



STUDENT HANDBOOK 2019-20

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Mission

River Oaks Academy (“ROA” or the “School”) was founded on the belief that all children are born with the capacity for brilliance. Our mission is to help children find, nurture and sustain the passion that will lead to their individual forms of brilliance. To this end, we offer a non-traditional K-12 independent study program of individually designed curriculum and direction.

Vision

ROA will continue to grow as a community of self-motivated, competent, lifelong learners—children, teachers and parents, in partnership—who seek to nurture and support the innate gifts of all participants. We will prepare students for twenty-first century careers and to live as members of a democratic society through an interdisciplinary educational experience. ROA students are creative, out-of-the box learners, thinkers and doers. They thrive in an environment of individualized learning and direction with a parent-teacher team dedicated to helping them find and develop their talents and passions. Our program is exploration-based and creative, providing children with the opportunity to address the Common Core State Standards (“CCSS”) by gathering information and demonstrating their learning as they focus on developing their individual talents. The ROA program incorporates onsite classes for enrichment, socialization and collaboration; parent participation in school-based activities; and parent education on how to support their children in an independent study environment based on exploration and creativity. We also provide technology-oriented learning activities teaching children skills that prepare them for college and career readiness while they are encouraged to demonstrate and share their passions. Our students are given the opportunity to utilize technology through various mediums: e.g., websites, web blogs, streaming video, online businesses.

Schoolwide Learner Outcomes (“SLOs”)

- Passion powered
- Academically competent
- Passionate, collaborative, creative and critical thinkers
 - Effective users of information & technology
 - College & Career ready

Admissions and Enrollment Policy

I. Introduction

The goal of the admissions policy of River Oaks Academy (hereinafter referred to as "School") is to attract, enroll and retain at the School the broadest spectrum of students and families representative of the rich diversity existing in the County. The School will be nonsectarian in its programs, admissions policies, employment practices and all other operations. The School will not charge tuition and the School will not discriminate in admissions or outreach against any pupil on the basis of actual or perceived race or ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender identity, gender expression, disability, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code.

II. Admission and Requirements for Admission

The School is open to any student in the State of California who meets the admissions requirements described herein. If the number of pupils who wish to attend the School exceeds the school's capacity, attendance (except for existing pupils of the charter school) shall be determined by a public random drawing, the process for which is described below.

III. Admission Eligibility and Requirements

In order to be eligible for enrollment in the School, students must meet the following eligibility requirements:



- All Kindergarten students must be age 5 on or before September 1 of the school year in which he/she seeks enrollment. If a student turns five years of age after September 1 but before December 2 during the school year, that student may be eligible for admission into our Transitional Kindergarten program. Please see our admission policy and requirements of ROA's TK program.
- All students must be at least age 6 (by September 1 of the school year in which he/she seeks enrollment in first grade, with some exceptions in accordance with the Board's age-admission policy and in accordance with law), and not exceeding age 19, unless the student was continuously enrolled in public school prior to age 19, the student is being served under the term of an Individualized Education Program, and/or the school or program qualifies for an exemption from the general prohibition on serving students over age 19 and in accordance with the California Education Code.

- No student may concurrently attend a private school that charges the student's family tuition or any other public school or program.
- All students shall be documented as residents of the State of California.
- If enrolled in an independent study program, a student shall be documented as a resident of the county in which the charter school reports its apportionment claims or an adjacent county.
- No student will be admitted during the term of an expulsion for bringing to or possessing a firearm, using or selling drugs or being involved in violence at any school, unless the Director makes a determination based on the specific facts of the situation in accordance with the School's discipline policy. A student that has been otherwise expelled may be admitted to the school in the discretion of the governing board on a case-by-case basis.

All eligible students must complete applications for admission which shall include, but is not limited to, the following:

- Authorization for the School to request and receive student records from all schools the student has previously attended or is concurrently attending;
- Proof of full immunization or exception from the requirement;
- Proof of health examinations required by the Health and Safety Code;
- Proof of age with the application for admission;
- Proof of residency;
- Indicating whether the student may require special education or related services, the student's home language and whether the student may be an English language learner.
- Parents/guardians/caregivers shall attend a one-on-one meeting with the Director or his/her designee.
- The Parent Involvement Agreement as well as the River Oaks Academy Charter Independent Study Teacher-Student-Parent Meeting Policy shall be signed and returned to the School with the application for admission. The body of educational research shows a compelling correlation between parent participation in a school and their child's academic success. We hope that parents will volunteer and help with school related activities when asked.

The School shall follow any required procedures for the transfer of a program between SELPAs. Additionally, each application will be reviewed by staff to ensure it is complete before the student will be considered for admission.

Preferences

In the event that there are more students applying for admission than available space, preferences shall be extended in the following order of priority:

1. Pupils currently attending the School;
2. Siblings of students currently enrolled in the School;
3. Children of teachers
4. Students seeking to change schools under the public choice provisions of ESEA Title I
5. Students residing within the boundaries of the County
6. All other applicants



Policy Adopted: [INSERT DATE]
Policy Revised:



Attendance

Non-Classroom-Based Programs

All attendance for non-classroom based programs shall be in accordance with current law and regulations.

Attendance expectations and requirements:

Attendance expectations: ROA will offer at least the minimum number of instructional days per year required by law, and will expect students to complete academic work and/or participate in school activities on all of those days unless they are sick or are otherwise unable.

Regarding failure to turn in work: Within each learning period, students are required to submit in person original samples of their work that cover the required number of content standards, text book chapters, projects, reports and/or designated assignments for that twenty- day period. Students working on film or TV sets may submit their work electronically only if the school is notified in advance and a work permit and copy of the film/TV contract is on file showing the student's working dates. These dates must reflect that the student is unavailable to turn in work in person during any part of the twenty-day learning period.

Teachers will retrieve one assignment sample in each subject, including physical education during each learning period. Parents are required to be an active participant in these turn-in meetings. Students are expected to complete assigned work and parents are required to help monitor the progress of these assignments, as stated and signed by parents and students in **ROA's Acknowledgement of Responsibilities and River Oaks Academy Charter School Independent Study Teacher-Student-Parent Meeting Policy and ROA's Independent Study Policy, which can be located on the School's website and requested at the main office.**

If a student does not complete assigned work, ROA staff will actively intervene to support the students and parents/guardians to problem solve obstacles. Supports may include tutoring or adjustment of instructional activities or materials (see Test Requirement Section in River Oaks Academy Parent Agreement and River Oaks Academy Charter's Independent Study Policy).

If a student still fails to complete designated assignments, teacher, student and parent will discuss the missing assignments, specifics of the level of mastery required and pursuant policy. The parent and student will be given a second appointment to rectify the situation. The appointment must be within the same twenty-day learning period and must be made at the time the assignments were not turned in.

If at the second appointment the missing assignments have not been completed in a satisfactory manner, parents and students will be given a third appointment to rectify the problem. This appointment must be within the same twenty-day learning period

and must be made at the time the assignments were not turned in.

If at the end of the third appointment, if work is still missing, the Director or designee shall conduct an oral evaluation with parent/guardian and student, followed by a written evaluation, to determine an appropriate course of action. After 3 missed assignments within one learning period, the student will be referred to the Student Attendance Review Team (“SART”) and a final oral and written evaluation will be made to determine whether or not it is in the student's best interest to remain at River Oaks Academy Charter School.

Parents/guardians and students will be notified in writing of the final assessment. Should the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student feel that this evaluation needs further review, they may take their appeal before the River Oaks Governance Board. If the parents(s)/ guardians(s) of the student still feel that this evaluation needs further review, they may take their appeal before the Ventura County Board of Education.

Policy Adopted: [INSERT DATE]

Policy Revised:

Legally Required Notices

Availability of Prospectus

Upon request, the Charter School will make available to any parent or legal guardian, a school prospectus, which shall include the curriculum, including titles, descriptions, and instructional aims of every course offered. Please note that, pursuant to law, the Charter School may charge for the prospectus in an amount not to exceed the cost of duplication.

California Assessment of Student Progress and Performance (“CAASPP”)

The Charter School shall annually administer required state testing to the applicable grades (e.g., the California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress.) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a parent’s or guardian’s written request to School officials to excuse his or her child from any or all parts of the state assessments shall be granted.

Cal Grant Program Notice

The Charter School is required by state law to submit the GPA of all high school seniors by Oct. 1 of each year, unless the student over age 18 or parent/guardian for those under 18 opt-out. Students currently in eleventh (11th) grade will be deemed a Cal Grant applicant, unless the Student (or Parent, if the Student is under 18) has opted out by or before February 1.

Child Find

We are dedicated to the belief that all students can learn and must be guaranteed equal opportunity to become contributing members of the academic environment and society. The Charter School provides special education instruction and related services in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Improvement Act (“IDEIA”), Education Code requirements, and applicable policies and procedures of the Ventura County SELPA. These services are available for special education students enrolled at the Charter School. We offer high quality educational programs and services for all our students in accordance with the assessed needs of each student. The Charter School collaborates with parents, the student, teachers, and other agencies, as may be indicated, in order to appropriately serve the educational needs of each student.

Section 504

The School recognizes its legal responsibility to ensure that no qualified person with a disability shall, on the basis of disability, be excluded from participation, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program of the School. Any student who has an objectively identified disability which substantially limits a major life activity, including, but not limited to learning, is eligible for accommodations by the School. The parent of any student suspected of needing or qualifying for accommodations under Section 504 may make a referral for an evaluation to the Director. A copy of the Charter School’s Section 504 policies and procedures is available upon request.

