

# **Bryan Middle School Student Handbook 2025-2026**



**Bryan Middle School  
605 Independence Road  
St. Charles, MO 63304  
Phone: 636-851-5800  
Fax: 636-851-6208**

**School Website:**

[bryan.fhdschools.org](http://bryan.fhdschools.org)

**District Website:**

[fhdschools.org](http://fhdschools.org)

**School Hours:**

8:15 a.m. - 3:15 p.m.

Students can begin arriving at 7:55 a.m.

**Office Hours:**

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM, Monday – Friday

**Francis Howell School District Administration Office:**

636-851-4000

**Transportation:**

636-851-6220

**Please Note:** Student Handbooks are published annually in August. Any staff changes that occur after publication will be updated in the [Bryan Middle School Staff Directory](#).

**Bryan Middle School Administration**

Mr. Jeff Gruener, Principal

Dr. Amy Ridling, Assistant Principal

Mr. Ryan Fall, Assistant Principal

**Office Staff**

Principal's Secretary: Stacy Clark, 636-851-5683

Attendance Secretary: Rachel Spurgeon, 636-851-5842

Site Secretary: Renee Holtgrewe, 636-851-5678

Building Information Specialist: Michelle Tarleton, 636-851-6151

**School Counselors**

6th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Courtney Mills, 636-851-5732

7th Grade Counselor: Mr. Logan Rizzo, 636-851-5688

8th Grade Counselor: Mrs. Anna Lind, 636-851-4035

**Nurse's Office**

Nurse: Tammie Thuet, 851-5681

## **School Mascot and Colors:**

We are the "Patriots" and our colors are red, white, and blue.



## **School Core Values**

*Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, and Kindness*

## **Mission Statement**

MEB is a community focused on learning through respect, responsibility, kindness, and honesty.

## **Bryan Middle School Vision Statement**

### **Mary Emily Bryan will:**

- Ensure student learning through the use of best practices
- Maintain high expectations for all students and staff
- Promote a positive climate of respect, pride, and a sense of community

## **The Patriot Way**

The Patriot Way is based on being respectful, responsible, honest, and kind. It is our list of expectations for all students. We will spend time at the beginning of the year, and review throughout the year, to teach students the Patriot Way to help create a safe and positive learning environment for all.

## **Welcome to Bryan Middle School!**

As we embark on a new school year, it is my pleasure to welcome our returning families and extend a special greeting to those who are joining us for the first time. Our school community is dedicated to providing a safe, nurturing, and challenging environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

The middle school years are a time of significant growth and change for our students. At Bryan Middle School, we strive to support each student through this exciting journey by offering a strong academic program, an emphasis on character development, and extracurricular activities. Our dedicated staff is committed to fostering a love of learning and helping each student reach their fullest potential.

Communication and partnership between home and school are vital to the success of our students. This handbook is designed to provide you with important information about our school's policies, procedures, and programs. Please take the time to review it carefully and discuss its contents with your child. By working together, we can ensure that our students have a positive and productive school year.

I encourage you to stay actively involved in your child's education. Attend school events, join our PTO, and keep the lines of communication open with your child's teachers. Your involvement makes a significant difference and reinforces the importance of education. If you have any questions or need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the school office. We are here to support you and your child every step of the way.

Thank you for entrusting us with your child's education. Together, we will make this a successful and memorable school year.

Once again, welcome to Bryan Middle! I am excited to embark on this journey with you and your child.

