

TYPES OF DIPLOMAS

Core 40 Diploma	Core 40 with Academic Honors	Core 40 with Technical Honors
English: 8 Credits Credits in lit., comp., and speech	English: 8 Credits Credits in lit., comp., and speech	English: 8 Credits Credits in lit., comp., and speech
Math: 6 Credits (in grades 9-12) 2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II <i>Students must take a math or quantitative reasoning course each year in high school</i>	Math: 8 Credits (6 credits in grades 9-12) 2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II 2 Additional credits in: Pre-Calculus or AP Calculus, AP Statistics <i>Students must take a math or quantitative reasoning course each year in high school</i>	Math: 6 Credits (in grades 9-12) 2 credits: Algebra I 2 credits: Geometry 2 credits: Algebra II <i>Students must take a math or quantitative reasoning course each year in high school</i>
Science: 6 Credits 2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry I; Physics I; or Integrated Chemistry/Physics 2 credits: any Core 40 science course	Science: 6 Credits 2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry I; Physics I; or Integrated Chemistry/Physics 2 credits: any Core 40 science course	Science: 6 Credits 2 credits: Biology I 2 credits: Chemistry I; Physics I; or Integrated Chemistry/Physics 2 credits: any Core 40 science course
Social Studies: 6 Credits 2 credits: US History 1 credit: US Gov. 1 credit: Economics 2 credits: World History	Social Studies: 6 Credits 2 credits: US History 1 credit: US Gov. 1 credit: Honors Econ. 2 credits: World History	Social Studies: 6 Credits 2 credits: US History 1 credit: US Gov. 1 credit: Economics 2 credits: World History
Physical Education: 2 Credits	Physical Education: 2 Credits	Physical Education: 2 Credits
Health: 1 Credit	Health: 1 Credit	Health: 1 Credit
Directed Electives: 5 Credits World Languages Fine Arts Career/Technical	World Language: 6-8 Credits	Career/Technical: 6 Credits State approved College and Career Pathway
	Fine Arts: 2 Credits	
Electives: 6 Credits	Electives: 6-8 Credits	Electives: 12 Credits
TOTAL: 40 CREDITS	TOTAL: 47 CREDITS	TOTAL: 47 CREDITS

For all diplomas students must pass the English & Math ISTEP or successfully complete the waiver process.

FOR THE CORE 40 WITH ACADEMIC HONORS DIPLOMA:

- Complete all requirements for Core 40.
- Earn 2 additional Core 40 math credits.
- Earn 6-8 Core 40 world language credits (6 credits in one language or 4 credits each in two languages).
- Earn 2 Core 40 fine arts credits.
- Earn a grade of a "C" or better in courses that will count toward the diploma.
- Have a grade point average of a "B" or better.
- Complete one of the following:
 - A. Earn 4 credits in 2 or more AP courses and take corresponding AP exams
 - B. Earn 6 verifiable transcribed college credits in dual credit courses from priority course list
 - C. Earn two of the following:
 1. A minimum of 3 verifiable transcribed college credits from the priority course list,
 2. 2 credits in AP courses and corresponding AP exams,
 3. 2 credits in IB standard level courses and corresponding IB exams.
 - D. Earn a combined score of 1750 or higher on the SAT critical reading, math, and writing sections and a minimum score of 530 on each
 - E. Earn an ACT composite score of 26 or higher and complete written section

FOR THE CORE 40 WITH TECHNICAL HONORS DIPLOMA:

- Complete all requirements for Core 40.
- Earn 6 credits in the college and career preparation courses in a state-approved College & Career Pathway and one of the following:
 - A. Pathway designated industry-based certification or credential, or
 - B. Pathway dual credits from the lists of priority courses resulting in 6 transcribed college credits
- Earn a grade of "C" or better in courses that will count toward the diploma.
- Have a grade point average of a "B" or better.
- Complete one of the following,
 - A. Any one of the options (A - E) of the Core 40 with Academic Honors
 - B. Earn the following scores or higher on WorkKeys; Reading for Information – Level 6, Applied Mathematics – Level 6, and Locating Information-Level 5.
 - C. Earn the following minimum score(s) on Accuplacer: Writing 80, Reading 90, Math 75.
 - D. Earn the following minimum score(s) on Accuplacer; Algebra 6, Writing 70, Reading 80.