Diabetes

The Charter School will provide an information sheet regarding type 2 diabetes to the parent or guardian of incoming 7th grade students, pursuant to Education Code Section 49452.7.

The information sheet shall include, but shall not be limited to, all of the following:

1. A description of type 2 diabetes.
2. A description of the risk factors and warning signs associated with type 2 diabetes.
3. A recommendation that students displaying or possibly suffering from risk factors or warning signs associated with type 2 diabetes should be screened for type 2 diabetes.
4. A description of treatments and prevention of methods of type 2 diabetes.
5. A description of the different types of diabetes screening tests available.

Nondiscrimination Statement

The School does not discriminate against any student or employee on the basis of actual or perceived disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, or any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes in the California Penal Code.

The Charter School adheres to all provisions of federal law related to students with disabilities, including, but not limited to, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (“ADA”), and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Improvement Act of 2004 (“IDEIA”).

The Charter School is committed to providing a work and educational atmosphere that is free of unlawful harassment under Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 (sex); Titles IV, VI, and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (race, color, or national origin); The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967; The Age Discrimination Act of 1975; the IDEIA; and Section 504 and Title II of the ADA (mental or physical disability). Charter School also prohibits sexual harassment, including cyber sexual bullying, and harassment based upon pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, race, religion, religious affiliation, creed, color, immigration status, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin or ancestry, physical or mental disability, medical condition, marital status, age, sexual orientation, or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. Charter School does not condone or tolerate harassment of any type, including discrimination, intimidation, or bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which Charter School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This applies to all employees, students, or volunteers and relationships, regardless of position or gender. Charter School will promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of harassment and take appropriate corrective action, if warranted. Inquiries, complaints, or grievances regarding harassment as described in this section, above, should be directed to the Charter School Uniform Complaint Procedures (“UCP”) Compliance Officer:

Director

River Oaks Academy Charter School
920 Hampshire Road, Suite X
Westlake Village, CA 91360
805-777-7999.

Student Complaints

I. Notification

- Students or parents who have complaints against School personnel or programs may notify the Director. If a teacher, or any other staff member, is notified of a student complaint against School personnel or programs, the teacher shall notify the Director.

II. Procedures

- Depending upon the nature of a complaint, the pupil will be provided information concerning the applicable policy and procedures to be followed. For instance, if the complaint is one of sexual harassment or other discrimination, the student will be provided with a copy of the School's Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination, and Bullying Policy. The student may also be provided with the School's Uniform Complaint Procedure ("UCP") Policy.
- If the School has no specific policy or procedures for the particular complaint, the Director, or his/her designee, will undertake a responsible inquiry into the pupil's or parent's complaint to ensure it is reasonably and swiftly addressed. When appropriate a written statement of the pupil's complaint will be obtained from the student.

III. Confidentiality

- Complainants will be notified that information obtained from the pupil or parent and thereafter gathered will be maintained in a manner as confidential as possible, but in some circumstances absolute confidentiality cannot be assured.

IV. Non-Retaliation

- Complainants will be advised that they will be protected against retaliation as a result of the filing of any complaints or participation in any complaint process.

V. Resolution

- The administration will investigate student or parent complaints appropriately under the circumstances and pursuant to the applicable procedures, and if necessary, take appropriate remedial measures to ensure effective resolution of any complaint.

Student Dress Code

The ROA Board recognizes the need for students of the School to dress appropriately for school.

I. General Guidelines

- Inappropriate apparel includes clothing that compromises safety or is disruptive and/or distracting to the school environment and instructional process. The Board is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the students and the Board believes that appropriate dress and grooming contribute to a productive learning environment.

II. Review Process

- The Board recommends that any dress code should be reviewed, preferably by a committee of students, faculty, parents and administrators prior to presenting it to the Board for approval.

III. Sun Protective Clothes

- Students are permitted to wear sun protective clothing, including hats to school.

IV. Prohibited Conduct and Sanctions

- Students who repeatedly violate the School Dress Code may be subject to discipline.

Educational Records and Student Information

I. Definitions


A. Education Record

An education record is any information recorded in any way, including, but not limited to, handwriting, print, computer media, video or audio tape, film, microfilm, and microfiche containing information directly relating to a student that is maintained by the School or by a party acting for the School. Such information includes, but is not limited to:

- Date and place of birth; parent and/or guardian's address, mother's maiden name, and where the parties may be contacted for emergency purposes;
- Grades, test scores, courses taken, academic specializations and school activities;
- Special education records;
- Disciplinary records;
- Medical and health records;
- Attendance records and records of past schools attended;
- Personal information such as, but not limited to, a student's name, the name of a student's parent or other family member, student identification numbers, social security numbers, photographs, biometric record or any other type of information that aids in identification of a student.

An education record does not include any of the following:

- Records of instructional, supervisory, and administrative personnel and educational personnel ancillary thereto which are in the sole possession of the maker thereof and which are not accessible or revealed to any other person except a substitute; Records maintained by a law enforcement unit of the School that were created by that law enforcement unit for the purpose of law enforcement;
- In the case of a person who is employed by the School but who is not in attendance at such agency or institution, records made and maintained in the normal course of business, relate exclusively to the individual in that individual's capacity as an employee; and are not available for use for any other purpose;
- Records of a student who is 18 years of age or older, or is attending an institution of postsecondary education, that are: a) made or maintained by a physician, psychiatrist, psychologist, or other recognized professional or paraprofessional acting in his or her professional capacity or assisting in a paraprofessional capacity; b) made, maintained, or used only in connection with treatment of the student; and c) disclosed only to individuals providing the treatment. For the purpose of this definition, "treatment" does not include remedial educational activities or activities that are part of the program of instruction at the School;

- Records that only contain information about an individual after he or she is no longer a student at the School.
-  Grades on peer-graded papers before they are collected and recorded by a teacher.

B. Personally Identifiable Information

Personally identifiable information is information about a student that is contained in his or her education records that cannot be disclosed without compliance with the requirements of FERPA. Personally identifiable information includes, but is not limited to: a student's name; the name of a student's parent or other family member; the address of a student or student's family; a personal identifier, such as the student's Social Security number, student number or biometric record; other indirect identifiers, such as the student's date of birth, place of birth, and mother's maiden name; other information that, alone or in combinations, is linked or linkable to a specific student that would allow a reasonable person in the school community, who does not have personal knowledge of the relevant circumstances, to identify the student with reasonable certainty; or information requested by a person who the School reasonably believes knows the identity of the student to whom the education record relates.

C. Directory Information

The School may disclose the personally identifiable information that it has designated as directory information, consistent with the terms of the School's annual notice provided pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 2001 (20 U.S.C. § 1232g) ("FERPA"). The School has designated the following information as directory information:



- Student's name
- Student's address
- Parent/guardian's address
- Telephone listing
- Student's electronic mail address
- Parent/guardian's electronic mail address
- Photograph
- Date and place of birth
- Dates of attendance
- Grade level
- Weight and height of members of athletic teams
- Degrees, honors, and awards received
- The most recent educational agency or institution attended
- Student ID number, user ID, or other unique personal identifier used to communicate in electronic systems that cannot be used to access education records without a PIN, password, etc. (A student's SSN, in whole or in part, cannot be used for this purpose.)

D. Parent

Parent means a parent of a student and includes a natural parent a guardian, or an individual acting as a parent in the absence of a parent or a guardian.

E. Eligible Student

Eligible student means a student who has reached eighteen (18) years of age.

F. School Official

A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel) or a person serving on the Board of Directors of the School. A school official also may include a volunteer or an independent contractor outside of the School who performs an institutional service or function for which the School would otherwise use its own employees and who is under the direct control of the School with respect to the use and maintenance of PII from education records, such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist; a parent or student volunteering to serve on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee; or a parent, student, or other volunteer assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks.

G. Legitimate Educational Interest

A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

II. Disclosure of Directory Information

At the beginning of each year, the School shall provide parents and eligible students with a notice containing the following information:

- 1) The type of personally identifiable information it designates as directory information;
- 2) The parent’s or eligible student’s right to request that the School not release “directory information” without obtaining prior written consent from parent or eligible student; and
- 3) The period of time within which a parent or eligible student may notify the School in writing of the categories of “directory information” that it may not disclose without the parent or eligible student’s prior written consent.

III. Annual Notification to Parents and Eligible Students

At the beginning of each school year, in addition to the notice required for directory information, the School shall provide parents and eligible students with a notice of their

rights under the FERPA. The notice shall inform the parents and eligible students that they have the right to:

- Inspect and review the student's education records;
- Seek amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights;
- Consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that disclosure is permitted without prior written consent pursuant to FERPA; and
- File with the U.S. Department of Education a complaint concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA and its promulgated regulations.
- Request that the School not release student names, addresses and telephone listings to military recruiters or institutions of higher education without prior written parental consent.

The notice must also include the following:

- The procedure for exercising the right to inspect and review educational records;
- The procedure for requesting amendment of records;
- A statement that the School forwards education records to other agencies or institutions that have requested the records and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll;
- The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest.

IV. Parental and Eligible Student Rights Relating to Education Records

Parents and eligible students have the right to review the student's education records.

- In order to do so, parents and eligible students shall submit a request to review education records in writing to the Director. Within 14 days, the School shall comply with the request. If circumstances effectively prevent the parent or eligible student from exercising the right to inspect and review the education records, the School will provide the parent or eligible student with a copy of the requested records or make other arrangements for inspection and review of the requested records.

