Vocational Development. The K-12 Guidance Curriculum includes classroom activities, small group sessions, and individual counseling. Students and parents may schedule appointments by contacting the school counselor for assistance with educational planning, assessment interpretation, career/college, study skills, home and/or social concerns, referrals, and other needs.

Harassment, Nondiscrimination and Student Rights (Policy & Regulation 2130):

It is the policy of the District to maintain a learning environment that is free from harassment because of an individual’s race, color, sex, national origin, age, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or perceived sexual orientation. It shall be a violation of District policy for any student, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of this District to harass or unlawfully discriminate against a student through conduct of a sexual nature, or regarding race, color, sex, national origin, age, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or perceived sexual orientation as defined by this Policy.

It shall also be a violation of District policy for any teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of this District to tolerate sexual harassment or harassment because of a student's race, color, sex, national origin, age, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or perceived sexual orientation, as defined by this Policy, by a student, teacher, administrator, other school personnel, or by any third parties who are participating in, observing, or otherwise engaged in activities, including sporting events and other extracurricular activities, under the auspices of the School District.

For purposes of this Policy, the term "school personnel" includes school board members, school employees, agents, volunteers, contractors, or persons subject to the supervision and control of the District.

The school system and District officials, including administrators, teachers, and other staff members will act to promptly investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written, of unlawful harassment or unlawful discrimination because of race, color, sex, national origin, age, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, or perceived sexual orientation; to promptly take appropriate action to protect individuals from further harassment or discrimination; and, if it determines that unlawful harassment or discrimination occurred, to promptly and appropriately

discipline any student, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel who is found to have violated this Policy, and/or to take other appropriate action reasonably calculated to end the harassment/discrimination.

The District prohibits retaliation against a person who files a complaint of discrimination or harassment, and further prohibits retaliation against persons who participate in related proceedings or investigations.

Honor Roll:

To qualify for the Honor Roll, an individual must be a full-time student and have no grade below a B-. The High Honor Roll requires at least an A- (3.6667) average of all classes for the quarter. The Regular Honor Roll requires a B (3.00) average of all classes for the quarter.

Illness:

Parents are requested to make sure the school is aware of any health condition their child might have. (i.e. asthma, diabetes, heart condition, etc.)

Parents will be called to pick up their child from school when:

1. The student has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher.
2. The student has vomited.
3. The nurse designee and/or administrator determine it advisable.

We do understand that students get sick and we encourage them to stay home if they are ill. Questions about how long a child with a communicable disease (chicken pox, impetigo, etc.) should stay home should be directed to your physician or County Health Department.

Below are some guidelines to follow if your child appears to be ill:

Fever: Please keep your child home if he/she has a fever of 99.6 or higher without the intervention of fever reducing medicines.

Vomiting/Diarrhea: You should keep your child home if they are vomiting or have diarrhea.

Strep Throat: If your child has a sore throat, fever, swollen glands, or a foul odor from the mouth, see a physician. If the diagnosis is strep throat, your child may return 24 hours after the first dose of prescribed antibiotics.

Ear/Sinus Infection: These are not contagious. The child can attend school as long as there is no fever, vomiting, or diarrhea.

Conjunctivitis (pinkeye): This is very contagious and is spread by the fingers when contaminated from the infected eye.

Skin Infections: Impetigo, ringworm, and scabies are spread by direct contact. These conditions are usually treated with topical medications. If a child is diagnosed with scabies, the child may return the day after treatment has started. With impetigo, the child may return if currently under treatment and the lesions are covered. If ringworm of the body is diagnosed, exclusion from school is not necessary if clothing covers the student's lesions. If the ringworm

is on the scalp, the student may return 24 hours after the treatment is started. A skin rash may be an indicator of a different contagious disease. A decision will be made by the teacher/administrator regarding dismissal from school and a parent will be notified. In some cases, a doctor's note may be needed to be allowed back into school.

Immunizations:

Schools are required by law to achieve 100 percent compliance with immunizations. You may want to check with your physician or the health department to be sure full protection has been provided. Students must be in 100 percent compliance by the first day of school. Students in noncompliance will not be admitted to class. If your child receives immunizations of any kind, please send a record of this to the school office.

