



HILLSBORO SCHOOL DISTRICT

# FREE ORCHARDS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

August 2025

Welcome to the 2025-26 school year Foxes! We are excited for another school year at FOES and are eager to greet our students and family members. We hope that you had a safe Summer filled with fun and time to recharge before the start of this upcoming year. We can't wait to partner with our families along this journey to create a positive school community and academic experience for our amazing students!

Here are some **important dates** you don't want to miss:

- August 15 - School Office opens 7:30 am - 3:30 pm
- August 26th - Meet the Teacher/Supply Drop-Off (more information to come via Family Update email)
- August 27 - Family Connections (We call you!)
- September 1st - No school, Labor Day Holiday
- September 3rd - First Day of School for Grades 1-6
- September 4th - First Day of School for Kindergarteners

### **School Hours:**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:20 p.m. and Wednesday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:50 p.m.. Students should not arrive before 7:30 a.m.

**Family Involvement Opportunities:** We appreciate and welcome volunteers! All volunteers need to be approved in advance through our school district. Fill out the volunteer application or update/renew/check the status of your current application by visiting [volunteerapplication.hsd.k12.or.us](http://volunteerapplication.hsd.k12.or.us)

### **School Attendance:**

Every minute of every day matters in your child's education. Research suggests missing fewer than 9 days a year helps students succeed in school and later in life. Our goal is for every student to attend at least 90% of the school year. Missing school—whether excused or unexcused—means missing important learning and connections. Please help your child arrive on time daily, plan vacations around the [district calendar](#), and use the [Too Sick for School guidelines](#) when they're ill. If your child is absent, call **503-844-1143**. You'll receive an automated call if we don't hear from you by 9:00 a.m. Please leave your child's name and reason for absence, including symptoms if they are ill.

**Bus Routes:** Schedules and walk zone information are developed by the school district's transportation department. They will send you directions on how to access this information online at the end of August. Please let us know of any childcare or address changes right away. You may call transportation, 503-844-1123, if you have specific questions.

**ParentVue:** The e-mail addresses and phone numbers in our student information system are what we use to send families important news and updates, information about your child's attendance, and safety and emergency communications. Please check your information by logging into [ParentVue](#).

**Pick-up/Drop-off during Arrival and Dismissal:** In order to keep all of our students, staff, and community members safe, as well as being efficient with time, please follow our traffic, parking, and arrival/dismissal guidelines below.

- The Southside/back parking lot is for staff and buses only.

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***Engage and challenge all learners to ensure academic excellence***



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- The Eastside/front parking lot is for visitors and pick-up/drop-off.
- We have a pick-up/drop-off line that runs along the curb, marked in yellow, for students who can independently get in and out of cars during arrival and dismissal.
- If you utilize the pick-up/drop-off line, do not leave your car and pull all the way forward.
- Do not park or use the fire lane, marked in red and with orange cones as parking or pick-up/drop-off line.
- If you need to get out of your vehicle, please use a parking spot.
- Follow all crosswalk areas during all times.
- If you park in the street please walk up to the school to pick up your student and do not block our neighbors' driveways.

**School Meals:** We are pleased to announce that Hillsboro School District is participating in the National School Lunch and School Breakfast Programs HSD is approved to offer meals at no cost for all students through June 2028 under the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP). All students attending any of HSD's 36 school sites are eligible to receive a healthy complete breakfast and lunch at no cost. No further action is required of you. Your children will be able to participate in these meal programs without having to pay for meals or submit a meal application. You can view menus at <https://lincconnect.com/public/menu/ERRCAH> or [Hillsboro School District Menus](#).

**School Supplies:** School supply lists can be found on our website. If you need assistance with school supplies, please let your teacher know during the outreach calls on August 27th.

**Going home plans:** You will receive a paper copy to complete at the beginning of the school year to confirm your child's plan for getting from school to their after school destination. Once returned to our office, this document will serve as the daily plan for your child. If day-of changes need to be made, please call the office during the school day to inform us of the change.

**Helpful Links:** As a member of our Free Orchards school community, parents are automatically enrolled in ParentSquare, our district communication app. This is a valuable resource for information and announcements and a great way to communicate with our teachers!

Looking forward to seeing you all soon! Go Foxes!

Sincerely,

Gabby Hensley

Principal, Free Orchards Elementary

503-844-1140

[hensleym@hsd.k12.or.us](mailto:hensleym@hsd.k12.or.us)

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