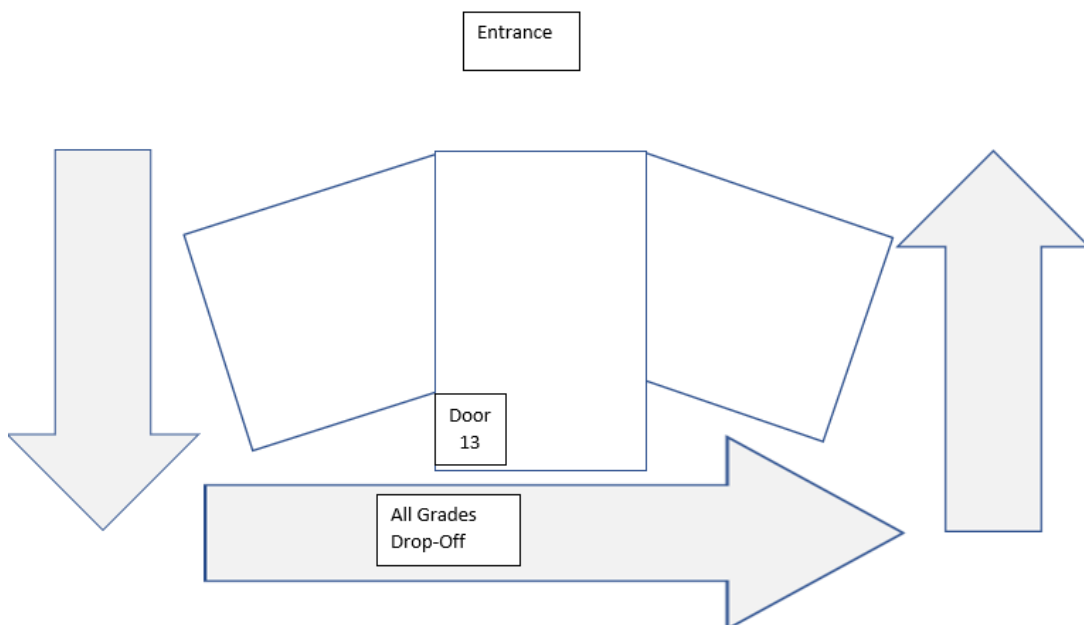
Sincerely,  
Jeff Gruener

# School Policies & Conduct

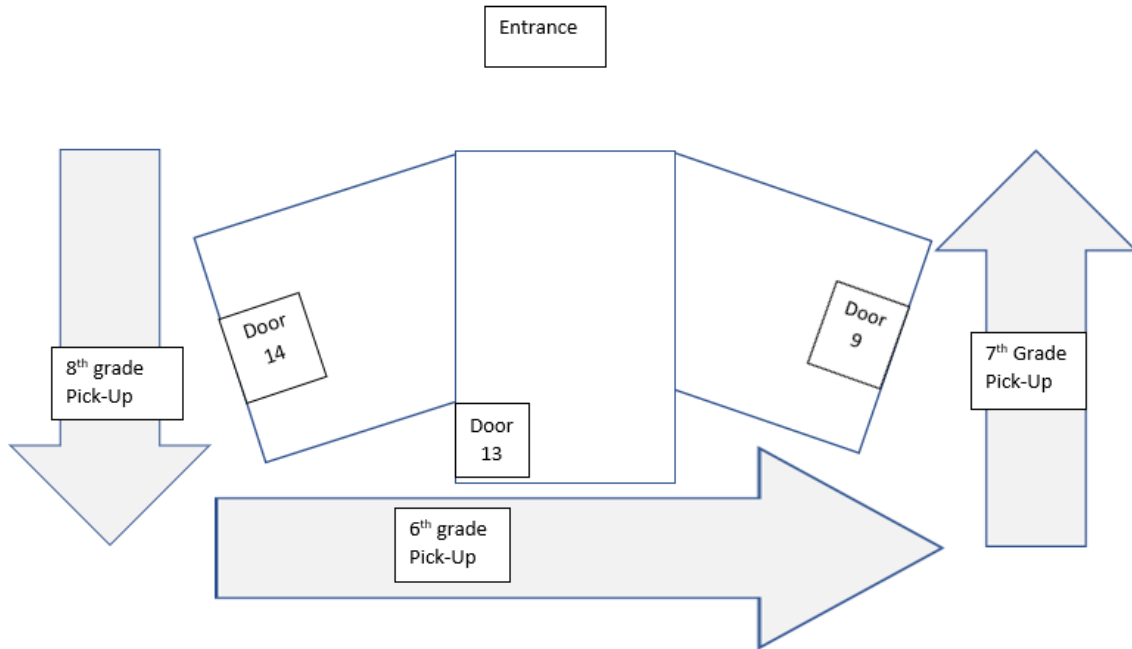
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## Arrival / Dismissal Procedures

If dropping off your child in the morning, please proceed to the rear of the building. The front lot is for bus drop-off only between 7:55 - 8:13 a.m. In the rear of the building, all students will enter through door #13. After 8:13 a.m. this door will be locked, and you must drop your child off at the front doors.



At dismissal, we have 3 pick-up areas. Vehicles should stay to the right and drive to the rear of the building. When stopping at a pick-up area please use the left lane. The right lane is for "through" traffic only. The first pick-up is for 8th grade students, at door #14. The next pick-up is at door #13, for 6th grade students, and if picking up multiple students from different grades. The final pick-up is door #9, for 7th grade students. Parent pick-up can be busy, so your patience is appreciated.



### **Late Arrival/Early Dismissal Procedures**

Parents must come into the vestibule to:

- Sign students in who arrive after the start of the day
- Sign students out, if leaving prior to the end of the school day.
- Drop off items for students during the day.

## Daily Schedule:

### Regular Daily Schedules:

3:15 PM Dismissal – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Periods</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Times</b>
1	8:15 – 9:07 AM
2	9:12 – 10:04 AM
3	10:09 – 11:27 AM
3A	10:04 – 10:28 AM
3B	10:32 -10:56 AM
4	11:32 AM – 12:24 PM
5	12:29 – 1:21 PM
6	1:26 – 2:18 PM
7	2:23 – 3:15 PM

<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Periods</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Times</b>
1	8:15 – 9:07 AM
2	9:12 – 10:04 AM
3	10:09 – 11:01 AM
4	11:06 – 12:24 AM
4A	11:01 -11:25 AM
4B	11:29 AM – 11:53 PM
5	12:29 – 1:21 PM
6	1:26 – 2:18 PM
7	2:23 – 3:15 PM

<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Periods</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Times</b>
1	8:15 – 9:07 AM
2	9:12 – 10:04 AM
3	10:09 – 11:01 AM
4	11:06 – 11:58 AM
5	12:03 -1:21 AM
5A	11:58 AM – 12:22 PM
5B	12:26 – 12:50 PM
6	1:26 – 2:18 PM
7	2:23 – 3:15 PM

**Early Release Wednesday Schedules:**

2:30 PM Dismissal – Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Periods</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Grade Times</b>
PT	8:15 – 8:35 AM
1	8:40 – 9:22 AM
2	9:27 – 10:09 AM
3	10:14 – 11:22 AM
3A	10:09 – 10:33 AM
3B	10:35 -10:59 AM
4	11:27 AM – 12:09 PM
5	12:14 – 12:56 PM
6	1:01 – 1:43 PM
7	1:48 – 2:30 PM

<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Periods</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> Grade Times</b>
PT	8:15 – 8:35 AM
1	8:40 – 9:22 AM
2	9:27 – 10:09 AM
3	10:14 – 10:56 AM
4	11:01 – 12:09 AM
4A	10:56 – 11:20 AM
4B	11:22 AM – 11:46 PM
5	12:14 – 12:56 PM
6	1:01 – 1:43 PM
7	1:48 – 2:30 PM

<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Periods</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> Grade Times</b>
<b>PT</b>	8:15 – 8:35 AM
<b>1</b>	8:40 – 9:22 AM
<b>2</b>	9:27 – 10:09 AM
<b>3</b>	10:14 – 10:56 AM
<b>4</b>	11:01 – 11:43 AM
<b>5</b>	11:48 AM – 12:56 PM
<b>5A</b>	11:43 AM – 12:07 PM
<b>5B</b>	12:09 – 12:33 PM
<b>6</b>	1:01 – 1:43 PM
<b>7</b>	1:48 – 2:30 PM

## **Cell Phone/Smart Watches**

Students are not allowed to use cell phones during the school day. Students must keep cell phones put away throughout the day. Smart watches are acceptable to wear. To contact your child during the school day please call the main office.

## **Communication**

- Faculty Email: First Name.Last Name@fhdschools.org
- Bryan News: Daily email for school news
- Facebook: Mary Emily Bryan Middle School, Francis Howell and Bryan Middle PTO

## **Counseling Office**

The Bryan Counseling Office, consisting of three Grade level Counselors, one Educational Support Counselor, and a building information specialist (BIS), provides many important services to the students, teachers, and parents in the school. Each counselor is assigned to a specific grade level. Counselors often engage in one-on-one counseling with students, provide group counseling (as needed for support and skill building), and work closely with district and community agencies to assist students in crises.

In addition to their counseling services, the counselors aid in the enrollment of students, create schedules and discuss academic planning with individual students. Counselors also monitor student grades and work closely with parents, teachers, and administrators to ensure that each school year progresses as efficiently as possible.

- Mrs. Courtney Mills - 6th Grade Counselor
- Mr. Logan Rizzo - 7th Grade Counselor
- Mrs. Anna Lind - 8th Grade Counselor
- Mrs. Sheila Concagh-Stamper - Educational Support Counselor

## **Detention**

A student may be assigned to detention for school or classroom misconduct, excessive tardiness to class, truancy, or for other infractions. Parents are responsible for transportation to or from detention. If the detention is not served within one week, further consequences would be given. Detention takes place after school from 3:20 - 4:20 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays. Before school detention is held on Wednesdays and Fridays from 7:00 - 8:00 a.m.