Head Lice:

Students who have been infected with head lice will be sent home and will not be allowed to return for 24 hours. During that time the student should be treated with the proper head lice shampoo, all nits should be removed, clothing (including coats), bedding, and pillows should be washed and dried in a hot drier, and mattresses and furniture should be sprayed with proper sprays. The school will also check all siblings upon returning to school, the child must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or relative and will be rechecked. The student will only be allowed to return to class when they are found to be nit free and evidence of proper treatment has been presented to the school. The student will be reexamined in 6 to 10 days. Accurate records of students infected with head lice will be kept by the school administrators.

Please report any suspected cases to the school so that the school can take the necessary precautions.

The discovery of head lice on students will activate the following policy:

1. When and if head lice/eggs are discovered on any student in the school district, all siblings of the infected student will also be checked.
2. If the nurse designee or a teacher should discover head lice/eggs on a student in the classroom, the parent of that student will be notified, and the student will be removed from the classroom and from school.
3. The nurse designee will instruct the parents concerning various shampoos and sprays that can be purchased for the head lice/eggs, and will also provide information concerning necessary procedures to be taken in the home to ensure that the head lice are eradicated.
4. To be readmitted to school a student must be accompanied by a parent/guardian or relative, and must be examined by the nurse designee. If eggs are still present, the student will be sent home until the eggs are removed from the hair. Students may return to classes only after they are found to be nit free and evidence of proper treatment has been presented to the school.

5. Within six to ten days after being readmitted to school, the student will be examined again by the nurse. If at that time head lice/eggs are found, parents will again be called and re-instructed concerning treatment of the head lice/eggs.
6. The school will keep accurate records of students infected with head lice/eggs. From these records, the school will determine the infected individuals who could possibly be the carriers of the head lice.
7. It will be the responsibility of the nurse to examine a student who is possibly infested with head lice or eggs, and to recommend his or her removal from school, if warranted. The nurse designee is also responsible for recommending readmission of the student after treatment is completed.

Inclement Weather/Early Dismissal:

In the event that school is dismissed early, a parent or specified responsible adult will need to pick up your child. Dismissal for inclement weather or school closing will be announced through text alert (free sign up at www.onlinefarmersbank.com) and KAAN radio station.

Juveniles and the Law:

The state legislature has mandated students must be informed of their rights as juveniles. You will find a copy of the pamphlet Juveniles and the Law that is published by the Missouri Bar at www.mobar.gov.

Lockers:

Fifth and Sixth graders will be assigned and will only be accessed during specified times. Most school supplies will be stored in the classroom. The lockers are school property and must be easily accessed by school officials.

Medication:

Written permission from a parent/guardian must accompany all medications and herbal supplements, prescription or over the counter, that are administered to our students during school. This includes ibuprofen or acetaminophen. The district will administer prescription drugs upon the written request of the parent, provided medication is brought to school in a prescription bottle that contains the student's name, name of the drug, dosage, frequency of administration, how the medication is to be given and the doctor's name. All medications must be turned over to the office and will be administered from the office. A physician may recommend that an individual student with a chronic health condition, such as asthma or other potentially life threatening respiratory illness, assume responsibility for his/her own medication as part of learning self-care. The school may permit such a student to self-administer medication by way of a metered-dose inhaler, provided that the conditions set forth in state law have been met. For all medications administered, the school office will maintain a record documenting the

student's name, date, time, name of medication, reason for administration, dosage administered, and effect of medication and signature of the individual who administered the medication.

Every Student Succeeds Act:

Our district is required to inform you of information that you, according to the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (Public Law 114-95), have the right to know. Upon your request, our district is required to provide to you in a timely manner, the following information:

- Whether your student's teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.
- Whether your student's teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.
- Whether your student's teacher is teaching in the field of discipline of the certification of the teacher.
- Whether your child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

In addition to the information that parents may request, a building receiving Title 1.A funds must provide to each individual parent:

- Information on the level of achievement and academic growth of your student, if applicable and available, on each of the State academic assessments required under Title I.A.
- Timely notice that your student has been assigned, or has been taught for 4 or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who has not met applicable State certification or licensure requirements at the grade level and subject area in which the teacher has been assigned.