A. Copies of Education Records

- The School will provide copies of requested documents within 14 days of a written request for copies. The School may charge reasonable fees for copies it

provides to parents or eligible students. The charge will not include a fee to search for or to retrieve the education records.

B. Request for Amendment to Education Records

- Following the inspection and review of a student's education record, a parent or eligible student may file a written request with the Director to correct or remove any information in the student's education record that is any of the following:
 - (1) Inaccurate;
 - (2) An unsubstantiated personal conclusion or inference;
 - (3) A conclusion or inference outside of the observer's area of competence;
 - (4) Not based on the personal observation of a named person with the time and place of the observation noted;
 - (5) Misleading; or
 - (6) In violation of the privacy rights of the student.
- The School will respond within **thirty** (30) days of the receipt of the request to amend. The School's response will be in writing and if the request for amendment is denied, the School will set forth the reason for the denial and inform the parent or eligible student of his or her right to a hearing challenging the content of the education record.

C. Hearing to Challenge Education Record

- If the School denies a parent or eligible student's request to amend an education record, the parent or eligible student may request in writing that he/she be given the opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of the student's education records on the grounds that the information contained in the education records is inaccurate, misleading or in violation of the privacy rights of the student.
- The Director or the Board Chair may convene a hearing panel to assist in making determinations regarding educational record challenges provided that the parent has given written consent to release information from the pupil's records to the members of the panel convened. The hearing panel shall consist of the following persons:
 - 1) The Director of a public school other than the public school at which the record is on file;
 - 2) A certificated employee; and
 - 3) A parent appointed by the Director or by the Board of Directors, depending upon who convenes the panel.
- The hearing to challenge the education record shall be held within thirty (30) days of the date of the request for a hearing, notice of the date, time and place of the hearing will be sent by the School to the parent or eligible student no later than twenty (20) days before the hearing.
- The hearing will be conducted by the School Board Chair or his/her

designee, who shall not be required to use formal rules of evidence or procedure. The parent or eligible student will be given a full and fair opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issues relating to the challenge to the education record. The parent or eligible student may also, at his/her own expense, be assisted or represented by one or more individuals of his/her choice, including an attorney. The School Board Chair or designee's decision will be based solely on the evidence presented at the hearing and is final. Within thirty (30) days after the conclusion of the hearing, the School's decision regarding the challenge will be made in writing and will include a summary of the evidence and the reasons for the decision.

- If, as a result of the hearing, the School decides that the information is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of the student, it will amend the record accordingly and inform the parent or eligible student of the amendment in writing.
- If, as a result of the hearing, the School decides that the information in the education record is not inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the privacy rights of the student, it shall inform the parent or eligible student of the right to place a statement in the record commenting on the contested information in the record or stating why he/she disagrees with the decision of the School, or both. If the School places a statement by the parent or eligible student in the education records of a student, it will maintain the statement with the contested part of the record for as long as the record is maintained and disclose the statement whenever it discloses the portion of the record to which the statement relates.

D. Disclosure of Education Records and Directory Information

- The School must have a signed and dated written consent from the parent or eligible student before releasing any non-directory information from a student's education record except as provided below. The written permission must specify the records that may be disclosed, the purpose of the disclosure and the party or class of parties to whom the disclosure may be made. When disclosure is made pursuant to written permission, the parent or eligible student may request a copy of the disclosed records. Signed and dated written consent may include a record and signature in electronic form if it identifies and authenticates a particular person as the source of the electronic consent and indicates such person's approval of the information contained in the electronic consent.
- The School will only disclose personally identifiable information on the condition that the receiving party not disclose the information to any party without the prior written consent of the parent or eligible student and that the receiving party use the information for the purposes for which the disclosure was made. This restriction does not apply to disclosures that fall within the disclosure exceptions listed below. The School must maintain the appropriate

records related to these disclosure exceptions, as described below. Except for disclosures pursuant to a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, or directory information or to parents or eligible students, the School will inform a receiving party of the requirement that the party not disclose the information to any other party without the prior written consent of the parent or eligible student and that the receiving party use it for the purpose for which the disclosure was made.

E. The School will disclose education records, without prior written consent of the parent or eligible student, to the following parties:

- School employees who have a legitimate educational interest as defined by 34 C.F.R. Part 99;
- Other schools to which a student seeks or intends to enroll so long as the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer. The School will make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or eligible student of the request for records at his/her last known address, unless the disclosure is initiated by the parent or eligible student. Additionally, the School will give the parent or eligible student, upon request, a copy of the record that was disclosed and give the parent or eligible student, upon request, an opportunity for hearing pursuant to Section (IV)(3) above;
- Certain government officials listed in 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1) in order to carry out lawful functions;
- Appropriate parties in connection with a student's application for, or receipt of, financial aid if it is necessary to determine eligibility, amount of aid, conditions for aid or enforcing the terms and conditions of the aid;
- Organizations conducting certain studies for the School in accordance with 20 U.S.C. § 1232g(b)(1)(F);
- Accrediting organizations in order to carry out their accrediting functions;
- Parents of a dependent student as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
- Individuals or entities, in compliance with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena. Subject to the exceptions found in 34 C.F.R. 99.31(a)(9)(i), reasonable effort must be made to notify the parent or eligible student of the order or subpoena in advance of compliance, so that the parent or eligible student may seek a protective order;
- Persons who need to know in cases of health and safety emergencies;
- State and local authorities, within a juvenile justice system, pursuant to specific State law;
- A foster family agency with jurisdiction over a currently enrolled or former student, a short-term residential treatment program staff responsible for the education or case management of a student, and a caregiver (regardless of whether the caregiver has been appointed as the pupil's educational rights holder) who has direct responsibility for the care of the student, including a certified or licensed foster parent, an approved relative or nonrelated extended family member, or a resource family, may access the current or most recent records of grades, transcripts, attendance, discipline, and online communication on platforms established by the School for student and parents, and any individualized education program ("IEP") or Section 504 plan that may have

- been developed or maintained by the School.
- A victim of an alleged perpetrator of a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense. The disclosure may only include final results of the disciplinary proceedings conducted by the School with respect to that alleged crime or offense. The School may disclose the final results of the disciplinary proceeding, regardless of whether the School concluded a violation was committed.

F. Record Keeping Requirements

- The School will maintain a record of each request for access to and each disclosure of personally identifiable information from the education records of each student for as long as the records are maintained. For each request, the record must include the following information: the parties who have requested or received the information and the legitimate interests the parties had in requesting or obtaining the information.
- For disclosures of personally identifiable information to institutions that make disclosures of the information on behalf of the School in accordance with 34 C.F.R. 99.33(b), the record must include the names of the additional parties to which the receiving party may disclose the information on behalf of the School and the legitimate interests that each of the additional parties has in requesting or obtaining the information.
- These record keeping requirements do not apply to requests from or disclosure to parents and eligible students, School officials with a legitimate purpose of inspecting the records, a party with written consent from the parent or eligible student, a party seeking directory information, or a party seeking or receiving the records as directed by a court order or subpoena.
- The records relating to disclosures of personally identifiable student information may be inspected by parents and eligible students, School officials (or their assistants) responsible for the custody of the records, and parties authorized by regulations for the purpose of auditing the recordkeeping procedures of the School.
- Student cumulative records may not be removed from the premises of the School, unless the individual removing the record has a legitimate educational interest, and is authorized by the Director, or by a majority of a quorum of the Board of Directors at a duly agenda meeting. Employees who remove student cumulative records or other student records from the School premises without a legitimate educational interest and authorization may be subject to discipline. Employees are permitted to take student work-product, or other appropriate student records, off premises without authorization for legitimate academic purposes (e.g. grading work-product, assigning credit, reviewing materials for classroom discussion, etc.)

G. *Complaints*

Parents and eligible students have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA is:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education 400
Maryland Avenue S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202-5920

Policy Adopted: [INSERT DATE]
Policy Revised:

Pupil Suspension and Expulsion Policy

I. Introduction

- **This** Pupil Suspension and Expulsion Policy (the "Policy") for River Oaks Academy ("School") has been established in order to promote learning and protect the safety and well-being of all students. When the Policy is violated, it may be necessary to suspend or expel a student from regular classroom instruction.
- Staff shall enforce disciplinary rules and procedures fairly and consistently amongst all students. The Policy will be printed and distributed as part of the Student Handbook and will clearly describe discipline expectations. The Director shall ensure that students and their parents/guardians are notified in writing upon enrollment of all discipline policies and procedures. The notice shall state that this Policy is available on request at the Director's office.
- Discipline includes, but is not limited to, advising and counseling students, conferring with parents/guardians, community service on or off campus, suspension and expulsion. Corporal punishment shall not be used as a disciplinary measure against any student. Corporal punishment includes the willful infliction of, or willfully causing the infliction of, physical pain on a student. For purposes of the Policy, corporal punishment does not include an employee's use or reasonable force necessary to protect the employee, students, staff or other persons or to prevent damage to school property.
- A student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability pursuant to the Individuals with Disabilities in Education Act ("IDEA") or who is qualified for services under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") is subject to the same grounds for suspension and expulsion and is accorded the same due process procedures applicable to regular education students except when federal and state law mandates additional or different procedures. The School will follow Section 504, the IDEA, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("ADA") and all applicable federal and state laws when imposing any form of discipline on a student identified as an individual with disabilities or for whom the School has a basis of knowledge of a suspected disability or who is otherwise qualified for such services or protections in according due process to such students.
- No student shall be involuntarily removed by the Charter School for any reason unless the parent or guardian of the student has been provided written notice of intent to remove the student no less than five schooldays before the effective date of the action. The written notice shall be in the native language of the student or the student's parent or guardian or, if the student is a foster child or youth or a homeless child or youth, the student's educational rights holder, and shall inform him or her of the right to initiate the procedures specified below for suspensions, before the effective date of the action. If the student's parent, guardian, or educational rights holder initiates the procedures specified below for suspensions, the student shall remain enrolled and shall not be removed until the Charter School issues a final decision. As used herein, "involuntarily removed" includes disenrolled, dismissed,

transferred, or terminated, but does not include suspensions or expulsions pursuant to the suspension and expulsion procedures described below.