## **Grading Scale**

All classes use the same grading scale:

- 90-100% = A
- 80-89% = B
- 70-79% = C
- 60-69% = D
- Below 60% = F

## **Honor Roll**

To be placed on the honor roll, students must have an average of at least a B (3.0 on a 4.0 scale).

## **Book Bags and Lockers**

Students are allowed to bring a book bag to school and to carry throughout the day.

All students are assigned a hall locker to keep their valuables safe. The school is NOT responsible for lost or stolen items. Student lockers are the property and under the control of the school. Inspections of the lockers may be conducted at any time by school authorities for any reason, without notice, student consent, or search warrant.

## **Inappropriate Items**

We ask students to leave any item at home that is not necessary for school. Examples would include water guns, rubber bands, laser pointers, other toys, etc. Any kind of aerosol spray/cologne/perfume/body spray is not permitted due to others that may suffer from an allergic reaction.

## **Hats/Head covering**

Students may wear baseball hats or beanies during school hours. Students wearing other forms of hats/head covering will be asked to remove them. We ask that these items be free of offensive language, graphics, or symbols.

We fully support students who wear head coverings as part of their religious/cultural practice. These coverings are welcome and respected within our school community at all times.

## **Dress Code**

- Footwear must have hard soles.
- Markings on clothing must not be demeaning, obscene, or suggestive. Marking may not reference disruptive or illegal activity, alcohol, tobacco, vaping or drug use.
- Shirts must extend to your waistline and cover the chest, stomach, and lower back completely.

Students in violation will be asked to correct the issue.

1. First offense: Warning - staff member should contact the supervising principal.
2. Second offense: Administrator meets with student and contact parent.
3. Third offense: Parent contact and detention assigned.

## **Lunch and Lunch Visitor Procedures**

Students may purchase a school lunch or bring lunch from home. Students are not allowed to have food delivered to school by DoorDash or any similar service. Lunch visitors are not allowed in the cafeteria. Parents bringing lunch for their students can only bring food for their student.

## **Physical Education**

PE Attire: Athletic shoes are required for daily participation. Crocs are not appropriate for PE class. Students dressed inappropriately for PE will not participate and could be given an alternative assignment.

For an injury or illness, a signed doctor's note excusing a student from physical activity should be forward via email to the [nurse Tammie Thuet](#) or fax 851-6208.

## **Water Bottles**

Students are allowed to bring a water bottle to school. Only water may be in their drink container. All drink containers should have a closable lid. No squeeze containers allowed.

## **Transportation**

Bryan Middle School has a duty and responsibility for the safety of its students. Bus transportation is a privilege. Inappropriate behavior and/or not following a bus driver's directions will result in disciplinary action, such as: assigned seats, bus suspension, ISS/OSS. Students are only allowed to ride their assigned bus. Additionally, they may only exit the bus at their assigned stop. Please call the FHSD Transportation Department at 636-851-6220 with any questions.



# District Policies & Conduct

## Attendance Policy

Board Policy and Regulation 2310 cover student attendance. All students will be required to follow the policy and will be subject to enforcement of its procedures and applications.

Research clearly indicates that students who attend school regularly have more success both academically and socially. If your child's attendance falls below 90%, the District will employ a variety of attendance interventions. The level of interventions the school uses will increase as student's attendance decreases, so we can help ensure that your child and family have the appropriate support.

Interventions may include: letters, student goal setting, phone calls home, lessons on attendance, home visits, meetings with your student's teacher, principal, counselor and/or nurse, development of a support plan, possible referral to the Juvenile Office of St. Charles County, or possible referral to the Missouri Children's Division. These interventions will become more intensive if your child shows a decrease in attendance. Our hope is that your child's attendance will increase as the year progresses with the continued support of home and school.

View the [FHSD Attendance Pyramid of Interventions](#).

## Bullying

FHSD is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment free of any form of bullying or intimidation by students toward District personnel or students on school grounds, or school time, at a school sponsored activity or in a school related context as stated in Bullying Policy 2655 of the District Board Policy and Regulations document. The safety of students and staff in our schools and community is of primary importance. Policy 2655 states the following:

The District is committed to maintaining a learning and working environment free of any form of bullying or intimidation. Bullying is strictly prohibited on school grounds, on school-time, at a school sponsored activity or in a school-related context. Bullying is the intentional action by an individual or group of individuals to inflict intimidation, unwanted aggressive behavior, or harassment that is repetitive or is substantially likely to be repeated and causes a reasonable student to fear for his or her physical safety or property; substantially interferes with the educational performance, opportunities, or benefits of any

student without exception; or substantially disrupts the orderly operation of the school. Bullying may consist of physical actions, including gestures, or oral, cyber bullying, electronic, or written communication, and any threat of retaliation for reporting acts of bullying.

Cyber bullying means bullying as defined above through the transmission of a communication including, but not limited to, a message, text, sound or image by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager. The District may prohibit and discipline for cyber bullying that originates on any District campus or at a District activity if the electronic communication was made using the school's technological resources, if there is a sufficient nexus to the educational environment, or if the electronic communication was made on the District's campus or at a District activity using the student's own personal technological resources. Further, students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the education of District students will be subject to discipline.

Bullying, as defined in this Policy, is strictly prohibited. Students are encouraged to report any incident of bullying which they have witnessed or incurred, by contacting their principal/designee. District employees are required to report any instance of bullying which the employee has witnessed within two (2) school-days of the occurrence. Employees shall report the occurrence to the principal/designee, who is the person the District designates to receive reports of incidents of bullying. A principal/designee who receives a report of an incident of bullying shall initiate an investigation into the allegations, as soon as possible but within two (2) school-days of receipt of the report. The principal/designee may assign other employees to assist in the investigation, or request that the superintendent/designee assign an outside investigator. The investigation shall be completed within ten school-days from the date of the written report of bullying unless good cause exists to extend the investigation. No employee or student who reports an act of bullying shall be subject to reprisal or retaliation for making such a report. Any person who engages in reprisal or retaliation against an employee or student who reports an act of bullying shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Students who are found to have violated this Policy will be subject to consequences depending on factors such as: age of student(s), degree of harm, severity of behavior, number of incidences, etc. Possible consequences for a student for a violation of this policy include: loss of privileges, classroom detention, conference with teacher, parent

contact, conference with teacher/principal/designee, in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, expulsion and law enforcement contacted.

The District shall give annual notice of the policy to students, parents/guardians and staff. This policy shall be included in all student handbooks. This policy shall also be posted on the District's website (as a Board policy) and a copy shall be placed in the District Administrative Office.

The District shall provide information and appropriate training to District staff who have significant contact with students regarding this policy. All staff with significant student contact shall be trained on the requirements of this policy on an annual basis.