Open House:

An Open House will be scheduled prior to the first day of school.

Parent-Teacher Conferences:

Parent Teacher Conferences are scheduled for the end of the first and third quarters. These conferences are to be held between parent/s and the teacher. The student may be involved in the conferences. The parent or teacher may ask for a conference at any time throughout the year by appointment.

Parties/Treats:

Three parties will be celebrated during the school year; Halloween, Christmas and Valentine's Day. Room parents will be notified in advance of the times and dates of the parties that they have signed up for.

Pop Machine:

Pop machines are not to be accessed by students during the school day. Students are not to have pop in the classrooms unless prior approval is given for a special event.

Progress Reports:

Grade reports will be sent home mid-term and the end of the quarter. Parents may access grades at any time through the Teacher Ease Parent Portal. Parents may contact the office to get a login and password. Mid-terms will be sent home by email to parents email on file.

Promotion and Retention of Students (Policy and Regulation 2520):

The Board acknowledges that the awarding of marks and decisions relative to promotion or retention of students is the sole and serious responsibility of the teaching staff and administration. It is the policy of this Board to support its professional staff in the execution of this duty. A student may be retained when his/her standards of achievement or social, emotional, mental, or physical development would not allow satisfactory progress in the next higher grade. Each case will be evaluated on its own merit. Parents will be counseled about the possibility of retention as soon as conditions for retention appear. Parents/guardians who wish to appeal the decision for retention must first contact the building principal. If parents/guardians do not accept the decision at the building level, an appeal may be made in writing to the Superintendent. All appeals must be requested within two weeks after the close of school. School administration and classroom teachers shall make the final determination.

Reading Levels and State-Mandated Retention (Policy & Regulation 2520):

Third Grade Students

Third grade students who cannot demonstrate a reading level at or above the third grade level will be administered a reading assessment within forty-five (45) days of the end of their third grade year.

If this assessment reflects that the student is reading below the second grade level, the District will design and implement a reading improvement plan for the student's fourth grade year. The reading improvement plan must include a minimum of thirty (30) hours of additional reading instruction or practice outside the regular school day during the fourth grade year. In addition, the District may require the student to attend summer school for reading instruction as a condition of promotion to the fourth grade.

Fourth Grade Students with Reading Improvement Plans

Within forty-five (45) days of the conclusion of the fourth grade year, the District shall administer another reading assessment to those fourth grade students for whom reading

improvement plans had been designed.

If this assessment reveals that the student is reading below a third grade level, the student shall be required to attend summer school to receive supplemental reading instruction. At the conclusion of summer school, the student shall be given another reading assessment. If the student is still reading below third grade level, the student shall not be promoted to fifth grade.

Students shall not be retained more than once on the basis of their inability to satisfy the third grade or fourth grade reading standards. However, the District may, at its discretion, retain any student with a reading improvement plan who has not completed summer school for supplemental reading instruction.

Fifth and Sixth Grade Students

The reading assessment process shall be repeated on a yearly basis through the end of students' sixth grade years, accompanied by a corresponding increase in the required reading level.

The reading assessment process will also be applied to students who initially enter the District in grades four, five or six and who have been determined to be reading below grade level.

The permanent record of students who are determined to be reading below the fifth grade level at the end of the sixth grade shall carry a notation stating that the student has been unable to meet the minimal reading standards. That notation will be removed from the student's record once the District determines that he or she has met the standards.

Exceptions

The following students are exempt from the reading assessments:

1. Students receiving special education services under an Individualized Education Program (IEP) pursuant to §162.670, RSMo.
2. Students who are receiving special education services pursuant to Section 504 whose service plan includes an element addressing reading.
3. Students who have limited English proficiency.
4. Students who have insufficient cognitive ability to meet the reading requirements.

However, a reading improvement plan shall be provided for these students in accordance with law.

Right of Appeal:

Students have the right of appeal for any ruling or disciplinary action. The procedure of appeal is from the supervisory personnel to the principal to the superintendent to the school board.