II. Suspension and Expulsion

A. Authority

A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in the School's Suspension and Expulsion Policy and related to school activity or attendance occurring at the School or at any other school:

- While on school grounds
- While going to or coming from school
- During the lunch period, whether on or off the school campus
- During, going to or coming from a school sponsored activity

B. Grounds for Suspension and Expulsion

Students may be suspended or expelled for any of the following acts when it is determined that the student:

- a) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person.
- b) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except self-defense.
- c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold or otherwise furnished, or was under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant of any kind.
- d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any controlled substance as defined in Health and Safety Code Sections 11053-11058, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant of any kind, and then sold, delivered or otherwise furnished to any person another liquid substance or material and represented same as controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant.
- e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- h) Possessed or used tobacco or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including but not limited to cigars, cigarettes, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets and betel. This section does not prohibit the use of his or her own prescription products by a pupil.
- i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Health and Safety Code Section 11014.5.
- k) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, other school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
- l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.

- m) Possessed an imitation firearm, i.e.: a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Penal Code Sections 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a or 289, or committed a sexual battery as defined in Penal Code Section 243.4.
- o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a student who is a complaining witness or witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for the purpose of preventing that student from being a witness and/or retaliating against that student for being a witness.
- p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in hazing. For the purposes of this subdivision, “hazing” means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, which is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this section, “hazing” does not include athletic events or school sanctioned events.
- r) Made terroristic threats against school officials and/or school property. For purposes of this section, “terroristic threat” shall include any statement, whether written or oral, by a person who willfully threatens to commit a crime which will result in death, great bodily injury to another person, or property damage in excess of one thousand dollars (\$1,000), with the specific intent that the statement is to be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, which, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made, is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person threatened, a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and thereby causes that person reasonably to be in sustained fear for his or her own safety or for his or her immediate family’s safety, or for the protection of school property, or the personal property of the person threatened or his or her immediate family.
- s) Committed sexual harassment, as defined in Education Code Section 212.5. For the purposes of this section, the conduct described in Section 212.5 must be considered by a reasonable person of the same gender as the victim to be sufficiently severe or pervasive to have a negative impact upon the individual’s academic performance or to create an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- t) Caused, attempted to cause, threatened to cause or participated in an act of hate violence, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 233 of the Education Code. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- u) Intentionally harassed, threatened or intimidated a student or group of students to the extent of having the actual and reasonably expected effect of materially disrupting class work, creating substantial disorder and invading student rights by creating an intimidating or hostile educational environment. This section shall apply to pupils in any of grades 4 to 12, inclusive.
- v) Engaged in an act of bullying, including, but not limited to, bullying committed by means of an electronic act.
- 1) “Bullying” means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and

including one or more acts committed by a student or group of students which would be deemed hate violence or harassment, threats, or intimidation, which are directed toward one or more students that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

- i. Placing a reasonable student (defined as a student, including, but is not limited to, a student with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with exceptional needs) or students in fear of harm to that student's or those students' person or property.
 - ii. Causing a reasonable student to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
 - iii. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
 - iv. Causing a reasonable student to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by the Charter School.
- 2) "Electronic Act" means the creation and transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
- i. A message, text, sound, or image.
 - ii. A post on a social network Internet Web site including, but not limited to:
 - (a) Posting to or creating a burn page. A "burn page" means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects as listed in subparagraph (1) above.
 - (b) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
 - (c) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in subparagraph (1) above. "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.
 - iii. Notwithstanding subparagraphs (1) and (2) above, an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.
- w) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (1).
- x) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any knife unless, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the student had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Director or designee's concurrence.



Students must be suspended and recommended for expulsion when it is determined that the student:

- a) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished any firearm, explosive, or other dangerous object **unless**, in the case of possession of any object of this type, the students had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, with the Director or designee's concurrence.



Special Procedures for the Consideration of Suspension and Expulsion of Students with Disabilities

Students suspended for more than ten (10) school days in a school year shall continue to receive services so as to enable the student to continue to participate in the general education curriculum, although in another setting, and to progress toward meeting the goals set out in the child's IEP/504 Plan; and receive, as appropriate, a functional behavioral assessment and behavioral intervention services and modifications, that are designed to address the behavior violation so that it does not recur. These services may be provided in an interim alternative educational setting.

Within ten (10) school days of a recommendation for expulsion or any decision to change the placement of a child with a disability because of a violation of a code of student conduct, the School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team shall review all relevant information in the student's file, including the child's IEP/504 Plan, any teacher observations, and any relevant information provided by the parents to determine:

- a. If the conduct in question was caused by, or had a direct and substantial relationship to, the child's disability; or
- b. If the conduct in question was the direct result of the local educational agency's failure to implement the IEP/504 Plan.



If the Charter School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team determine that either of the above is applicable for the child, the conduct shall be determined to be a manifestation of the child's disability. If the Charter School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team make the determination that the conduct was a manifestation of the child's disability, the IEP/504 Team shall:



- a. Conduct a functional behavioral assessment and implement a behavioral intervention plan for such child, provided that the Charter School had not conducted such assessment prior to such determination before the behavior that resulted in a change in placement;
- b. If a behavioral intervention plan has been developed, review the behavioral intervention plan if the child already has such a behavioral intervention plan, and modify it, as necessary, to address the behavior; and
- c. Return the child to the placement from which the child was removed, unless the parent and the Charter School agree to a change of placement as part of the modification of the behavioral intervention plan.

If the Charter School, the parent, and relevant members of the IEP/504 Team determine that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability and that the conduct in question was not a result of the failure to implement the IEP/504 Plan, then the Charter School may apply the relevant disciplinary procedures to children with disabilities in the

same manner and for the same duration as the procedures would be applied to students without disabilities.

D. No Rights to Appeal

 Pupils who are expelled by the Charter School governing board may appeal that expulsion to the Ventura County Board of Education pursuant to the current VCBE Policies and Procedures within thirty (30) calendar days after the Charter School decision to expel the pupil. The Appeal may be filed by the pupil/parent/or guardian. 

 For a complete copy of the School's Suspension and Expulsion Board Policy, please request a copy from the main office. 

Health Examinations, Immunizations and Oral Health Assessments

Suicide

ROA has a suicide prevention policy. For a complete copy of the School's Policy, please request a copy from the main office or review the Policy on our website.

Health Examinations

- Health Examination Certificates or Waivers

On or before the 90th day after a student's entrance into first grade at River Oaks Academy Charter School (the "School"), all students must provide a certificate approved by the California Department of Health Services documenting that within the prior 18 months, the child had received the appropriate health screening and evaluation services as provided by Health & Safety Code section 124040.

Alternatively, the student must provide a waiver signed by the student's parents/guardians indicating that they do not want or are unable to obtain the health screening and evaluation services for their child. If the waiver indicates that the parents/guardians are unable to obtain services for the child, the reasons why should be included in the waiver.

If the student fails to provide the required documentation, the student will be excluded from the School for not more than five (5) days. In limited circumstances, up to five percent of the School's first grade enrollment may obtain exemptions from exclusion if the School contacts the student's parents/guardians at least twice before the 90th day after entrance to the first grade and they refuse to provide either a certificate or waiver. These exemptions shall only be used in extraordinary circumstances, including, but not limited to, family situations of great dysfunction or disruption, including substance abuse by parents or guardians, child abuse or child neglect.

- Health Examinations by the School

The Governing Board recognizes that periodic health examinations of students may lead to the detection and treatment of conditions that impact learning. Health examinations also may help in determining whether special adaptations of the School's program are necessary.

A parent/guardian may file annually with the School's Director a statement in writing, signed by the parent/guardian, stating that he/she will not consent to a physical examination of his/her child. The student will thereafter be exempt from physical examinations, but if there is good reason to believe that the student is suffering from a recognized contagious or infectious disease, the student will be sent home and not be permitted to return to school until the School Director is satisfied that any contagious or

infectious disease does not exist.

Scoliosis Screening:

Every female student in grade 7 and every male student in grade 8 shall be screened for the condition known as scoliosis. The screening shall be in accordance with standards established by the State Department of Education. The screening shall take place during the regular school day and any staff time devoted to these activities shall be redirected from other ongoing activities not related to the student's health care. If a student is suspected of having scoliosis, the School will notify the parents. The notice will include an explanation of scoliosis, the significance of treating it at an early age, and the public services available, after diagnosis, for treatment.

The Director, or designee, shall ensure that staff employed to examine students are fully qualified to do so and exercise proper care of each student and that examination results are kept confidential. Records related to these examinations shall be available only in accordance with law.

The School Director may make reports to the Governing Board regarding the number of students found to have physical problems and the efforts made to correct them from time to time. The reports shall in no way reveal the identity of students.

Immunizations

To protect the health of all students and staff and to curtail the spread of infectious diseases, the Governing Board desires to cooperate with state and local health agencies to encourage immunization of all students against preventable diseases.