The District shall provide education and information to students regarding bullying, including information regarding this Policy prohibiting bullying, the harmful effects of bullying, and other applicable initiatives to address bullying, including student peer-to-peer initiatives to provide accountability and policy enforcement for those found to have engaged in bullying, reprisal, or retaliation against any person who reports an act of bullying. The District shall instruct its school counselors, school social workers, licensed social workers, mental health professionals, and school psychologists to educate students who are victims of bullying on techniques to overcome bullying's negative effects. Such techniques include but are not limited to, cultivating the student's self-worth and self-esteem; teaching the student to defend himself or herself assertively and effectively; helping the student develop social skills or encouraging the student to develop an internal locus of control. District administrators will implement programs and other initiatives to address bullying, to respond to such conduct in a manner that does not stigmatize the victim, and to make resources or referrals available to victims of bullying.

If you suspect that a student is being bullied please contact your school's principal. [Visit the District website to view Bullying Resources.](#)

## **Buses**

The Francis Howell School District assigns each student living within the district's boundary a bus which will be available to transport the student to and from school each academic day. This assignment is based on the student's primary address listed in Infinite Campus. If a parent requires their student to be transported to and/or from a secondary or alternate address the parent/guardian must contact the school and speak with the administrative assistant who handles transportation. Students purchasing a parking permit are choosing

to opt out of ridership. Allow forty-eight (48) hours for processing any change requests in transportation. The Francis Howell School District does not allow students to ride a friend's bus.

### **Cell Phone/Smart Watches**

Consistent with state law, students at all grade levels are prohibited from using cell phones and other personal electronic devices during the school day, including lunch and passing periods. Individual schools within the Francis Howell School District have the authority to enact additional restrictions on cell phone use beyond what is required by statute. Students may use their cell phone or personal devices during the school day in limited circumstances, including when such use is required by a student's IEP or 504 Plan, when authorized by a teacher or administrator for an approved educational purpose, and during school emergencies. Students who do not comply with the new state law and district policy will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the [FHSD Code of Student Conduct](#). Depending on the severity and frequency of the violation, a student may have their device confiscated by a school administrator. If this occurs, the student may pick it up at the end of the school day and/or the parent may be contacted to pick it up.

**Learn more:** [Policy 2656: Student Cell Phone Usage](#)

### **Student Discipline**

The District has the authority to investigate and discipline for student conduct which is prejudicial to good order and discipline in the schools as provided by state and federal law. District staff may interview students, search students and their property, as well as seize any inappropriate items, upon reasonable suspicion of a code of student conduct violation, without parental notification. School officials are authorized to hold students accountable for misconduct in school, on school property, and during school-sponsored activities. Students who engage in significant acts of misconduct off campus which materially and adversely impact the education of District students will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. However, no student will be confined in an unattended locked space except for emergency situations while awaiting the arrival of law enforcement officials.

Students forfeit their right to a public school education by engaging in conduct prohibited in Regulation 2610, the "[Code of Student Conduct](#)", and/or state or federal law. Disciplinary consequences include, but are not limited to, withdrawal of school privileges (athletics, intramurals, student clubs and activities and school social events), the reassignment of the student to another school, removal for up to ten (10) school days by the

principal(s)/designee(s), extension of suspensions for a total of one hundred eighty (180) days by the superintendent/designee, and longer term suspension and expulsion from school by the Board of Education. See Policy 2610 and the "[Code of Student Conduct](#)."

### **Computer and Related Technology Use by Students**

Students will be expected to use all technologies in a proper and correct manner. Such technologies include, but are not limited to, school/district computers, Chromebooks, iPads, software, internet use, peripheral hardware, file servers, email, Google Suite (Gmail, Docs, Drive, etc.), and audio-visual equipment.

Students who improperly utilize or damage technologies will be subject to the loss of technological privileges and/or other disciplinary actions. If any parent does not wish the school to allow his/her son or daughter to have technology-based privileges (i.e., use of computers, access to the internet, etc.), the parent should contact the student's assistant principal each school year. The administrator will inform the student's teachers. Parents should also inform their student that they are not to utilize specific technologies.

### **Dress Code**

We take pride in the appearance of our students. Student dress reflects the quality of the school, student conduct and student school work. All students are expected to dress and groom themselves neatly in clothes that are suitable for school activities.

Clothing that is inappropriate for school activities and/or disruptive to the educational process including, but not limited to, sagging/revealing clothing, exposure of undergarments, wearing of spikes and/or chains, or inappropriate print on garments/masks (e.g. sexual connotations, drugs, intoxicating beverages, firearms, illegal activities, etc.) will not be permitted. Principals may ask students to have parents bring up an appropriate change of clothing. If after a student has been asked to change into clothing that meets the dress code a student is later found to be in violation of the dress code again, additional discipline may be imposed. Student dress for after-school performances and activities should be in accordance with the above guidelines.

### **Early Dismissal**

[View the Early Release Days on the District Calendar.](#)

## **Emergency Drills/Procedures**

### **Fire drills**

Fire drills are held each year. It is important that students and staff know procedures in case of a real emergency. During fire drills, students and staff evacuate the building through the nearest doorways to the outside areas and move away from the building as far as possible.

### **Tornado drills**

Tornado drills are also held to instruct the children of the procedures in place in case of a real tornado. If a tornado "warning" is in effect at the close of school, buses will wait until the "all clear" before departure. This procedure does not apply when there is a tornado or severe weather "watch." Parents should use their own judgment concerning picking up their children under these circumstances. Children and teachers at school will follow tornado emergency procedures.

During severe weather, school personnel will be alert for dangerous conditions. Each school is equipped with radios for scanning the National Weather Service. It is important to have a family plan in the event that a tornado warning is issued before school. All schools conduct tornado drills with students twice a year to ensure they are aware of procedures.

### **Tornado Alerts/Tornado Watch**

- Tornado Watch: During a tornado watch, or other threatening weather, school officials are alert for developing and dangerous conditions, and actions deemed necessary for safety will be taken per building procedures. Phones will be in operation for emergency calls and for preparedness. Outside calls may not get through during a weather event.
- Tornado Warning: During a tornado warning, when sirens have sounded, seek shelter. Do not attempt to pick up students at schools. Disaster experts advise that automobiles are among the most dangerous places to be in a storm. If you are in the parent pickup line, please go to the school to seek shelter. Communication will be limited during the tornado due to the supervision of students and limitations the weather may present.
- All Clear: FHSD consults the weather channel for the tornado warning expiration and all clear notice. The siren silencing does not mean the warning has ended. After the all clear is given, students may be picked up by parents. Depending on the time of day the all-clear is announced, buses may run later than normal. Any special

announcements to parents will be made via the School Messenger notification system and District website.