Recess Dress:

Students will be outside during recess unless the temperature or weather is not suitable. It is the responsibility of the parent to see that their child is dressed for the weather.

Recess Playground Rules:

1. Use equipment as designed (sit only on teeter-totter; swing forward and back).
2. Do not jump out of swings or off any equipment or push others off equipment.
3. Only go down the slide sitting on his or her bottom, one person at a time.
4. Pick up all equipment and return inside at the end of recess.
5. Ask for permission before going across the road to retrieve equipment.

Searches:

Parking lots, vehicles, student lockers, bathrooms, and any other areas that may exist are public property. Hence, these locations may be searched. School officials are authorized to conduct searches within reasonable limits.

Any student may be searched if "reasonable suspicion" exists that laws or rules may have been broken. If illegal, unauthorized, or contraband items are found, these items will be removed from the student. In case of drugs, the proper law enforcement will be notified. If the student refuses the search or if the student refuses to present the contents of his/her person or possessions, parents and/or law enforcement will be contacted.

In some circumstances, teachers or other personnel will wish to search a student whom they believe to be in possession of drugs. The Supreme Court has stated that searches may be carried out according to "the dictates of reason and common sense." The Court has recognized that the need of school authorities to maintain order justifies searches. Thus, the courts held in 1985 that school officials, unlike the police, do not need "probable cause" to conduct a search, nor do they need a search warrant.

Under the Supreme Court's ruling:

School officials may institute a search if there is "reasonable suspicion" to believe that the search will reveal evidence that the student has violated either the law or the rules of the school. The extent of the permissible search will depend on whether the measures used are reasonable related to the purpose of the search and are not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student.

School officials are not required to obtain search warrants when they carry out searches independent of the police and other law enforcement officials. A more stringent legal standard may apply if law enforcement officials are involved in the search.

When it is deemed necessary for the school officials to search a vehicle, an attempt will be made to contact a parent or guardian prior to the search.

Special Services:

Special educational services are available to students with an approved IEP. Scheduling for such students may include courses taught in the special education room, the opportunity to use these services as a resource for extra help when needed, modified regular education, or any other special service that is stated in the IEP. A team, which includes special services instructors, classroom teachers, parent/guardians, the student, principals, and guidance counselor, shall be consulted during scheduling procedures.

Student Appearance:

It is an expectation that our students keep themselves well-groomed and neatly dressed at all times. Parents can often be the best determinant of appropriate student appearance. We ask that parents help take responsibility for teaching their students the difference between appropriate and inappropriate social appearance. Teachers and staff members will immediately address inappropriate dress with the student, allowing the student the opportunity to fix the problem.

1. Any form of dress, hairstyle, or body decoration which is judged to be disruptive to the educational process will not be permitted.
2. Apparel combinations of tops and bottoms must be so that midriff, lower-back, and cleavage are not exposed.
3. Spaghetti straps, see-through/opaque tops, and/or any shirt or pants that have been altered, ie: cut-off sleeves, will not be worn unless covered appropriately or appropriate clothing is worn underneath the garment.
4. No portion of a student's undergarments may be exposed.
5. Clothing with holes in inappropriate places is prohibited.
6. Clothing, jewelry and personal belongings that indicate membership in or affiliation with, or support of any gang are not permitted.
7. No heavy chains or swags may be worn.
8. Caps, hats, hoods, bandanas, or other types of headgear are prohibited unless for a pre-approved activity.
9. Sunglasses are prohibited.
10. Heavy jackets and coats should be removed upon arrival and put in assigned locker.
11. Shorts and skirts should reach mid-thigh or longer.

12. Clothing will be kept in the office and may be used in the event a student needs to change.

If you are not sure if your clothing is acceptable, check with the principal or do not wear it to avoid possible consequences.

Student Assessment Plan:

A Comprehensive Assessment Plan includes tests and inventories for Grades PK-12 with results being used for curriculum revision, health referral, education & career planning and college preparation, Individual Educational Plans, and promotion/retention concerns.

