

# **John Weldon Elementary School Student Handbook 2025-2026**



**John Weldon Elementary School  
7370 Weldon Spring Road  
Dardenne Prairie, MO 63368**

**[Directions to John Weldon Elementary](#)**

**Phone: 636-851-5500**

**Fax: 636-851-4136**

**School Website:**

**[johnweldon.fhsdschools.org](http://johnweldon.fhsdschools.org)**

**District Website:**

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

**School Hours:**

9:05 a.m. - 4:05 p.m.

Students can begin arriving at 8:55 a.m.

**Office Hours:**

8:00 AM – 4:30 PM, Monday – Friday

**Francis Howell School District Administration Office:**

801 Corporate Centre Drive

O'Fallon, MO 63368

636-851-4000

**Transportation:**

636-851-6220

[FHSD Transportation Webpage](#)

**Helpful Links:**

[Contacting John Weldon](#)

[John Weldon School Calendar](#)

[John Weldon Staff Directory](#)

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

**John Weldon Elementary School Administration**

Principal - Dr. Jackie Voelkl, [jacklyn.voelkl@fhdschools.org](mailto:jacklyn.voelkl@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5373

Assistant Principal - Mrs. Mallory Vorce, [mallory.vorce@fhdschools.org](mailto:mallory.vorce@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5373

Assistant Principal – Mrs. Morgan Eubank, [morgan.eubank@fhdschools.org](mailto:morgan.eubank@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5373

[John Weldon Principals Webpage](#)

### **Office Staff**

Administrative Assistant: Julia Gallagher

[julia.gallagher@fhdschools.org](mailto:julia.gallagher@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5373

Registrar/Attendance: Jeanette Illingworth

[jeanette.illingworth@fhdschools.org](mailto:jeanette.illingworth@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5382

Site Secretary: Myssie Pillers

[myssie.pillers@fhdschools.org](mailto:myssie.pillers@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5441

### **School Counselors**

Primary (K-2) Counselor: Erin Meyer, [Erin.Meyer@fhdschools.org](mailto:Erin.Meyer@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5415

Intermediate (3-5) Counselor: Dan Marian, [Daniel.Marian@fhdschools.org](mailto:Daniel.Marian@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5412

Educational Support Counselor: Lindsay Fazio, [lindsay.fazio@fhdschools.org](mailto:lindsay.fazio@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5374

Behavior Support Specialist: Maysa Viviano, [maysa.viviano@fhdschools.org](mailto:maysa.viviano@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5618

### **Nurse's Office**

Jill VanMatre, [Jill.VanMatre@fhdschools.org](mailto:Jill.VanMatre@fhdschools.org), Ext. 5422

### **Library Media Specialist**

Annie Bernaix, Ext. 5429

[Learning Commons Webpage](#)

### **Before and After Care**

[Vacation Station webpage](#)

[VSBusinessOffice@fhdschools.org](mailto:VSBusinessOffice@fhdschools.org)

### **School Mascot and Colors:**

We are the “Wolves” and our colors are blue and yellow!

### **School Motto:**

*Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Compassion*

### **School Core Values**

Lead, Love, Learn, and Become More



### **John Weldon Vision**

At John Weldon Elementary, we are a Community that builds partnership among students, parents, colleagues, and the community.

- As students, we will share ideas and listen to everyone. We will accept differences and give everyone a chance to be great!
- As parents, we will keep lines of communication open between home and school and support and join committees.
- As staff, we will welcome the diversity and partnership that all families bring to our school.

At John Weldon Elementary, we demonstrate Achievement by fostering a positive and productive learning environment.

- As students, we will come prepared, try our best, and challenge ourselves to become life-long learners.

- As parents, we will take an active role in our children's education and make school a priority.
- As staff, we will know each student as an individual and use differentiated strategies to challenge and motivate each of them.

At John Weldon Elementary, we are Responsible and Respectful. We treat others as we would like to be treated.

- As students, we will believe in ourselves, take responsibility for our actions, and follow established rules.
- As parents, we will demonstrate responsibility and respect to children, teachers, staff, parents, and each other. We expect our children to do the same.
- As staff, we will model responsibility by being prepared and we will show respect by treating everyone with dignity.

At John Weldon Elementary, we are Enthusiastic about school and learning. We celebrate successes.

- As students, we will take pride in our work, have a positive attitude and show school spirit.
- As parents, we will participate in school activities such as field trips, classroom activities, PTO-sponsored events, etc.
- As staff, we will have a positive attitude and wear a smile! We will actively participate in school activities and committees.

At John Weldon Elementary, we have a Safe environment. Our school is safe and clean.

- As students, we will follow rules and report unsafe situations.
- As parents, we will support a safe learning environment by following the policies in the John Weldon Handbook and Francis Howell District Code of Conduct.
- As staff, we will enforce the policies in the John Weldon Handbook and Francis Howell District Code of Conduct. We will follow up on all concerns brought to our attention.

## **Welcome to John Weldon Elementary!**

Welcome to John Weldon Elementary where all students are invited to LEAD, LOVE and LEARN. The John Weldon faculty and staff proudly serve a diverse group of students inspiring them on a daily basis to grow academically, socially, and emotionally. Students are provided with opportunities to grow and learn in all academic areas while also developing in their ability to think critically and overcome challenges. Creating lifelong learners eager to solve new problems and explore problems through a creative lens inspires our work.