### **Before School**

- Keep children at home or in a safe location until tornado warning is lifted. We want to ensure students are not waiting at bus stops during this critical time.
- School buses will be held at the bus garage. The start of school days will be delayed until the tornado warning is lifted and the all clear is given.
- If buses are en route, they will proceed to the nearest school or other predetermined location, and remain there until the warning has been lifted and the all clear is given.

### **During School Hours**

- Students and staff will move to designated safe places and proceed into the precautionary duck and cover position.
- Please refrain from coming to school to pick up your child during a tornado warning.
- Parents who arrive at school during a warning will be asked to wait inside until the warning is lifted and personnel are available to assist parents.

### **At Dismissal**

- Students will not be dismissed from school while the area is under a tornado warning.
- Students will be held at school and buses will not be allowed to transport students until the tornado warning has been lifted and the all clear is given.
- Please refrain from coming to school to pick up your child during a tornado warning.
- Parents who arrive at school during a warning will be asked to wait inside until the warning is lifted and the all clear is given, and personnel are available to assist parents.

### **Buses en Route**

- Buses will proceed to the nearest school or other predetermined location.
- Drivers and students will remain at that location until the warning has been lifted and the all clear is given.

### **Communication Procedures**

- Phones may not be answered during a tornado warning, as students and staff will be in the precautionary duck and cover position. To the extent possible, the

outgoing message will be changed to let parents know we are under a tornado warning.

- Parents will be notified via the School Messenger Notification System of any changes in transportation, as well as school delays associated with a tornado warning.
- FHSD will share updates via the District website as soon as information becomes available.

### **Earthquake**

Earthquake drills are held twice a year.

### **Shelter in place**

Shelter in place procedures for safety during hazardous material incidents are reviewed annually.

### **Intruder**

Intruder Drills are also held during the school year. The school will be locked down and all students will be moved to a safe location.

[Visit the District website to view more weather guidelines.](#)

### **Field Trips**

All students planning to take part in a school sponsored field trip must submit a field trip form to the sponsoring teacher three days prior to the field trip. The form must be signed by a parent or guardian. Teachers' signatures indicate they have been informed of the trip and that students have agreed to make up any work missed due to the absence caused by the field trip. \*\*School approved and sponsored field trips do not count as student absences; given this, students must turn in assigned work prior to or immediately following the field trip in all their classes to avoid late penalties. Field Trip Forms should be provided to participating students by the teacher sponsoring the activity. The supervising teacher will collect all completed forms before students will be allowed to take part in the trip.

### **Health/Nurse/Medication Information**

#### **Illnesses**

Children with any of the following symptoms should be kept home from school: diarrhea or vomiting, unexplained rashes, red or discharging eyes, acute cold, signs of weakness,

drowsiness, temperature of 100 degrees or higher, persistent cough or untreated head lice. Please notify the school nurse if your child has a special health condition such as epilepsy, allergies, hemophilia, diabetes, heart condition, HIV positive, hearing or vision problems or physical limitations. The school nurse will contact you should your child become ill.

PLEASE MAKE ARRANGEMENT FOR TRANSPORTATION TO BE AVAILABLE SHOULD YOUR CHILD NEED TO LEAVE SCHOOL EARLY.

The school cannot transport ill children. If your child is sent home with a fever of 100 degrees or above, the student should not attend school until he/she has been fever free for 24 hours without the use of Tylenol or ibuprofen. Please do not send your child back the next day for the protection of your child as well as other students. Parents are requested to send a note each day that a student is to be excused from outdoor recess stating the reason. If a child is to be excused for more than three consecutive days, a doctor's excuse is required to stay indoors for recess.

### **Medication Procedures for Prescription and Nonprescription Medicines**

Pursuant to Francis Howell School District policy, the giving of prescription and non-prescription medicine by the nurse, principal, or designee, shall be restricted to necessary medication that cannot be given on an alternative schedule. Your physician may fax a medication order to school or you may bring in the order with the medication. Please ask your pharmacist for a "school bottle" with dosages to be given at school.

When medications need to be given at school, they should be brought by the parent to the nurse or by the student directly to the nurse when arriving at school and before going to the classroom.

### **Prescription medicine**

- Must be accompanied by a label affixed by a pharmacy or physician showing:
  - Name of student
  - Total daily dosage and schedule of administration
  - Date purchased
  - Physician's name
  - Name of medication
- MUST have a written physician's order

- A parent/guardian must request in writing that the District comply with the authorized prescriber's request to give medication. (The District will not administer the initial dose of any new prescription except in an emergency).
- Any changes to a medication dosage must be accompanied by an updated Rx prescription label. No outdated medication prescription label will be accepted. Each new prescription must have a new label and vial.
- This authorization is effective for the school year for which it is granted and must be reviewed annually.

### **Non-prescription medicine**

- Must be in the original container.
- MUST have a written order, signed by the physician or advance practice nurse, stating the name of the medication, the name of the child, dosage and schedule of administration, and reason for giving the medication. When possible, the prescriber should state potential adverse effects and applicable emergency instructions.
- A parent/guardian must provide a written request that the district comply with the authorized prescriber's request to give medication.
- This authorization is effective for the school year for which it is granted and must be renewed annually.

### **Emergency Medication**

Written standing orders will be obtained annually for the administration of emergency medication.

### **Parent/Guardian Administration**

In situations where the parent/guardian chooses, the parent/guardian may come to school to administer the medication to his/her child.

### **Security**

All medication shall be kept in a locked cabinet in the nurse's office or the principal's office.

### **Medications on Field Trips**

- Medications that must be given during the time a student is off campus (seizure meds, inhalers, and allergy meds) may only be given by a responsible adult employed by the district and trained by the nurse on the "5 R's" of medication administration or the child's parent. The Right Medication, The Right Patient, The Right Dosage, The Right Time, The Right Route.

- All medications must be in the prescription bottle or box with the pharmacy label attached. Only inhalers may be self-administered. All other medications must be carried and administered by the delegated, trained adult or the child's parent.
- Any student found to be carrying his/her medication on his/her person while on a school sponsored trip off campus, without the knowledge of the nurse, may be subject to disciplinary action.
- If the student has severe allergies an EpiPen auto injector will be carried by a trained staff member and used as needed.
- If the adult in charge of the off-campus trip refuses to take responsibility for the giving of medications, the parent will be asked to accompany his/her student on the trip. If the parent is unable to accompany the student, the District will provide an appropriately trained person to administer the medication as needed.

A physician's statement regarding the limitations and duration of their use is required before a student is allowed to use crutches on school district property during school hours. Another student will be assigned to assist carrying the student's books. Both students will be dismissed five minutes early to facilitate getting to the bus on time at the end of the day. The school district will not be responsible for any injury that occurs as a result of the use of crutches without a physician's written order on file.