Academic/Career instruments used and grade levels include the following: Missouri Assessment Program: Grade Level Assessments (Grades 3-8) and End of Course Exams (Grade 9-12), Health Screenings (PK-12), Missouri Connections & Career Interest Inventories (Grades 4-12), ASVAB (Grades 10-12), PLAN (Grade 10), PSAT (Grades 10-11), ACT (Grades 10-12), SAT (Grades 11-12), STAR Reading Test (Grades 2-12), DIBELS (Grades K-6),. Additional instruments are used for special services and other individualized educational programs. For more information contact the Ridgeway R-V School Test Coordinator.

Student Educational Records (Policy and Regulation 2400):

Any parent or guardian who wishes to review their child's file may do so. Requests to review should be made through the office of the principal. The release of records to any outside agency will be made only with the authorization of the parent or guardian.

A cumulative educational record shall be maintained for each student from his/her entrance into school through the last date of attendance or through graduation, whichever occurs first.

Each student's educational record will include information required by state and federal statutes, regulations or agencies and shall include other information considered necessary by school officials.

The District will comply with the mandates of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Safe Schools Act regarding confidentiality of student records and disclosure of personally identifiable information.

The parents/guardians of students who are attending or have attended the District's schools have the right to inspect and review the educational records of their students and to request amendment of their students' educational records. The District has adopted procedures (Regulation 2400) for the granting of parental requests for access to the educational records of their students within a reasonable period of time, but in no case more than forty-five (45) days after the request is made.

All information contained in a student's educational record, except information designated as directory information by the District, shall be confidential and shall be directly

accessible only to school officials who demonstrate a legitimate educational interest in the student's records and to parents/guardians or eligible students.

Upon request by military recruiters or an institution of higher learning, the District will provide students' names, addresses and telephone listings. Parents will be notified annually of their right to individually request that such information not be released without prior parental consent. Military recruiters will be provided the same access to students as is given to institutions of higher learning.

Surrogate Parent Program:

Pursuant to the requirements of state law 162.997-999 RSMo, the State Board of Education is required to appoint a surrogate parent at such time as it becomes evident that a child with a disability does not have a parent or a person acting as a parent to participate in matters dealing with the provision of special education. For purposes of surrogate parent appointment, "parent" is defined as a biological parent, a guardian, or a person acting as a parent of a child including, but not limited to, a grandparent, a stepparent, or a foster parent with whom the child lives. The term does not include the state if the child is a ward of the state. The term does not include a person whose parental rights have been terminated.

The local school district is given the responsibility to determine when a child with a disability who requires special education and who resides in the district is without a parent. The district must notify the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education of the need to appoint a surrogate parent. Training for persons serving as surrogate parents will be provided by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the district.

If you are interested in volunteering to serve as a surrogate parent, more information can be obtained from the District's surrogate parent contact person - the person responsible for the district's special education program.

Telephones:

The classrooms have telephones for school use and as a safety measure for the school. They are not to be used by students without the specific consent of a school employee. Prank phone calls in the school will result in detention and/or suspension. Students will only be called to the phone during class time in the case of an emergency. Incoming calls from parents will be delivered to the students at the end of their class period. Outgoing calls by students will be limited to important messages only and must be approved.

Visitors:

Parents and patrons are always welcome. All visitors must be approved by the school principal and individual classroom teachers. During school hours, 7:30-3:30, all visitors must report to the school office upon entering the building. Parents wishing to speak with a teacher or visit a classroom must make an appointment with the teacher.

Withdrawal from School:

Withdrawing students must turn in all books and settle all accounts at the school before records will be forwarded to the new school.

FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM

Lunch/Breakfast Prices:

<u>Lunch</u>		<u>Breakfast</u>	
Preschool-8th Grade	\$2.25	Preschool-12th Grade	\$2.25
9th-12th Grade	\$2.75	Reduced	\$.30
Reduced	\$.40	Adults	\$2.50
Adults	\$3.35		

Milk \$.40/carton

Breakfast/Lunch money may be paid in the office before or after school. If a student has a negative balance exceeding \$20, he/she may be given an alternate meal.