Governor Brown signed State Senate Bill (SB) 277 on June 30, 2015, which changed immunization requirements for children entering childcare or school. This law prohibits students from attending school unless they are immunized. Currently, however, students attending an independent study program with no classroom-based instruction (such as at ROA) are exempt from this new requirement.

The personal beliefs exemption (“PBE”) for currently-required vaccines is no longer available.

- 1) Parents who immunize their children must still provide immunization records to the school, and schools must continue to maintain and report records of immunizations that have been received for these students. Parents also need to mark the Immunization Status Form and indicate the status as complete.
- 2) Parents who don't immunize their children must indicate this on the Immunization Status Form.

Because schools still need to record immunization information and report on the immunization status of all students, , ROA will record immunization/non-immunization data at the following checkpoints:

- Entry into ROA
- Entry into a new grade span at ROA (kindergarten and 7th grade)

Immunization records shall be part of the mandatory permanent pupil record and shall be kept in accordance with the School's record-keeping policy.

Additionally, a student will be exempted from the immunization requirements, to the extent indicated in the written statement, if his/her parent or guardian files with the School a written statement by a licensed physician to the effect that the physical condition of the student is such, or medical circumstances relating to the student are such, that the immunization is not considered safe. However, whenever there is good cause to believe that the person has been exposed to a communicable disease for which immunization is required, that student may be temporarily excluded from the School until the local health officer is satisfied that the person is no longer at risk of developing the disease.

Oral Health

By May 31 of each school year, students entering kindergarten or the first grade (who have not attended kindergarten) must present proof to the School of having received an oral health assessment by a licensed dentist, or other licensed or registered dental health professional. The oral health assessment must have been performed no earlier than 12 months prior to the date of initial enrollment.

A student may be excused from this requirement if his/her parent or guardian indicates on the approved form provided by the school one or more of the following reasons apply:

- The oral health assessment poses an undue financial burden on the parent/guardian;
- The parent/guardian lacks access to a licensed dentist or other licensed or registered dental health professional; or
- The parent/guardian does not consent to the assessment.

Notice: Upon initial enrollment in kindergarten or first grade, the School will notify parent/guardians of the required oral health assessment on the California Department of Education approved form.

Report to County Office of Education:

By July 1 of each year, the school will submit a report to the County Office of Education containing the following information:

- the total number of pupils in the School who are subject to the oral health assessment requirements;
- the total number of pupils who submitted proof of an assessment;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment due to financial burden;
- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment due to lack of access to a licensed dentist;

- the total number of pupils who could not complete the assessment because their parents/guardians did not consent to the assessment;
- the total number of pupils who are assessed and found to have untreated decay;
- the total number of pupils who did not return either the assessment form or the waiver request to the school

Administration of Medications

The following policy regarding the administration of medications is applicable when the staff of River Oaks Academy Charter School (The "School") is responsible for the administration of, or assisting in the administration of, medication to students attending school during regular school hours, including before- or after-school programs, field trips, extracurricular and co-curricular activities, and camps or other activities that typically involve at least one overnight stay away from home. It is imperative that practices followed in the administration of medication be carefully delineated to ensure the safety of our students and the legal protection of our employees. Any pupil who is required to take, during the regular schoolday, medication prescribed for him or her by a physician and surgeon, or ordered for him or her by a physician assistant practicing in compliance with Chapter 7/7 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, may be assisted by the school nurse or designated school personnel or may carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication if the School receives the appropriate written statements.

Requirements for Administration or Assistance

Before the School will allow a student to carry and self-administer prescription auto-injectable epinephrine, or inhaled asthma medication, or have authorized School personnel administer medications or otherwise assist a student in administering his or her medication, the School must receive a copy of the following:

- A written statement executed by the student's authorized health care provider specifying the name of the medication the student is to take, method, the dosage, and the period of time during which the medication is to be taken and a statement that the medication must be taken during regular school hours; and
- A written statement by the student's parent or guardian initiating a request to have the medication administered to the student or to have the student otherwise assisted in the administration of the medication, in accordance with the authorized health care provider's written statement. The written statement shall also provide express permission for the School to communicate directly with the authorized health care provider, as may be necessary, regarding the authorized health care provider's written statement.
- In the cases of self-administration of inhaled asthma medication or prescription auto-injectable epinephrine, the School must also receive a (1) confirmation from the authorized health care provider that the student is able to self-administer the medication and (2) a written statement from the parent/guardian consenting to the student's self-administration and releasing the School and its personnel from civil liability if the self-administering student suffers an adverse reaction by self-administering his/her medication.

New statements by the parent/guardian and the authorized health care provider shall be required annually and/or whenever there is a change in the student's authorized health care provider, or a change in the medication, dosage, method by which the medication is required to be taken or date(s), or time(s) the medication is required to be taken. If there is not a current written statement by the student's parent or guardian and authorized health care provider, the School may not administer or assist in administration of medication. **The** School will provide each parent with a reminder at the beginning of each school year that they are required to provide the proper written statements.

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students requiring administration of medication or assistance with administration of medication shall personally deliver (or, if age appropriate, have the student deliver) the medication for administration to the Administrative Office Assistant.

Any pupil requiring insulin shots must establish a plan for administration of insulin shots with the Director in consultation with the parent or guardian and the pupil's medical professional. A pupil may be subject to disciplinary action if that pupil uses auto-injectable epinephrine or inhaled asthma medication in a manner other than as prescribed.

Responses to the Parent/Guardian upon Request

The School shall provide a response to the parent/guardian within 10 business days of receiving the request for administration and the physician statement regarding which School employees, if any, will administer medication to the student, and what the employees of the School will do to administer the medication to the student or otherwise assist the student in the administration of the medication.

Termination of Consent

Parent(s)/guardian(s) of students who have previously provided consent for the School to administer medication or assist a student with the administration of medication may terminate consent by providing the School with a signed written withdrawal of consent on a form obtained from the office of the School Director.

Authorized Personnel

A nurse who is employed by the School and certified will administer or assist in administering the medication to students. If not available, a designated School employee who is legally able to and has consented to administer or assist in administering the medication to students will administer the medication or otherwise assist the students.

Storage of Medication

Medication for administration to students shall be maintained in the office of the School nurse in a locked cabinet. It shall be clearly marked for easy identification. If the medication requires refrigeration, the medication shall be stored in a refrigerator in a locked office, which may only be accessed by the School nurse and other authorized personnel. If stored medication is unused, discontinued or outdated, the medication shall be returned to the student's parent/guardian where possible. If not possible, the School shall dispose of the medication by the end of the school year in accordance with applicable law.

Confidentiality

School personnel with knowledge of the medical needs of students shall maintain the students' confidentiality. Any discussions with parents/guardians and/or authorized health care providers shall take place in an area that ensures student confidentiality. All medication records or other documentation relating to a student's medication needs shall be maintained in a location where access is restricted to the Director, the School nurse or other designated School employees.

Medication Record

The School shall maintain a medication record for each student that is allowed to carry and self-administer medication and for each student to whom medication is administered or other assistance is provided in the administration of medication.

The medication record shall contain the following:

- 1) The authorized health care provider's written statement;
- 2) The written statement of the parent/guardian;
- 3) A medication log (see below);
- 4) Any other written documentation related to the administration of the medication to the student or otherwise assisting the pupil in the administration of the medication.

The medication log shall contain the following information:

- 1) Student's name;
- 2) Name of the medication the student is required to take;
- 3) Dose of medication;
- 4) Method by which the pupil is required to take the medication;
- 5) Time the medication is to be taken during the regular school day;
- 6) Date(s) on which the student is required to take the medication;
- 7) Authorized health care provider's name and contact information; and

8) A space for daily recording of medication administration to the student or otherwise assisting the student, such as date, time, amount, and signature of the individual administering the medication or otherwise assisting in administration of the medication.

1. The school nurse or trained personnel who have volunteered may use epinephrine auto-injectors to provide emergency medical aid to persons suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering from, an anaphylactic reaction. The School will ensure it has the appropriate type of epinephrine auto-injector on site (i.e., regular or junior) to meet the needs of its pupils. The School will ensure staff properly store, maintain, and restock the epinephrine auto-injectors as needed.

2. The School will ensure any school personnel who volunteer are appropriately trained regarding the storage and emergency use of epinephrine auto-injectors based on the standards developed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction. The School will distribute an annual notice to all staff describing the request for volunteers who will be trained to administer an epinephrine auto-injector to a person if that person is suffering, or reasonably believed to be suffering from, anaphylaxis. The annual notice shall also describe the training the volunteer will receive.
3. Designated staff shall establish emergency procedures for specific medical conditions that require an immediate response (i.e. allergies, asthma, diabetes).

Policy Adopted: [INSERT DATE]

Policy Revised:

Emergencies

I. First Aid and CPR

All teachers are certified in first aid and CPR and are re-certified every year in either first aid or CPR. Every classroom has a First Aid Kit containing appropriate supplies. First aid will be administered whenever necessary by trained staff members. When necessary, the appropriate emergency personnel will be called to assist.

II. Resuscitation Orders

School employees are trained and expected to respond to emergency situations without discrimination. If any student needs resuscitation, trained staff shall make every effort to resuscitate him/her. The School does not accept or follow any parental or medical "do not resuscitate" orders. School staff should not be placed in the position of determining whether such orders should be followed. The School Director, or his/her designee, shall ensure that all parents/guardians are informed of this policy.