### **Inclement Weather**

[Visit the District website to view Weather Guidelines.](#)

### **Meal Prices/Free & Reduced Forms**

[Visit the District website to view Nutrition Services information and forms.](#)

### **Parent Portal**

Campus Portal is our tool for parents to access instant, online, timely and secure student information. For elementary parents, attendance is visible through parent portal, report cards and bus routes. Middle and high school parents can access class schedules, assignments, attendance, discipline, course registrations for next year, report cards and transcripts. Campus Portal is a means to further promote educational excellence by enhancing our program of communication with parents and students.

[Visit the District website to view the Parent Portal and Log-in directions](#)

## **Report Card Dates/Access**

There will be four formal reporting times (report cards) during the school year. Each report card will note progress in all subjects being studied. One formal parent-teacher conference will be scheduled. Additional conferences may be scheduled at any time during the year upon request by the parent, teacher, or building administrators.

Infinite Campus is our tool for parents to access instant, online, timely and secure student information. For elementary parents, attendance is visible through parent portal, report cards and bus routes. Middle and high school parents can access class schedules, assignments, attendance, discipline, course registrations for next year, report cards and transcripts. Infinite Campus is a means to further promote educational excellence by enhancing our program of communication with parents and students.

[Visit the District website to view the Parent Portal and Log-in directions.](#)

## **Online Registration Annual Verification (ORAV)**

All families enrolling students from 1<sup>st</sup> through 12th grade in the Francis Howell School District (FHSD) will be required to complete the Online Registration Annual Verification (ORAV) and is mandatory for families.

The registration window is set to open on July 1, providing families with ample time to complete the process. Completing the ORAV typically takes 15-20 minutes, with the option to save applications for later completion. Unfinished applications will display incomplete information in yellow upon reopening.

Failure to complete ORAV will result in students being unenrolled from the District, except for McKinney-Vento and Foster families, early childhood and Kindergarten, and students qualifying for the English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) program. Furthermore, middle and high school students will face restrictions, including the inability to change schedules, participate in activities, or purchase parking passes until ORAV is complete.

The ORAV process will include acknowledgment of annual FERPA notification, alongside other standard acknowledgments such as the COC Handbook. Additionally, families in transition years, including kindergarten, 6th, and 9th grades, must provide proof of residency when completing the ORAV process. To assist families with completing the forms, each school building will host two in-person assistance days in July.

For questions regarding the ORAV process, families are encouraged to visit the FHSD website to locate their child's school and then call that school directly.

## **Snow Days/AMI Plan**

[Visit the District website to view FHSD AMI Information.](#)

## **Volunteer/Visitor Process**

Become an approved volunteer in 3 easy steps:

- **Watch the Mandatory Training Videos and complete the FHSD Volunteer Application.**
  - Sign and initial the form where indicated (digital signatures are not accepted), then scan and email the completed application to [fhsdvolunteer@fhsdschools.org](mailto:fhsdvolunteer@fhsdschools.org) or drop off in-person at the District Administration Building (801 Corporate Centre Drive, O'Fallon, Missouri).
  - Please note:
    - If you watched the mandatory training in previous years, you will need to create a new username in order to view the videos.
    - To ensure a smooth training experience, we recommend watching all three required training videos in one continuous session to avoid potential login issues. Starting and stopping between videos can sometimes result in logging you out of the training platform.
- **Register online with the Missouri Family Care Safety Registry and pay applicable fees (approximately \$15) to the state.**
  - If you previously joined the Registry, you do not need to join again. This is a one-time process. You can check the Registry for your social security number prior to submitting another registration. Please note, the wait time for the FCSR registration to be processed and for the District to be notified can be up to two weeks. We recommend completing this process as early as possible.
- **Schedule your Digital Fingerprinting Appointment with MACHS.**
  - This can be scheduled online through the Missouri Automated Criminal History System (MACHS) or by calling (844) 543-9712. When prompted for a 4-digit code, use 8403 so the Francis Howell School District can view the fingerprint report when it is complete. Please note that 8403 is a code specific to FHSD volunteers and should not be used when requesting fingerprints for other purposes.

- The cost for fingerprinting is approximately \$40, paid by the applicant; you have the option of paying online or at the fingerprinting facility. Facility locations are subject to change without notice, so please check the list toward the end of the registration process for locations and appointments currently available. Bring your online confirmation page and a photo ID to the facility. Please note: Those who have been fingerprinted previously for past employment or volunteer positions must go through the process again using our school district code (8403). Without this specific code, FHSD cannot see your results and therefore cannot process your volunteer application. Ink fingerprints taken at your local police department are not valid.

After you've completed these three steps, look for email confirmation from the FHSD Human Resources Department that your application has been approved. Confirmation emails received from the Family Care Safety Registry or the MACHS/IdentoGo fingerprinting facility are not sufficient for your volunteer approval with the District. Due to a high volume of volunteer applications, it could take up to six weeks for your application to be approved.

[Visit the District website for more information about volunteering at FHSD.](#)

# District Notices

## Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary Schools

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students who are 18 years of age or older ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

- The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days after the day the school receives a request for access.
  - Parents or eligible students who wish to inspect their child's or their education records should submit to the school principal or appropriate school official a written request that identifies the records they wish to inspect. The school official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.
- The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy rights under FERPA.
  - Parents or eligible students who wish to ask the school to amend their child's or their education record should write to the school principal or appropriate school official, clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it should be changed. If the school decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the school will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and of their right to a hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.
- The right to provide written consent before the school discloses personally identifiable information (PII) from the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
  - One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. The criteria for determining who constitutes a school official and what constitutes a legitimate educational interest must be set forth in the school's or school district's annual notification for FERPA rights. A school official typically includes a person employed by the school or school district 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 school board. A school official also may include a volunteer, contractor, or consultant who, while not employed by the school, 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. A school official typically has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

- Upon request, the school discloses education records without consent to officials of another school or school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll, or is already enrolled if the disclosure is for purposes of the student's enrollment or transfer. [NOTE: FERPA requires a school or school district to make a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or student of the records request unless it states in its annual notification that it intends to forward records on request or the disclosure is initiated by the parent or eligible student.]
- 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 are:
  - Family Policy Compliance Office U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue  
SW Washington, DC 20202

## **Directory Information**

The Francis Howell School District has designated the following information contained in the educational records of its students as directory information for purposes of FERPA: student's name, student's address, student's phone number(s), parent(s)/guardian(s) e-mail, grade level, grade point average, dates of attendance, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees and awards received, most recent previous school attended, and photographs.

## **How to Opt Out**

A parent or student refusing to have any or all of the designated directory information disclosed is required to complete [FERPA Student Directory Information & Media Opt-Out Form](#) and designate that you are refusing to disclose directory information or that disclosure of directory information should be limited to school affiliated organizations and activities as described in Regulation 2400. Return the form to the principal of the school which the student attends. The completed form must be returned by September 1 each year or within 10 days of new student enrollment, whichever is later. [View the Spanish translation of the Opt-Out Form](#). Additional translations can be provided by contacting your child's school.