A La Carte:

A la carte will be charged by item. Entrée is \$1.75, Salad Bar “boat” is \$2.00, a side is \$0.75, and milk is \$0.40. These charges apply to all students including those that are in the free and reduced categories. A la carte may be purchased separately at the office. A la Carte items may only be purchased after the purchase of a meal. Students must report to the lunch count supervisor to gain approval for extra purchases of food or milk.

Daily menus may change at times without notice.

Lunchroom Etiquette:

The lunchroom is a place for breakfast and lunch as well as a place to develop proper manners. Students are expected to act with acceptable conduct.

1. Observe good dining room manners at the table and in the dining room
2. Leave the tables and surrounding area clean.
3. Replace chairs and put trash in proper containers.
4. Do not leave the cafeteria while eating food or without permission.
5. Students will be dismissed by the supervising teacher to dump trash and return trays and silverware.
6. Students may use the restroom with teacher/supervisor permission.

All students will eat in the lunchroom. Leaving or ordering out will not be allowed. Parents are not allowed to deliver take-out food to students. Students will either eat the school lunch or bring lunch from home. Students are required to remain in the lunchroom during their lunch period.

Free and Reduced Meals (Policy 5520):

The District will participate in the national school lunch program. Eligible students will be identified for participation in the free and reduced-price lunch program based upon federal and state guidelines. Information concerning the eligibility standards will be distributed annually at registration. The identification of student participants in the program will be confidential with such information disclosed to staff members on a strict need-to-know basis.

STUDENT CONDUCT

General Classroom Rules

1. Only one person may be out of the room at a time and must have a hall pass.
2. Students should be in their seats when the bell rings.
3. Students should respect school property and other people's property.
4. Students should be responsible and bring necessary supplies to class.
5. No profanity or improper sexual innuendos will be tolerated (verbal, visual, or written).
6. Students shall not throw things in the classroom.
7. Every student's right to learn and the teacher's right to teach will be respected.
8. Restroom and drink breaks shall be taken between classes. Cafeteria restroom will be used during lunch.
9. Do not sit on tables, chair-desks, etc.
10. Only teachers will adjust the thermostat and window blinds.
11. Put chairs back into place as you are leaving the classroom.
12. Do your best!

All students are subject to and can be held accountable for any improper conduct during school hours and at all school activities by any personnel of the school district. Additional classroom rules and discipline policies are determined by the classroom teacher. If a student is sent to the office, the principal will determine the level of discipline. Please review Appendix D for more discipline information.

Profane, threatening, or abusive language toward staff and other students is forbidden. Any student who is guilty of habitual truancy, insubordination, fighting, possessing weapons, willful destruction of school property, as well as the other offenses already stated, will be liable

for the consequences listed in the Student Discipline Policies.

Students who deface or damage school property shall be required to pay full damages.

The classroom teacher will deal with students involved in cheating in the classroom. The teacher will inform each class of the rules and punishment for cheating as listed in the Discipline Matrix.

Discipline (Policy 2600):

The District has the authority to discipline for student conduct that is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the schools as provided by state law. School officials are authorized to hold students accountable for misconduct in school, on school property, and during school-sponsored activities. Students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the education of District students will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. However, no student will be confined in an unattended locked space except for emergency situations while awaiting the arrival of law enforcement officials.

Students forfeit their right to a public school education by engaging in conduct prohibited in Regulation 2610, the code of student conduct, and/or state or federal law. Disciplinary consequences include, but are not limited to, withdrawal of school privileges (athletics, intramurals, student clubs and activities and school social events); the reassignment of the student to another school; removal for up to ten (10) school days by building principals; extension of suspensions for a total of 180 days by the Superintendent; and longer term suspension and expulsion from school by the Board of Education. See also Policies 2610, 2662, and 2663.

Removal of any student who is a student with a disability under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 or the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act is subject to state and federal procedural due process rights. See policy 2672 and its corresponding regulation.

The District will provide annual in-service training to all employees concerning the District's discipline regulations and their implementation. Annual training will also include, but will not be limited to, approved methods of dealing with school violence, discipline of students with disabilities, and the requirements of student confidentiality.

Discipline- Drug Free Schools (Policy 2641):

Pursuant to requirements of the 1989 amendments of the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act and to the requirements of the Safe Schools Act, and for the purpose of preventing the use of illicit drugs and alcohol by students, the District shall provide an age-appropriate, developmentally-based drug and alcohol education and prevention program for all students in all grades of the schools operated by the district.