III. Emergency Contact Information

For the protection of a student's health and welfare, the School shall require the parent/guardian(s) of all students to keep current with the School emergency information including the home address and telephone number, business address and telephone number of the parent/guardian(s), and the name, address and telephone number of a relative or friend who is authorized to care for the student in any emergency situation if the parent/guardian cannot be reached.



IV. Head Lice

To prevent the spread of head lice infestations, School personnel shall report all suspected cases of head lice to the School nurse, or designee, as soon as possible. The nurse, or designee, shall examine the student and any siblings of affected students or members of the same household in accordance with the School's health examination policy. If nits or lice are formed, the student(s) shall be excluded from attendance and parents/guardians informed about recommended treatment procedures and sources of further information.

In the event of one or more persons infested with lice, an exposure notice with information about head lice shall be sent home to all parents/guardians of the students that have been exposed to the head lice.

School personnel shall maintain the privacy of students identified as having head lice and excluded from attendance.

Excluded students may return to School when reexamination by the nurse, a designee, or

other authorized health care representative shows that all nits and lice have been removed. After returning, the student may be reexamined by the nurse as appropriate to ensure that reinfestation has not occurred.

Student Freedom of Expression Policy and Procedures

Students attending the School have the right to exercise free expression including, but not limited to the use of bulletin boards, distribution of printed materials or petitions, and wearing buttons, badges and other insignia. The Board of Directors ("Board") respects students' rights to express ideas and opinions, take stands and support causes, whether controversial or not, through their speech, their visiting, their clothing, and the printed materials they choose to post or distribute.

Student liberties of expression shall be limited only as allowed by law in order to maintain an orderly school environment and to protect the rights, health and safety of all members of the School community. Expression shall be prohibited which is obscene, libelous, or slanderous. Also prohibited shall be material that so incites pupils as to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of lawful school regulations, or the substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the School.

Freedom of Expression Procedures

I. Circulation of Petitions and Other Printed Matter

Students shall be allowed to distribute circulars, leaflets, newspapers, pictorials, petitions and other printed matter subject to these procedures.

1. Leaflets, pictorial and other printed matter to be distributed shall be submitted to the School Director or designee at least one school day prior to distribution.
2. Distribution, free or for a fee, may take place at any time except during instructional time and providing there is no substantial disruption in the school programs (as determined by the School Director).
3. The manner of distribution shall be such that coercion is not used to induce students to accept the printed matter or to sign petitions.
4. The solicitation of signatures must not take place in instructional classes or school offices, nor be substantially disruptive to the school program (as determined by the School Director).
5. Pupil editors of official school publications shall be responsible for assigning and editing the news, editorial, and feature content of their publications subject to the limitations of this section. However, it shall be the responsibility of the adviser or advisers of pupil publications to supervise the production of the pupil staff, to maintain professional standards of English and journalism, and to maintain the provisions of this section.
6. There shall be no prior restraint of material prepared for official school publications except insofar as it violates this policy. The School officials shall have the burden of showing justification without undue delay prior to a limitation of pupil expression under this section.

II. Buttons, Badges and Other Insignia of Symbolic Expression

Students will be permitted to wear buttons, badges, armbands, and other insignia as a form of expression.

III. Use of Bulletin Boards

Students will be provided with bulletin boards, upon request and subject to availability, for use in posting student materials on campus locations convenient to student use. Where feasible, the location and quantity of such bulletin boards shall be by mutual agreement of student government representatives and the School administration. Posted material must be in compliance with other sections of this Policy, particularly regarding the distribution of materials and prohibited speech.

IV. Organized Demonstrations

Students have the right to lawful organized on-campus demonstrations, subject to the provisions of this Policy and applicable law. Demonstrations that incite pupils to create a clear and present danger of the commission of unlawful acts on school premises or the violation of lawful school regulations, or demonstrations that substantially disrupt of the orderly operation of the school are prohibited.

No organized demonstrations by school groups may take place during school hours off the school campus unless sanctioned by school authorities and supervised by a designated school authority. No individual student may demonstrate in the name of the school or as an official school group at any time unless authorized by the school to participate in the activity.

V. Enforcement

1. The School Director or designee shall review material submitted in a reasonable amount of time and shall allow the approved material to be distributed according to the time and manner established by this Policy.
2. Any student may appeal the decision of the School Director or designee to the Board who shall render a decision within a reasonable period of time after receipt of the appeal. The appeal by the student must be made within five school days from the time the unsatisfactory decision was rendered.
3. The School Director shall work with student government representatives in the development of these procedures. Student responsibilities shall be emphasized.
4. Students who are considering actions in the areas covered by this Policy should be informed of the possible consequences of their action under each specific circumstance.
5. This Policy does not prohibit or prevent the School Governing Board from adopting otherwise valid rules and regulations relating to oral communications by pupils upon the premises of the School.

6. No School employee shall be dismissed, suspended, disciplined, reassigned, transferred, or otherwise retaliated against solely for acting to protect a pupil engaged in the conduct authorized under this Policy, or refusing to infringe upon conduct that is authorized under this Policy, the First Amendment to the United States Constitution, or Section 2 of Article I of the California Constitution.

Policy Adopted: [INSERT DATE]

Policy Revised:



Policy Against Plagiarism

Academic Honesty

The Governing Board believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty.

Policy on Academic Dishonesty

It is the student's responsibility to understand and be familiar with the academic dishonesty policy. Academic dishonesty includes, but is not limited to: plagiarism, copying, and cheating.

The most common form of academic dishonesty is plagiarism. Plagiarism is taking someone else's work and passing it off as your own. That includes taking work from people dead or alive, works that are published or not published; books, articles, internet, classmates and friends. If you use other people's work, it is important for you to learn how to cite it properly and give credit to the person who wrote it. If you need help with properly citing or more clarification about this topic, please ask your teacher.

Policy on Academic Dishonesty/Plagiarism

The Governing Board believes that academic honesty and personal integrity are fundamental components of a student's education and character development. The Board expects that students will not cheat, lie, plagiarize or commit other acts of academic dishonesty. Students, parents/guardians, staff and administrators shall be responsible for creating and maintaining a positive school climate that encourages honesty. Students found to have committed an act of academic dishonesty shall be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion from School.

The Director, or designee, may establish a committee comprised of students, parents/guardians, staff, administrators and members of the public to develop standards of academic honesty, measures of preventing dishonesty, and specific consequences for acts of dishonesty.

Policy Adopted: 12-2-10

Policy Revised:

Student Internet Use Policy and Agreement

INTRODUCTION

The Internet is a place for the exchange of ideas and information. Accordingly, the Internet is an excellent educational tool that allows students to access a wide variety of information to supplement academic study and research. River Oaks Academy (“Charter School”) provides students with Internet access and email accounts, as appropriate, to further their education and research. However, the access the Internet provides to computers and people across the world also provides access to materials that do not have educational value in a school setting. As such, students may encounter information and ideas they may consider obscene, controversial, abusive, or otherwise offensive. Despite these risks, the Charter School believes that the value of the educational information available on the Internet far outweighs the risk that students may access information that is not consistent with educational goals and purposes.

The Charter School has developed and adopted this Student Internet Use Policy and Agreement to ensure that student access to and use of the Internet is consistent with the educational goals and purposes of the Charter School. This Policy sets forth student responsibilities and duties when accessing and using the Internet through Charter School equipment and resource networks and when using email accounts maintained by the Charter School. The Charter School has deemed certain uses of the Internet inappropriate for an educational setting and therefore not appropriate for use with Charter School equipment and resource networks. The Charter School stresses that an inappropriate use does not always mean that the use is in itself "bad" or illegal, but only that the use does not further the educational goals and purposes of the Charter School.

In addition to the below identified policies, the Charter School will use technology protection measures that protect against Internet access (by both minors and adults) to visual depictions that are obscene, child pornography, or with respect to use by minors, harmful to minors. These measures may include, but are not limited to, installing a blocking system to block specific internet sites, setting Internet browsers to block access to adult sites, using a filtering system that will filter all Internet traffic and report potential instances of misuse and using a spam filter.

Students are reminded that their use of Charter School equipment and resource networks reflect upon the Charter School, and Students should guide their activities accordingly.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

Use Limited to an Educational Purpose

The Student acknowledges that access to the Internet via Charter School equipment and resource networks is intended to serve and pursue educational goals and purposes. Student use of the Internet is therefore limited to only those activities that further or enhance the delivery of education. The Student recognizes that he or she has a duty to use Charter School equipment and resource networks only in a manner specified in the Policy.

- Educational Purpose

"Educational purpose" means classroom activities; research in academic subjects, career or professional development activities, research in matters of civic importance or that further citizenship in a democratic society, Charter School approved personal research activities, or other purposes as defined by the Charter School from time to time.

- Inappropriate Use

An "inappropriate use" is one that is inconsistent with an educational purpose or that is in clear violation of Charter School policy and the acceptable use agreement.

Plagiarism

Researching information and incorporating that information into a student's work is an acceptable educational use, but students have an obligation to credit and acknowledge the source of information. Accordingly, the Student acknowledges that plagiarism is inappropriate and unacceptable. Plagiarism means the copying of a phrase, a sentence, or a longer passage from a source written by someone else and claiming the written work as the student's original work. Student agrees that when quoting from information obtained on the Internet, he or she will acknowledge the source through quotation or any academically accepted form of notation.

Copyright

Student agrees that he or she will not use Charter School equipment or resource networks to download or print text, music, or pictures for the purpose of selling or giving the files to others unless specifically authorized by the Charter School and the owner of the copyrighted material.