## **ESSA Complaint Procedures - Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA) Complaint Procedures**

This guide explains how to file a complaint about any of the programs <sup>1</sup> that are administered by the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) under the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015 (ESSA)<sup>2</sup>.

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education Complaint Procedures for ESSA Programs Table of Contents

### **General Information**

- What is a complaint under ESSA?
- Who may file a complaint?
- How can a complaint be filed?

### **Complaints filed with LEA**

- How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?
- What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?

## **Complaints filed with the Department**

- How can a complaint be filed with the Department?
- How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?
- How are complaints related to equitable services to private school children handle differently?

## **Appeals**

- How will appeals to the Department be investigated?
  - What happens if the complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?
- 

### **What is a complaint?**

For these purposes, a complaint is an allegation that a local education agency (LEA) or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (the Department) has violated a federal statute or regulation that applies to a program under ESSA.

### **Who may file a complaint?**

Any individual or organization may file a complaint.

### **How can a complaint be filed?**

Complaints can be filed with the LEA or with the Department.

### **How will a complaint filed with the LEA be investigated?**

Complaints filed with the LEA are to be investigated and attempted to be resolved according to locally developed and adopted procedures.

### **What happens if a complaint is not resolved at the local level (LEA)?**

A complaint not resolved at the local level may be appealed to the Department.

### **How can a complaint be filed with the Department?**

A complaint filed with the Department must be a written, signed statement that includes:

- A statement that a requirement that applies to an ESSA program has been violated by the LEA or the Department, and

- The facts on which the statement is based and the specific requirements allegedly violated.

### **How will a complaint filed with the Department be investigated?**

The investigation and complaint resolution proceedings will be completed within a time limit of fifty calendar days. That time limit can be extended by the agreement of all parties.

The following activities will occur investigation:

- Record. A written record of the investigation will be kept.
- Notification of LEA. The LEA will be notified of the complaint within five days of the complaint being filed.
- Resolution at LEA. The LEA will then initiate its local complaint procedures in an effort to first resolve the complaint at the local level.
- Report by LEA. Within forty-five days of the complaint being filed, the LEA will submit a written summary of the LEA investigation and complaint resolution. This report is considered public record and may be made available to parents, teachers, and other members of the general public.
- Verification. Within ten days of receiving the written summary of a complaint resolution, the Department will verify the resolution of the complaint through an on-site visit, letter, and/or telephone call(s).
- Appeal. The complainant or the LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the U.S. Department of Education.

### **How are the complaints related to equitable services to nonpublic school children handled differently?**

If the complaint is an LEA is not providing equitable services for private school children, in addition to the procedures listed in number 7 above, the complaint will also be filed with the U.S. Department of Education, and they will receive all information related to the investigation and resolution of the complaint. Also, appeals to the United States Department of Education must be filed no longer than thirty days following the Departments' resolution of the complaint (or its failure to resolve the complaint).

### **How will appeals to the Department be investigated?**

The Department will initiate an investigation within ten days, which will be concluded within thirty days from the day of the appeal. The investigation may be continued beyond the thirty-day limit at the discretion of the Department. At the conclusion of the investigation, the Department will communicate the decision and reasons for the decision to the

complainant and the LEA. Recommendations and details of the decision are to be implemented within fifteen days of the decision being delivered to the LEA.

### **What happens if the complaint is not resolved at the state level (the Department)?**

The complainant or LEA may appeal the decision of the Department to the United States Department of Education.

*1 - Programs include Title I. A, B, C, D, Title II, Title III. A.*

*2 - Title IV.A, Title VI, Title VII. C Revised 7/15 2 In compliance with NCLB Title IX Part C. Sec. 9304(a)(3)(C)*

*Local Education agencies are required to disseminate, free of charge, this information regarding NCLB complaint procedures to parents of students and appropriate private school officials or representatives.*

*Revised 2017*

## **FHSD Equal Opportunity Policy 1300**

Book FHSD POLICIES

Section 1000 GENERAL ADMINISTRATION/ 1300 Equal Opportunity

Title Equal Opportunity

Code 1300

Status Active

Adopted April 1, 2007

Last Revised January 21, 2021

The District is committed to maintaining a workplace and educational environment that is free from discrimination, harassment, and retaliation in admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs, services, activities and facilities. The District is committed to providing equal opportunity in all areas of education, recruiting, hiring, retention, promotion and contracted service.

In its programs and activities, the District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, age, genetic information, or any other characteristic protected by law and as required by Titles VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and state law. In addition, the District

provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Further, no person shall be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subject to discrimination based on the above-listed characteristics under a school nutrition program for which the District receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Food and Nutrition Service.

This Policy governs the District's compliance with the laws identified above, outside Title IX. The following person is designated and authorized as the District's Compliance Officer to coordinate compliance with the laws identified above (outside of Title IX), including to handle inquiries or complaints regarding the District's non-discrimination policies:

The following individuals have been designated as the District's non-discrimination compliance officers:

Lisa Simpkins  
Chief Human Resources Officer  
801 Corporate Centre Drive, O Fallon, MO 63368  
636-851-4004

Dr. Brian Rich  
Director of Human Resources  
801 Corporate Centre Drive, O Fallon, MO 63368  
636-851-4057

Dr. Kevin Morrison  
Director of Student Services  
801 Corporate Centre Drive, O Fallon, MO 63368  
635-851-5957

Dr. Will Vanderpool  
Director of Alternative Learning  
801 Corporate Centre Drive, O Fallon, MO 63368  
636-851-4006

A complaint by students, employees, parents, and patrons of the District alleging harassment, discrimination, or related retaliation based on a protected classification under the laws identified above (outside of Title IX) should be filed in accordance with the

procedures outlined in Regulation 1300. A complaint regarding sexual harassment or related retaliation of a student or employee under Title IX and that is alleged to have occurred on or after August 14, 2020, should be filed in accordance with the procedures outlined in Regulation 1301. A complaint regarding the identification, evaluation, educational program, or placement of a child with a disability under Section 504 should be filed in accordance with the procedures outlined in Regulation 2110.

Originally adopted April 2007

Revised March 2018

Revised December 2018

Revised May 2020

Revised January 2021

Revised May 2024

### **Individuals with Disabilities Education Act**

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate, and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability, including children attending private schools, children who live outside the district but are attending a private school within the district, highly mobile children, such as migrant and homeless children, children who are wards of the state, and children who are suspected of having a disability and in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Francis Howell School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, intellectual disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and young child with a developmental delay.