All students and employees may obtain information concerning drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation and reentry programs from the Ridgeway R-V Counselor. Other area organizations that are available for counseling, rehabilitation, and additional information are listed in the Resource Directory located at the back of this handbook.

All parents, students, and employees are annually given a copy of the standards of conduct and the statement of disciplinary sanctions. Compliance with the standards of conduct is mandatory for all students and employees of Ridgeway R-V School District

Discretionary Judgment:

The Ridgeway R-V Board of Education understands that situations may vary greatly according to exact circumstances, the intent of all parties involved, and the extent of cooperation obtained from both the parents and the students in each disciplinary action. Administrators and teachers are given certain discretionary powers to vary from the policy if circumstances warrant and are empowered to make any additional rules as necessary to ensure good order where no rules exist.

Detention:

School personnel may assign a detention for disrupting class, excessive tardiness or other warranted conditions. The length of the detention will be 30 minutes before or after school. Detention will be held 7:00-7:30 AM or after school from 3:30-4:00 PM. Students who fail to serve detention will make up the detention and will be assigned a day of ISS.

1. All detentions will be 30 minutes long.
2. Teachers will monitor students the entire detention period.
3. Detentions will take precedence over extra-curricular activities.
4. Students will work on material given by the detention monitor or on other approved assignments only.
5. A student in detention will not talk, drink, eat, sleep or listen to music during the detention period. Cell phones and other electronic devices will not be used during detention.
6. Parents of students who are assigned detention can request a postponement only one time from an administrator at the time of the phone call.
7. If a student fails to appear for detention they will be assigned an ISS in addition to completing the original detention. Students who miss a second time without consent will be assigned multiple days of ISS.
8. Detention days will be set by the school. Students will be notified of the day to serve when the detention is assigned.
9. After the third detention in a semester an immediate ISS will be assigned.
10. If a detention is not served when assigned, the parent will be called immediately by the principal to set up the corrective detention date and time.

The detention process will be as follows:

1. Student is assigned a detention.
2. Detention form will be completed by the referring staff member.
3. Referring staff members will notify parents of detention time and date (morning or after school).
4. Student and referring school staff member will receive a copy of detention form.
5. The detention teacher will get a copy of the form and an email list of students assigned to detention.
6. Detentions served-teacher reports back to office of students served or not served.
7. Students not serving will be re-assigned with an additional ISS and parents contacted immediately.
8. For any re-assigned detention not served, the student will be subject to ISS or other consequences.

In-School Suspension (ISS):

Students' assigned in-school suspension (ISS) shall report to the principal immediately upon arrival at school. In school suspension (ISS) shall consist of complete isolation from the student body for the period of time set by the administrator. Each student placed on in-school suspension shall be responsible for completing assignments from each teacher. Credit shall be given for work completed by a specified time. Those assignments will be given to the principal at each day's end. Students will not be permitted to be in the company of other students throughout the in-school suspension period. Cell phones and other electronic devices will not be used during suspension.

Out-of-School Suspension (OSS):

Students' assigned out-of-school suspension (OSS) are not allowed on school property during the suspension period unless they and their parents have an appointment with the administration. OSS shall consist of removing a student from the school setting. Parental contact should be made to complete the out-of-school suspension process. Students serving out-of-school suspension will receive a grade of zero for all assignments that day.

Violations Subject to Discipline:

ALCOHOL AND DRUGS (USING, POSSESSION, SELLING) ON SCHOOL GROUNDS OR AT SCHOOL SPONSORED ACTIVITIES

1. Any student participating in an extracurricular activity will be suspended from the said activity if the student is found to be in possession of, using, or under the influence of alcohol, or is found using a tobacco product at a school activity. **THE PROPER LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF DRUG OR ALCOHOL ABUSE.**

2. Any student found to be in possession or using a controlled drug or alcohol on school property or at any school-sponsored activity will be liable to suspension. If the said student is using tobacco products on school property or at any school activity the same punishment exists. THE PROPER LAW ENFORCEMENT WILL BE NOTIFIED OF DRUG OR ALCOHOL ABUSE.
3. The use of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco products on school grounds and at school-sponsored activities is prohibited.

