



Policy and Standards for Parents and Students 2023 – 2024 (revised July 2023)

Photo Release for Minors

Required of All Students

Redeemer Christian School does take photographs or videos of the students and/or schoolwork completed during the school year. These photographs or videos may be used on, but not limited to, school brochures, bulletin boards, the school website, social media sites, local newspapers or newsletters. On the **Signature Page** you may consent or decline to have your child's image used in the above mentioned formats. When you sign, you are either accepting or declining all forms of photos and videos – you cannot pick and choose.

Unexcused Tardies Policy

Required of All Students

Students are considered to have an unexcused tardy if they are tardy for reasons other than professional appointments with a doctor's note. Running late, traffic, oversleeping, missing a bus, being at my locker, and wandering the building or classroom are not valid reasons for being tardy. A student is also considered to have an unexcused tardy if he or she is not in their classroom seat by 8:45 am. **Scholarships can be forfeited due to unexcused tardies.**

Contact will be made by the principal after four unexcused tardies in one quarter. Eight (8) unexcused tardies will require a letter to be signed by the parents and result in a lunch detention for students in grades three through eight. Eight (8) unexcused tardies in one quarter will result in a four (4) week ineligibility for extracurricular activities.

Social Media, School Hardware, and Internet Policy *Required of All Students*

Computer & Internet Use: Computers, mobile devices, and the internet are provided at Redeemer for students to use as tools in the learning process. Students are responsible for good behavior on the school computer network, just as they are in the classroom, in the school hallway or on computers at home. Access to the computers and internet services at RCS is given to students who agree to act in a responsible and ethical manner. Access is a privilege – not a right. Access entails responsibility. Malicious damage to property of RCS can result in a family/guardian being financially responsible for the equipment.

We are a society that is reliant on our cell phones, the Internet, and the need to be in constant contact with our family and friends. Our students are no different. The vast majority of our upper grade students have a cell phone and belongs to one or more social media websites. It is our hope that our Redeemer Family is using these avenues of communication in positive ways.

Because of these communication tools, a major issue across our country that our schools are dealing with is Cyber Bullying. It is defined as a student using the Internet, cell phone, or other technology to harass, embarrass, or threaten another student. We pray that this and other inappropriate texts/posts don't happen here at Redeemer. But we want to let families and students know that we will address these incidents if they occur.

"Let the words of my mouth (*my text messages and Facebook posts*) and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my Rock and my Redeemer." Psalm 19:14

Portions of that verse are not in the original translation! However, it is a reminder that what we say or do should always make the Good Lord smile. We are responsible for our words and actions no matter where we are even if we type those words instead of saying them aloud for people to hear. While we at Redeemer will do our best to monitor students' use of technology, we do ask that you set and convey standards at home for your child to follow when using technology.

The following guidelines apply to our Redeemer Family and share how we will handle situations that are not acceptable in His sight.

GPS/Child Location Devices/Smart Watches

- ✔ GPS, child location devices, and smart watches are prohibited during the school day.

Cell Phones/eReaders/Tablets/iPads

- ✔ Cell phones, eReaders, tablets, and iPads (personal) will not be used during the school day. That includes Childwatch - our before and after school care program.
- ✔ If a teacher or supervising adult sees a student using their personal device, it will be taken and given to the principal.
- ✔ The principal may go through confiscated devices to check the messages and phone logs to ensure it has not been used during the school day. Any inappropriate information will be shared with parents.
- ✔ Confiscated cell phones will only be returned to parents. If they want the principal to keep it... it will be done gladly!

Computer/Chromebooks/Mobile Devices/Internet Use

- ✔ The following actions are **NOT** allowed.
 1. Damaging computers, computer systems, or computer networks.
 2. Destroying data of another user.
 3. Loaning your assigned equipment to another student, including other RCS students.
 4. Violating copyright laws.
 5. Employing or using the Internet for commercial uses.
 6. Using computers in such a way that it interferes with the educational process of RCS.
 7. Other violations deemed unacceptable by the general standards of our faith and the policies of our school.
- ✔ In addition to the inappropriate behaviors listed above, also included are these ground rules.
 1. Do NOT give out personal information such as your address, telephone number, parents' work address or telephone number, or the name and location of our school without permission.
 2. Do NOT enter chat areas. At some sites there may be an opportunity to enter a chat area. You are NOT to do this.
 3. At some sites, there are questionnaires to fill out. You are NOT to do this without permission from your teacher.
 4. At some sites, there is advertising. There may be order forms to purchase something. You are NOT to fill out any of these forms.
 5. If you arrive at a site that is offensive to Christians, use the back button to leave the site and report it immediately to the teacher.