The District assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the State in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The Francis Howell School District assures that personally identifiable information collected, used, or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and/or reviewed by their parents/guardians. Parents/guardians may request amendment to the

educational record if the parent/guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading, or violates the privacy or other rights of their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The Francis Howell School District has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the General Education Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed at the Francis Howell School District Alternative Education Department from 8:00 – 4:30 p.m. each school day.

This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

Director of Alternative Learning

Francis Howell School District

801 Corporate Centre Drive

O'Fallon, MO 63368

Phone: 636-851-4060 Fax: 636-851-4094

### **FHSD Public Notice – Section 504 and Title II**

The District is required to undertake measures to identify and locate every qualified disabled student residing in the District who is not receiving a public education; and take appropriate steps to notify disabled students and their parents or guardians of the District's duty. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal law that prohibits discrimination against persons with disabilities in any program or activity that receives federal financial assistance from the United States Department of Education. The Francis Howell School District is a recipient of federal financial assistance from the United States Department of Education and, therefore, is covered by Section 504. The District has developed 504 procedures for the implementation of federal regulations for Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, Subpart D. These procedures may be reviewed at the Francis Howell School District Alternative Education Department from 8:00 – 4:30 p.m. each school day. Alternative times are available by request. This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

Director of Alternative Learning

Francis Howell School District

801 Corporate Centre Drive  
O'Fallon, MO 63368  
Phone: 636-851-4060 Fax: 636-851-4094

## **FHSD Student Meal Charges**

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this Policy 5550 is to maintain consistent meal account procedures throughout the District. Unpaid charges place a financial strain on District finances. The District's contracted food service vendor is responsible for maintaining food charge records and for notifying the District's accounting department of outstanding balances.

### **Administration**

- Student Groups:
  - All students will be allowed to charge a maximum of twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars.
    - These meals will include only the menu items of the reimbursable meal.
    - After the balance exceeds twenty-five (\$25.00) dollars, the student will be given a designated menu alternate.
- Elementary students will be allowed to charge up to one dollar (\$1.00) for à la carte foods and beverages. Middle and High School students will not be allowed to charge à la carte foods and beverages.
- Various methods of communication may be used to notify parent(s)/guardian(s) of students with negative balances, including electronic communication, written correspondence, or phone call by the appropriate party.
- On May 15 annually, all charging will be cut off.
- Parent(s)/guardian(s) will be sent a written request for "payment in full."
  - All charges not paid before the end of the school year will be carried forward into the next school year.
  - Graduating seniors must pay all charges in full. Failure to do so may result in the delinquent student being denied participation in graduation ceremonies.
- If a financial hardship is suspected, families will be encouraged to apply for free/reduced meals at any time during the school year. Buildings may also establish special funds to assist students with meal purchases.

- Each building principal will send a letter to all parent(s)/guardian(s) on or before the first day of school notifying them of the requirements of this Policy. This Policy will also be published on the District's website.

*Revised May 2024*

### **Free and Reduced Lunch Eligibility**

The District participates in the national school lunch program. Eligible students will be identified for participation in the free and reduced-price lunch program based upon federal and state guidelines.

Information concerning the eligibility standards will be distributed annually within the District. The identification of student participants in the program will be confidential with such information disclosed to staff members on a strict need-to-know basis.

### **Notification of Rights Under PPRA (Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment)**

The PPRA affords parents/guardians and students who are 18 or emancipated minors ("eligible students") certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

- Consent before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas ("protected information survey") if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)
  - Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student's parent(s)/guardian(s);
  - Mental or psychological problems of the student or student's family;
  - Sex behavior or attitudes;
  - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
  - Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
  - Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors or ministers;
  - Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parent(s)/guardian(s);
  - Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.
- Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of –
  - Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;

- Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
- Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.
- Inspect, upon request and before administration or use –
  - Protected information surveys of students;
  - Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
  - Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

Francis Howell School District has adopted policies regarding these rights (see Policy 1610), as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes. Francis Howell School District will directly notify parents/guardians and eligible students of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. Francis Howell School District will also directly notify parents/guardians and eligible students at least annually at the start of each school year of the specific or approximate dates of the following activities and provide an opportunity to opt a student out of participating in:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents/guardians or eligible students who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office  
 U. S. Department of Education  
 400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
 Washington, D.C. 20202-4605

## **Required State Assessment Participation**

Francis Howell School District Board Policy 6440 states that all students will participate in statewide assessments or alternative assessments as determined by a students' Individualized Education Program (IEP) team. The District has developed a list of assessments to be administered annually, and the grade level of students that will be administered each test or assessment instrument. A copy of this policy and the assessment schedule will be available to the public on the District's website and in the District office during normal business hours

## **MOCAP**

The Francis Howell School District participates in the Missouri Course Access and Virtual School Program (MOCAP). Because virtual instruction can be an effective education option for some students, there may be courses available either through a District-provided virtual option or through MOCAP. Students have a right to participate in MOCAP. Additional information about MOCAP can be found in Policy/Regulation 6190 and on the District's website.

## **Trauma-Informed School Initiative**

When students endure chronic stress or traumatic incidents, it can have both physiological and emotional consequences, often impairing their ability to function effectively in a school setting. The Francis Howell Trauma-Informed School Initiative is dedicated to establishing safe and nurturing educational environments where students can learn and reach their full potential. This initiative achieves this by recognizing the indicators of chronic stress and trauma and implementing effective response strategies. For further information, visit the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's website for more information about the Trauma-Informed School Initiative.

## **Sexual Abuse Awareness Training**

The District will provide trauma-informed, developmentally-appropriate sexual abuse training to students in grades 6-12. Student training will include, but not be limited to:

- Instruction in recognizing sexual abuse;
- Instruction in reporting incidents of sexual abuse;
- Instruction in actions that student-victims of sexual abuse can take to obtain assistance and intervention; and
- Instruction in resources that are available to students affected by sexual abuse.

Parents/guardians will be notified of the training content and of the parents/guardians right to have their student excused from the training. Upon written request of the parent/guardian their student will be excused from the training.

### **Human Sexuality Instruction**

The parents/guardians of each student will be advised of:

- The content of the District's human sexuality instruction to be provided to their student.
- Their right to remove their student from any part of the District's human sexuality instruction.

The District's human sexuality curriculum will be available for public examination prior to their use in actual instruction.

### **Title I Program**

The Board of Education recognizes the importance of parental involvement with the Title I program and will provide a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in policy design and in the planning, implementation and review of Title I program. Title I teachers and paraprofessionals must meet the qualifications outlined in Regulation 1621.

Pursuant to the provisions of the Every Student Succeeds Act, the District will submit its Federal Title 1 LEA Plan, describing the District's Title I services. Additional information about the Title I program and specific duties can be found in Policy/Regulation 1621.