Communication

Student should be polite and respectful when using School email. Student agrees that he or she will NOT use Charter School equipment or resource networks or Charter School email accounts in the following manner:

- Student will not post on newsgroups or other message posting systems any communication containing profanity, racially disparaging remarks, or lewd and/or obscene language.
- Student will not at any time use speech that is not appropriate for an educational setting. Examples of speech that is not appropriate for an educational setting includes, but is not limited to, inflammatory language, profanity, personal attacks, harassment, threats to do personal harm or other criminal activity, and language that is intended to be racially derogatory.
- Student will not make threats against others.
- Student will not reveal personal information about others.
- Student will not use email to send chain letters or "spam" email to a list of people or to an individual. Excessive email use may constitute grounds for suspecting misuse.
- Student will not place illegal information on the Internet, nor will Student use the Internet in any way that violates federal, state, or local law.
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- Student will not give out to any other Internet user or post on the Internet his or her name, address, or telephone number unless expressly authorized by the Charter School in writing.

In instances of misuse or suspected misuse, in addition to any disciplinary actions appropriate, the Student's parent or guardian may be granted access to the Student's email files.

Illegal, Dangerous Activities and Hacking

Student shall not use the Internet to perform any illegal act or to help others perform illegal acts. Illegal acts include, but are not limited to, any activities in violation of local, state, and federal law. Student shall not access information designed to further criminal or dangerous activities. Such information includes, but is not limited to, information that if acted upon could cause damage, present a danger, or cause disruption to the Charter School, other students, or the community. Additionally, student shall not damage, debilitate or disable computers, computer networks or systems through the intentional or overuse of electronic distribution or the spreading of computer viruses or other harmful programs. Student shall not engage in any unauthorized online access to other computers by means of hacking into other computers, download hacker tools such as port scanners and password crackers designed for use with Windows (or applicable operating systems), or use Internet Explorer (or other WWW browsing tools) to evade restrictions on what programs student can run on the Charter School's computers.

Obscene Materials

Student acknowledges that obscene materials do not further an educational purpose. Accordingly, Student shall not use the Internet to access, upload, download, distribute, or transmit obscene materials or images. Obscene materials include, but are not limited to, materials that offend generally accepted social standards. This includes the access of or retrieval of any sexually explicit materials, and materials that are pornographic, abusive or threatening. Students are to exercise their best judgment when encountering sexually explicit or obscene materials. As a general rule, if the material could not be openly displayed in a classroom setting without violating generally accepted social standards, the material is obscene for purposes of this Policy and must not be accessed. Student further agrees that he or she will not access any Internet site which requires the Student to state that he or she is eighteen years of age or older as a condition of accessing the site.

Supervision and Student Privacy

Student acknowledges that computer equipment, Internet access networks, and email accounts are owned by the Charter School and provided to students for educational purposes. The Charter School will provide staff to monitor and supervise all Student access to computer equipment, Internet access networks, and email accounts. To facilitate monitoring of activities, computer screens will be positioned so that they are visible to the staff member supervising the students. The Charter School also reserves the right to access stored computer records to assure compliance with this Policy. Student is aware that communication over Charter School owned networks is not private and acknowledges that email and records of Internet activities will be accessed under, but not limited to, the following circumstances:

- a. Routine system maintenance.
- b. General inspection or monitoring, with or without notice to student, if there is suspicion of inappropriate use.
- c. Specific review of individual files or monitoring of individual activity, with or without notice to student, if there is suspicion that student is engaging in inappropriate use.

Commercial Activities

Student agrees that Student will not use the Internet to buy or sell, or attempt to buy or sell, any service or product unless authorized by the Charter School in writing.

Information about Others

Student agrees that he or she will not make any statement or post any communication on the Internet about another person that he or she knows or suspects to be untrue.

Violation of Policy

The Student acknowledges that violation of this Policy can result in a loss of all Internet access and email privileges. If student violates this Policy, or in any other way uses Charter School equipment in a manner that is not consistent with educational uses, the student will be promptly notified that he or she has violated the Policy. The Student will be given the opportunity to explain why the Charter School should deem the activity in question a use consistent with the educational purposes stated in this Policy. If the Charter School deems that the use is inconsistent with the educational purposes stated in this Policy, the Charter School may terminate the Student's Internet and email privileges. However, because one of the educational purposes in providing Internet access is to teach students to use the Internet appropriately, the Charter School reserves the right to fashion penalties to specific concerns or specific violations, and Student acknowledges that he or she may receive penalties less than full termination of Internet or email privileges. Such penalties may include, but are not limited to, restricted access to Internet or supervised access to Internet and email.

Student also acknowledges that the Charter School will contact the proper legal authorities if the Charter School concludes or suspects that the Student's Internet activity is a violation of any law or otherwise constitutes illegal activity.

Training

Student acknowledges that he/she will be required to attend training on the requirements of this Internet Use Policy as a condition of using Charter School owned technology. Student must demonstrate all understanding of the policy prior to receiving an individual account on the Charter School's system.

Policy Adopted: [INSERT DATE]

Policy Revised:

Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination, and Bullying Policy

Discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are all disruptive behaviors, which interfere with students' ability to learn and negatively affect student engagement, diminish school safety, and contribute to a hostile school environment. As such, the School prohibits any acts of discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying altogether. This policy is inclusive of instances that occur on any area of the school campus, at school-sponsored events and activities, regardless of location, through school-owned technology, and through other electronic means.

As used in this policy, discrimination, sexual harassment, harassment, intimidation, and bullying are described as the intentional conduct, including verbal, physical, written communication or cyber-bullying, including cyber sexual bullying, based on the actual or perceived characteristics of disability, pregnancy, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, ancestry, race or ethnicity, immigration status, religion, religious affiliation, sexual orientation, childbirth or related medical conditions, marital status, age, or association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics or any other basis protected by federal, state, local law, ordinance or regulation. In addition, bullying encompasses any conduct described in the definitions set forth in this Policy. Hereafter, such actions are referred to as "misconduct prohibited by this Policy." The School's complete Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination and Bullying can be found on the School's website.

To the extent possible, the School will make reasonable efforts to prevent students from being discriminated against, harassed, intimidated, and/or bullied, and will take action to investigate, respond, address and report on such behaviors in a timely manner. The School staff that witness acts of misconduct prohibited by this Policy will take immediate steps to intervene when safe to do so.

Moreover, the School will not condone or tolerate misconduct prohibited by this Policy by any employee, independent contractor or other person with which the School does business, or any other individual, student, or volunteer. This policy applies to all employee, student, or volunteer actions and relationships, regardless of position or gender. The School will promptly and thoroughly investigate any complaint of such misconduct prohibited by this Policy and take appropriate corrective action, if warranted.

For more information regarding this Policy and its procedures, you may contact the Title IX, Harassment, Intimidation, Discrimination and Bullying Coordinator ("Coordinator"):

Claudia Weintraub
Director
(805)777-7999
920 Hampshire Rd.

Sexual Abuse and Molestation Prevention

River Oaks Academy Charter School (“School”) does not permit or allow sexual abuse or molestation to occur in the workplace or at any activity sponsored by or related to it. In order to make this "zero-tolerance" policy clear to all employees, volunteers and staff members, we have adopted mandatory procedures that employees, volunteers, family members, board members, individuals and victims must follow when they learn of or witness sexual abuse or molestation.

Sexual abuse takes the form of inappropriate sexual contact or interaction for the gratification of the actor. Sexual abuse includes sexual assault, exploitation, molestation or injury. It does not include sexual harassment, which is another form of behavior which is prohibited by the School.

I. Reporting Procedure

All staff members who learn of sexual abuse being committed must immediately report it to the Director. If a child is the victim, the Director or designee will report it to the local or state Child Abuse Agency. Appropriate family members of the victim must be notified immediately of suspected child abuse.

II. Investigation & Follow Up

We take allegations of sexual abuse seriously. Once the allegation is reported we will promptly, thoroughly and impartially initiate an investigation to determine whether there is a reasonable basis to believe that sexual abuse has been committed. Our investigation may be undertaken by either an internal team or we may hire an independent third party. We will cooperate fully with any investigation conducted by law enforcement or regulatory agencies, and we may refer the complaint and the result of our investigation to those agencies. We reserve the right to place the subject of the investigation on an involuntary leave of absence. To the fullest extent possible, but consistent with our legal obligation to report suspected abuse to appropriate authorities, we will endeavor to keep the identities of the alleged victims and investigation subject confidential.

If the investigation substantiates the allegation, our policy provides for immediate reporting to local law enforcement officials as well disciplinary penalties, including but not limited to termination of the actor's relationship with our organization.

There are a number of "red flags" that suggest someone is being sexually abused. They take the form of physical or behavioral evidence.

Physical evidence of sexual abuse includes, but is not limited to:

- Sexually transmitted diseases;
- Difficulty walking or ambulating normally;
- Stained, bloody or torn undergarments;
- Genital pain or itching; and
- Physical injuries involving the external genitalia.

Student Organizations & Clubs

The Board recognizes the importance of allowing students to organize and participate in student organizations and clubs for purposes and activities that will forward the betterment of the school and its community.

I. Student Government

If appropriate, the School may establish a student government, so long as a faculty member will supervise such activities and ensure compliance with Board requirements and other applicable lawful regulations. The Director or designee may establish a fair process for the nomination and election of officer for President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. There shall be a minimum of two class representatives, to be selected by procedures to be developed at the discretion of the faculty of the participating classes. Meetings shall be held in a manner and at times deemed necessary by the student government. Robert's Rules of Order shall be utilized by the body. However, the body shall generally determine all other rules for its operation and activities consistent with the established rules of the School and the Board.

