



DEMERIT/MERIT POLICY

Under the AVCS Demerit Policy, demerits are given for disciplinary infractions. The following demerit totals will lead to the associated disciplinary action being taken.¹

Please note:

- 25 Demerits = Referral sent home (email and regular mail) informing parent that the student has received 25 demerits for the semester.
- 50 Demerits = 1 day suspension with 50% credit for work or tests turned in from suspension day
- 75 Demerits = 3 days suspension with 50% credit for work or tests turned in from suspension day
- 100 Demerits = Expulsion Board hearing

Simple (5 Demerit) Offenses:

The following “simple” offenses are actions that can be dealt with at a teacher or proctor level. The offense should be noted on the “Secondary Demerit Record” and then given to the appropriate lead proctor by the end of the day. The lead proctor will then enter the offense(s) and demerits into RenWeb once per day.

For the following Simple Offenses, the student is given 5 demerits each, unless otherwise noted.

- Chewing gum on campus
- Eating in classrooms
- Eating in the hallways
- Using a cell phone while on campus
- Not speaking English while on campus
- Any unexcused tardy from a class²
- Being found to be out of dress code³
- Any unexcused absence from a class (other than because of a dress code violation = 10 demerits)⁴
- Being asked to leave a class for any reason⁵ = 10 demerits
- Public Display of Affection (PDA) = 10 demerits
- Using profanity = 10 demerits

There may be other infractions that are not listed that may be considered simple nature offenses.

Major Offenses:

The following major offenses are actions that will result in more severe consequences than “simple offenses.” The consequences for serious offenses are listed below and will be filed in each student’s Disciplinary File.

¹ All students will begin the second semester with 0 Demerits and 0 Merits.

² Excused tardies are issued for the following (a signed and dated parent note provided with reason for tardiness stated):

1. Medical or Dental Appointments
2. Vehicle Problems
3. Extreme Weather Conditions
4. Family Emergencies

³ If a student is out of dress code, then they will be removed from class by proctors until they are in compliance with dress code or until a satisfactory resolution has been made by the Secondary Student Coordinator.

⁴ With the exception of missing a class while serving a suspension

⁵ This will be at the discretion of the teacher and within the teacher/classroom policy portion of our Parent-Student Handbook. This could be for: excessive talking with friends, sleeping in the classroom, not following teacher instructions or giving disrespectful responses to the teacher. In this case, the teacher will call the front desk and ask for a lead proctor to come to the teacher’s classroom to remove the student for the teacher. The lead proctor will then detain the student for the duration of the period and enter the demerits into the student’s file in RenWeb.

These major offenses listed below include, but are not limited to:

Cheating on a Test or Quiz⁶

First Offense: Zero on the test or quiz, 1-Day Suspension

Second Offense: : Zero on the test or quiz, 3-Day Suspension

Third Offense: : Zero on the test or quiz, Expulsion Board Hearing

Plagiarizing, Copying Homework, Ghostwriting⁷

First Offense: Zero on the assignment, After School Detention on Wednesday (\$5)

Second Offense: Zero on the assignment, 1-Day Suspension

Third Offense: Zero on the assignment, 3-Day Suspension

Physical Altercation, Verbal Assaults, Cyber-Bullying, Reckless Driving, Vandalism or Theft

First Offense: Suspension, length to be determined

Second Offense: Expulsion Board Hearing

Smoking, Drugs, or Alcohol On-Campus or Off-Campus

First Offense: Suspension, length to be determined

Second Offense: Expulsion Board Hearing

Weapons, Sexual Encounters/Assaults On-Campus or Off-Campus

First Offense: Expulsion Board Hearing

There may be other infractions that are not listed that may be considered to be of a serious nature.

Please note: AVCS also offers several ways that students can voluntarily earn merits in the secondary grades (score-keeping at athletic games, lunch room & other facility cleanup, volunteering at town events, etc). These merits do not erase demerits, but they do count against the student's simple offense demerit total (i.e., if a student had 15 demerits and earned 5 merits, their running total would be 10 demerits). A student who wishes to earn merits may contact the Secondary Principal or Secondary Lead proctor for an approved service assignment. Finally, each staff member on the secondary level is also allowed to award 5 merits per week to a student that they feel has achieved a noticeable improvement in behavior or a certain level of excellence that week. A maximum of 25 merits per quarter may be earned by the student.

⁶ This includes using phones, small pieces of paper, writing on arms, copying, and any other forms of cheating.

⁷ Other forms of cheating.