Parents and proper law enforcement will be notified. Students participating in an extracurricular activity will be suspended from the activity.

Students K-12 are now required by federal law to participate at every grade level in drug and alcohol prevention programs. Information concerning drug and alcohol counseling and rehabilitation may be obtained from the Ridgeway R-V counselor. Area organizations that are available for counseling rehabilitation and additional information are listed in the Resource Directory located at the back of this handbook.

Misconduct and Disciplinary Consequences (Policy 2610)

All students attending school in District schools will be expected to accept the obligation and responsibility to attend school on a regular basis and to comply with the District's discipline code set forth in Regulation 2610. Those students who choose not to fulfill their responsibilities at school will be held accountable for their conduct. Consequences for individual acts of misconduct are calculated to discipline the student, to deter future misconduct, and to provide a safe and positive environment in which students can learn. Students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the educational environment of district students to the extent allowed by law will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion.

Tardy:

Students must be in their seats by the time the bell rings or be counted tardy. Students are allowed three tardies per semester. On the fourth tardy of the semester they will receive a detention. Subsequent tardies may result in ISS or OSS.

NETWORK AND COMPUTING SYSTEMS POLICY

A copy of the Network and Computing System Policy for students is included at the end of this handbook in Appendix C. The policy will be included in the registration packet. All registration forms including this one must be signed and returned to the school office prior to the first day of school, or the student will not be allowed to use any computer in the district until all enrollment packet documents are signed and received in the school office.

ALL USER ACCOUNTS WILL BE MONITORED

AT NO TIME WILL A STUDENT BE ALLOWED ACCESS TO A FACULTY OR STAFF COMPUTER! Students accessing a faculty/staff computer shall have immediate disciplinary action as outlined in the Network and Computing System Policy. A written administrative reprimand will be issued to faculty members/staff allowing student access to a faculty/staff computer.

Technology Possibilities:

Access to the Internet will enable students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and museums around the world. Families should be aware that some material accessible via the Internet might contain items that are illegal, inaccurate, or not age appropriate. The purpose for the use of the Internet is for assignments which support learning and teaching, promote the district's goals and objectives and advance the mission of the district. The school believes the benefits to students from access to the Internet in the form of information and resources and opportunities for collaboration exceed the disadvantages. Parents and guardians of minors are responsible for setting and conveying the standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources; therefore, we support and respect each family's decision whether or not to apply for access to the Internet.

To gain access to the Internet, all students must obtain parental permission as verified by the signatures on the policy form. Should a parent prefer that a student not have Internet access, use of the computers is still possible for more traditional purposes such as word processing.

General Computer Usage Rules:

Accessing websites such as: Facebook, MySpace and instant messaging **are prohibited.**

Inappropriate materials or language and communication – A student may not locate, transmit, receive, store, or print files or messages that are profane, obscene or that use language that is offensive or degrading to others. Should students encounter such material by accident, they should report it to their teacher. E-mail and chat rooms are not permitted at the Ridgeway R-V School.

Illegal copying – Students should never copy, download or install any programs unless they have written permission from the Network Administrator. Students should never copy other people's work or intrude in other people's files.

Plagiarism – Plagiarism is illegal and will not be allowed. Punishment is an automatic zero on any material.

Privacy – Network storage areas may be treated like school lockers. Network administrators may review activities to maintain system integrity that insure students are using the system responsibly.

Commercial Use – Students may not offer, provide, or purchase products or services through the school's computer network.

Personal Safety – Students will not post personal contact information about themselves or other people. Personal contact information includes address, telephone number, school address, work address, etc.

System Security – Students are responsible for their own individual account and should take all reasonable precautions to prevent others from being able to use it. Under no conditions should a student provide their password to another person.

Illegal Activities – Students will not attempt to gain unauthorized access to the Ridgeway R-V School computer system. This includes attempting to log in through another person's account or access another person's files.

Computer Settings – Students will not change display properties or any computer configurations.