Policies about classes and credits are found in the *RHS Curriculum Guide*. A copy of this guide was given to all 8th grade students at school; it is also available online on the RHS website. (Look under “Principal’s Corner.”) Here are a few that may be of interest.

GRADING SCALE

A 4-point grading scale is utilized. The scale will be calculated as follows:

A = 4.0	B = 3.0	C = 2.0	D = 1.0
A- = 3.7	B- = 2.7	C- = 1.7	D- = 0.7
B+ = 3.3	C+ = 2.3	D+ = 1.3	F = 0.0

VALEDICTORIAN

All eligibility requirements will be dependent on academic performance through second semester of senior year. Students must have been an RHS student for a minimum of three years and have/or will earn an Academic Honors Diploma. For the class of 2017 and beyond, the Valedictorian(s) shall be any student receiving a Core 40 Academic Honors Diploma with a core weighted GPA of 4.5000 or higher. “Core Weighted GPA” shall include only courses in English, Math, Science, Social Studies, and World Languages. Grade weighting for courses will follow the RCS Weighted Grades Policy.

CLASS RANK

Figuring the cumulative GPA for all students and “ranking” them in order from the highest to the lowest determines class rank. In case of a tie, the “tied” students will be given the same rank, and the appropriate numbers following will be eliminated.

ATHLETIC AND EXTRACURRICULAR ELIGIBILITY

Students participating in athletics and extra-curricular activities are expected to follow proper behavior as spelled out in the *RCS Uniform Code of Student Conduct* and the RHS Athletic Handbook. At the end of each grading period, a student must be passing five (5) classes to meet IHSA standards to participate in a sport. Failure to follow these prescribed policies will result in procedures that will assist the student in meeting the expected standards.

WEIGHTED GRADES

The weighted grade system is intended to reward and recognize academic rigor. It supports and recognizes scholarship and encourages students to take higher level courses. The following guidelines apply:

- A. Identified courses will receive weighted credit as designated below.
- B. The add-on will be automatic and will be reflected on the transcript and class rank.
- C. Students transferring from outside RCS with their GPA weighted from other schools will only receive credit after administrative review of transcripts.
- D. Students will receive credit according to RCS/State regulations only.
- E. Identified courses for weighted grade credit at RCS are all Advanced Placement, Honors, Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and dual credits from both 4 year and 2 year college/universities in math, science, social studies, English, and world languages.
- F. Other college courses that have not been approved for weighted grade credit prior to completion of the course will not be considered for weighted credit.
- G. No weighting will be given to honors/academic courses taken during middle school. All weighting will occur in classes taken at or during a student’s 9-12 enrollment at RHS.
- H. In order to receive the additional weighted points, a student must complete the course with a semester 70% (C-) or higher.

Tier 1 Qualified Courses (additional 0.5 weight per Semester):

Courses denoted as Honors (H), Project Lead the Way courses and dual credits from the Core Transfer Library (CTL Courses in math, science, social studies, English, world languages) at 2 year community colleges.

A = 4.5	B = 3.5	C = 2.5	D = 1.0
A- = 4.2	B- = 3.2	C- = 2.2	D- = 0.7
B+ = 3.8	C+ = 2.8	D+ = 1.3	F = 0.0

Tier 2 Qualified Courses (1.0 weight per Semester):

Courses denoted as Advanced Placement (AP), Advanced College Project (ACP) and dual credits (in math, science, social studies, and world languages) from a 4 year college/university.

A = 5.0	B = 4.0	C = 3.0	D = 1.0
A- = 4.7	B- = 3.7	C- = 2.7	D- = 0.7
B+ = 4.3	C+ = 3.3	D+ = 1.3	F = 0.0