Social Media

- Social media sites (for example, Facebook and Instagram) are not to be accessed by students at any time using computers owned by Redeemer.
- Always keep in mind that you are representing yourself, your family, your school, and most importantly your Lord when you are posting messages online.
- No inappropriate comments should be made about teachers, parents, or other students of Redeemer. You will be held accountable for your texts/posts.

Inappropriate Texts / Posts

- Inappropriate texts/posts are determined the same way we treat the words that come out of our mouths. At Redeemer we use three simple questions – Is it True? Is it Necessary? Is it Kind? If you cannot say yes to all three, you've done something wrong.
- Texts/Posts referring to a teacher, parent, or student in our Redeemer Family that are deemed inappropriate need to be shared with the principal.

- The principal will only address instances where there is documented proof of the text/post. It is simple; save it, and show him/her. The principal will not handle situations where there is no evidence of such a text/post.
- No matter when an inappropriate text/post is written about someone in our Redeemer Family, the principal has the right to get involved and give consequences when necessary.

Those students who violate the above policy may lose the right to use technology and the computers at school for the amount of time deemed appropriate by teacher, principal, and/or school advisory team. In addition, school disciplinary action may be taken including, if necessary, appropriate legal action.

A Note to Parents: Be nosey! Know what is going on in your child's life. Even if they cry and scream, children don't have a right to privacy when it comes to the parent/child relationship. You should know their social media passwords so you can monitor their accounts. Grab their cell phone once in awhile and check to see if you approve of their text messages. Cell phones and social media sites are a license to sin. It is incredibly easy to text or post something you know you would never say to someone face to face. For a child, this is a temptation that is extremely difficult to overcome. They are going to mess-up. But it is our job as parents to use those incidents as teachable moments to talk about what it means to *live for Christ* and most importantly to be *forgiven by Christ*.

Extra-Curricular Eligibility Standards

Grades 4-8

We are very happy to offer a number of extra-curricular activities for our students to participate in during their years at RCS. We feel that, in addition to academics, there is much to be gained by becoming involved in other activities. We do, however, believe that, participation is a privilege. Students who do not meet academic, behavioral, and attendance standards will lose that privilege for a time.

The following guidelines will be used:

1. The OHSAA Athletic Packet (which can be found on the RCS website) must be filled out in its entirety and be on file in the office before students are considered eligible for extracurricular sports.
2. Any student who has a combination of two failing grades (D's or F's) at mid-quarter or at the end of a quarter will be ineligible until the next mid-quarter or end of quarter.
3. Any student who receives two detentions during one quarter or three detentions during a semester will be ineligible for four weeks.
4. Eight (8) unexcused tardies in one quarter will result in four (4) weeks ineligibility from extracurricular activities.

These restrictions will apply to all extra-curricular activity practices, games and performances, including: intramural sports, interscholastic sports, certain bands, musicals, RCS Singers, cheerleading, safety patrol, and Christian Leaders.

Throughout the school year, we will work with students to help keep them in good academic standing. We will also assist students in returning to good academic standing as soon as possible.

Service Opportunity

Grades 5-8

From time to time, due to the very nature of the combined use of our facilities by the church and school and the multi-use of several rooms, it becomes necessary to ask the students in the upper grades for assistance in moving tables, chairs, portable chalkboards, supplies, and other items. These actions give the students an opportunity to contribute to the needs of the situation in a tangible way. Being aware of these situations, on the **Signature Page** you may consent or decline to have your child participate in these Service Opportunities.

Redeemer Christian School Signature Page

2023-2024

This form must be filled out and returned to the school office for each school year and each student enrolled at Redeemer Christian School. A signature is required in each box that pertains to your child.

Student Name (Printed) _____ Date _____

Student Grade _____ Parent Name (Printed) _____

Photo Release (required of **all** students)

I, hereby (consent _____) (decline _____) that the photographs or videos taken of my child and/or schoolwork completed during the school year while enrolled as a student may be used on, but not limited to, school brochures, bulletin boards, the school website, social media sites, local newspapers or newsletters.

Parent Signature _____

Unexcused Tardies (required of **all** students)

By signing our respective names below, my child and I are stating that we have read and understand the Unexcused Tardies Policy of RCS.

Student Signature _____

Parent Signature _____

Social Media, School Hardware, and Internet Policy (required of **all** students)

By signing our respective names below, my child and I are stating that we have read and understand the Social Media, School Hardware, and Internet Policy of RCS.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Extra-Curricular Eligibility Standards (required in Grades 4 – 8)

By signing our respective names below, my child and I are stating that we have read and understand the Extra-Curricular Eligibility Standards of RCS, thus allowing my child to participate in activities offered by RCS.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Service Opportunity (required of Grades 5 – 8)

I, hereby (consent _____) (decline _____) for my child to assist the school as described in the Service Opportunity Statement. It is understood that any assistance needed will be supervised by a member of the staff.

Parent Signature: _____