II. Student Organizations

In addition to a student government body, students may establish organizations or clubs so long as approval is obtained by the governing board consistent with this policy and any other applicable requirements.

III. Approval

The student organization's constitution and by-laws may be prepared through the cooperative work of the students and faculty. A copy of the constitution and by-laws must be submitted to the Director for initial review to ensure consistency with Board requirements. Once this determination is made, the constitution and by-laws shall be placed on the Board's agenda for review and approval. In reviewing such proposals, the Board shall respect all pupil constitutional and statutory rights. The funds of every student organization shall be deposited, expended and accounted for in accordance with a written procedure developed by the student government, with the assistance of the Director of the School.

IV. Fundraising

All funds raised by any student organization shall be supervised under the name of the School. The School shall also be responsible to periodically audit the funds of the organization. All fundraising must receive prior approval of the Director and in cases when deemed necessary by the Director, Board approval will be required. Further, fundraising activities shall not be conducted during instructional time.

V. Use of School Facilities

The use of school facilities by student organizations will be subject to reasonable rules established by the Board. Students interested in initiating a meeting on school premises shall submit a request in writing to the Director. The request should state the name of the person requesting the meeting, the name of the group or type of group requesting the meeting, the number of persons expected to attend, the time requested, and the length of time for the meeting. The Director or designee shall review the written application and determine, which, if any room is available to accommodate the request. Requests for use shall be presented to the Director seven school days in advance of the date requested for use. The Director shall assign a teacher, administrator or other employee to a meeting for "custodial" purposes. The employee shall not participate in the meetings, sponsor the meeting or attempt to influence the form or content of the meeting.

The granting of use of school facilities does not mean the School sponsors or endorses the activities or the student group.

VI. Revocation of Privileges

Student groups and individual students meeting on school property or otherwise at a school sponsored event may have their privilege to meet revoked if they engage in conduct which is a violation of this policy, disruptive to the educational process, damages school property or a violation of any law. Student organizations or their members shall not engage in any activity, which coerces, pressures, embarrasses or unduly influences other students to participate in any meeting.

Activities of Military Recruiters on Campus

I. Campus Access

River Oaks Academy shall provide military recruiters the same access to the Charter School's students as is provided generally to post-secondary educational institutions or to prospective employers.

Military recruiters must be from one of the following military organizations:

- Air Force
- Air Force Reserve
- Air Force National Guard
- Air Force ROTC
- Army
- Army Reserve
- Army National Guard
- Coast Guard
- Navy Reserve
- Navy
- Marine Corps
- ROTC Marine Corps

Homeless Students

I. Definition

The term “homeless children and youth” means individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence due to economic hardship. It includes children and youths who (42 USC 11434(a)):

7. Are sharing the housing of other persons due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; are living in motels, hotels, trailer parks or camping grounds due to the lack of alternative adequate accommodations; are living in emergency or transitional shelters; or are abandoned in hospitals;
8. Have a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as regular sleeping accommodations for human beings;
9. Are living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, bus or train stations, or similar settings; and
10. Migratory children and unaccompanied youth (youth not in the physical custody of a parent or guardian) may be considered homeless if they meet the above definition of “homeless.”

Homeless status is determined in cooperation with the parent or guardian. In the case of unaccompanied youth, status is determined by the School Liaison.

II. School Liaison


The Director or designee designates the following staff person as the School Liaison for homeless students ((42 USC 11432(g)(1)(J) & (e)(3)(C).):

Director
River Oaks Academy Charter School
920 Hampshire Road, Suite X
Westlake Village, CA 91360
805-777-7999.

The School Liaison shall ensure that (42 U.S.C. 11432(g)):

1. Homeless students are identified by school personnel and through coordination activities with other entities and agencies.
2. Homeless students enroll in, and have a full and equal opportunity to succeed at River Oaks Academy (“Charter School”).
3. Homeless students and families receive educational services for which they are eligible, including services through Head Start programs (including Early Head Start programs) under the Head Start Act, early intervention services under part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, any other preschool programs administered by the Charter School, if any, and referrals to health care services, dental services, mental health services and substance abuse services, housing services, and other appropriate services.

4. Parents/guardians are informed of the educational and related opportunities available to their children and are provided with meaningful opportunities to participate in the education of their children.
5. Public notice of the educational rights of homeless children is disseminated at places frequented by parents or guardians of such youths, and unaccompanied youths, including schools, shelters, public libraries, and soup kitchens, and in a manner and form understandable to the parents and guardians of homeless youth and unaccompanied youth.
6. Enrollment/admissions disputes are mediated in accordance with law, ROA charter, and Board policy.
7. Parents/guardians and any unaccompanied youth are fully informed of all transportation services, as applicable.
8. Charter School personnel providing services receive professional development and other support.
9. The School Liaison collaborates with State coordinators and community and school personnel responsible for the provision of education and related services to homeless children and youths.
10. Unaccompanied youth are enrolled in school; have opportunities to meet the same challenging State academic standards as the State establishes for other children and youth; and are informed of their status as independent students under section 480 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 and that the youths may obtain assistance from the School Liaison to receive verification of such status for the purposes of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid described in section 483 of the Act.

For any homeless student who enrolls at the Charter School, a copy of the Charter School's complete policy shall be provided at the time of enrollment and at least twice annually. For a complete copy of the School's policy, please make a request at the  office.

Uniform Complaint Procedure

River Oaks Academy (“Charter School” or “ROA”) has the primary responsibility to insure compliance with applicable state and federal laws and regulations and has established procedures to address allegations of unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying, and complaints alleging violation of state or federal laws governing educational programs, including the charging of unlawful pupil fees, non-compliance with the Local Control Funding Formula, and non-compliance with reasonable accommodations for lactating pupils.

ROA shall investigate and seek to resolve complaints using policies and procedures known as the Uniform Complaint Procedure (“UCP”) adopted by our Governing Board. Unlawful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying complaints may be based on actual or perceived characteristics of age, ancestry, color, immigration status, ethnic group identification, gender expression, gender identity, gender, genetic information, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, marital status, nationality, national origin, race or ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or on a person’s association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any ROA program or activity that receives or benefits from state financial assistance.

The UCP shall also be used when addressing complaints alleging failure to comply with state and/or federal laws in:

- Adult Education
- After School Education and Safety Programs
- Agricultural Vocational Education Programs
- American Indian Education Centers
- Consolidated Categorical Aid Programs
- Career Technical and Technical Education and Training Programs
- Child Care and Developmental Programs
- Child Nutrition Programs
- Foster and Homeless Youth Services
- Migrant Education
- Every Student Succeeds Act / No Child Left Behind Act Programs
- Regional Occupational Centers
- Special Education Programs
- State Preschool
- Lactating Pupils
- Bilingual Education
- Economic Impact Aid
- Tobacco-Use Prevention Education
- Local Control Funding Formula/Local Control and Accountability Plan
- Juvenile Court School Pupils

A complaint of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees may be filed pursuant to the local UCP. A pupil enrolled in a public school shall not be required to pay a pupil fee for participation in an educational activity. A pupil fee includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

- A fee charged to a pupil as a condition for registering for school or classes, or as a condition for participation in a class or an extracurricular activity, regardless of whether the class or activity is elective or compulsory, or is for credit.
- A security deposit, or other payment, that a pupil is required to make to obtain a lock, locker, book, class apparatus, musical instrument, clothes, or other materials or equipment.
- A purchase that a pupil is required to make to obtain materials, supplies, equipment, or clothes associated with an educational activity.
- A pupil fee complaint shall not be filed later than one (1) year from the date the alleged violation occurred.

Complaints of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees are filed with the Director of the Charter School. A complaint regarding pupil fees may be filed anonymously if the complaint provides evidence or information to support an allegation of noncompliance with laws relating to pupil fees. Complaints other than complaints relating to pupil fees must be filed in writing with the following compliance officer:

Director
 River Oaks Academy Charter School
 920 Hampshire Road, Suite X
 Westlake Village, CA 91360
 805-777-7999.

Complaints alleging discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, must be filed within six (6) months from the date the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, occurred or the date the complainant first obtained knowledge of the facts of the alleged discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying, unless the time for filing is extended by the Director or designee in writing.

Complaints will be investigated and a written Decision or report will be sent to the complainant within sixty (60) days from the receipt of the complaint. This sixty (60) day time period may be extended by written agreement of the complainant. The compliance officer responsible for investigating the complaint shall conduct and complete the investigation in accordance with California regulations and in accordance with ROA's procedures.

The complainant has a right to appeal ROA's Decision to the California Department of Education ("CDE") by filing a written appeal within fifteen (15) days of receiving the Decision. The appeal must include a copy of the complaint filed with the School and a copy of ROA's Decision.

Civil law remedies may be available under state or federal discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying laws, if applicable. In appropriate cases, an appeal may be filed pursuant to Education Code Section 262.3. A complainant may pursue available civil law remedies outside of ROA's complaint procedures. Complainants may seek assistance from mediation centers or public/private interest attorneys. Civil law remedies that may be imposed by a court include, but are not limited to, injunctions and restraining orders.

A copy of the UCP policy and complaint procedures shall be available free of charge in the Main Office and on the School's website. For further information on any part of the complaint procedures, including filing a complaint or requesting a copy of the complaint procedures, please contact the Director.