In addition to serving our students, John Weldon enjoys the opportunity to welcome all families into our broader school community. We enjoy partnering with our parents and families to not only meet the needs of our individual students but to also serve the needs of all the members of our John Weldon "Wolf Pack."

Enclosed in this Parent Handbook, you will find valuable information about our school's policies, procedures, and programs. Please take the time to review this handbook carefully as it will serve as a useful resource throughout the school year.

I am looking forward to getting to know each of you and working together to make this school year a memorable and enriching experience for everyone. Together, we will celebrate achievements, overcome challenges, and create lasting memories that will shape the future of our students.

Once again, welcome to John Weldon Elementary! I am excited to embark on this journey with you and your child.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Jackie Voelkl  
Principal

# School Policies & Conduct

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## Attendance

All parents should review the District Attendance and Earned Credit Policy located on the school's website for detailed information. In the State of Missouri, school attendance is calculated by the minute. Please also review the [District Attendance Pyramid of Interventions](#), used for those students who may have attendance issues. We encourage you to schedule vacations and appointments during our breaks. The current calendar may be found on the district website.

## Reporting Absences

Please notify the school by one or both options below:

### **JWE Parent Communication Link:**

Use the [JWE Parent Communication Link](#) to report to the office and your student's teacher regarding late arrivals, early departures, absences and any change in dismissal for your student.

### **Calling the office - (636) 851-5500 x. 5382**

Call before 9:30 am on the day your child will be absent. \*Leave a message with the student's first and last name, their teacher's name, and the absence reason. Absences must be communicated before 9:30 am on the day of the absence to avoid the automated call from the district. Absences are considered **UNEXCUSED** unless you have reported them to the office.

\*Please note that emailing the student's teacher does not ensure accurate reporting of your student's absence.

## Late Arrivals

Students arriving after 9:05 am **must be signed in** at the office kiosk by an adult before going to class.

## **Dismissal**

### [Change of Dismissal](#)

Any changes to your child's normal dismissal procedures should be done by submitting an entry on the Google Form: Parent Communication Link by 3:00 pm (12:00 pm on early dismissal days). If you are going to change your child's primary dismissal plan contact the Office, x. 5441. Dismissal Options: Bus, Circle Drive Pick-Up, Walk, Vacation Station (registration required). All dismissal methods for your child need to be updated for every new school year. Notes from last year are no longer valid.

## **Parent Pick Up/Drop Off**

### **Circle Drive Arrival Information**

Each family that utilizes the Parent Pick Up/Drop Off Lane should pull forward along the curb slowly and carefully. Please make sure that you are pulling as far forward as you can in order to maximize the amount of students that can be accommodated at once. Students may begin exiting their cars at 8:50 am or as invited to do so by supervising staff. Students arriving after 9:05 am will be considered tardy and need to be signed in at the main office by a parent.

### **Circle Drive Pick Up**

Every family is given two car cards to use at pick up. **If your cards are lost or misplaced, there will be a \$1.00 replacement fee.** At dismissal the students are released to the Learning Commons. For the safety of the students and the convenience of ALL parents, please remain in your vehicle and adhere to the following protocol:

- Do not arrive later than 4:05 p.m. Parents who are continually late may be asked not to participate in this program.
- Display your Circle Drive Pick Up card on the front dashboard.
- If you do not have your Pick Up with you, you will be asked to park and wait until dismissal is over to come in and show your ID at the office.
- Refrain from being on your phone or checking text and email messages.
- Please pull forward, keeping your speed to 5 mph or less, and remain in line until it is your turn to leave. You must pull ahead as far as possible, remain in your vehicle and not pull out of the line to exit ahead of those in front of you.

If arriving during the school day to pick up or drop off PLEASE park in one of the parking spots marked VISITOR and check-in at the MAIN OFFICE doors.

### **Walkers - ONLY FROM WESTBOROUGH SUBDIVISION**

Only students living in the **Westborough Subdivision** are permitted to walk to school due to safety concerns. All walkers must be dropped off and picked up at the back door by the gym. The doors will be unlocked at 8:50 am. At Dismissal, students check out with a staff member and exit through the same door. Parents may walk across the back playground to meet their students at the back door. You **may not** drive to the back parking lot to pick up a walker. **For safety reasons, we will no longer allow parents to walk to the front of the building to pick up their students.**

### **Signing In / Out**

Students may not be signed out early from the office after 3:30 pm (12:30 on early release days and 11:30 on partial school days). If you choose to sign out your child before 4:05 p.m., your child will be marked absent for the remaining minutes of the day.

You must show a picture ID when signing out your child. If you need someone other than yourself to sign out your child, you must call the Office (636) 851-5500 and that designated person must show their picture ID when signing out your child.

### **Character Education**

John Weldon uses the [Character Strong](#) program to teach citizenship.

### **Communication**

All parents/guardians listed in Infinite Campus Parent Portal are automatically signed up to receive District and school eNews. A district wide newsletter is usually sent out on Monday afternoon via email. Your contact preferences for district communications can be updated through the Parent Portal on Infinite Campus. Community members can sign up to receive eNews through the [Get News & Updates page](#).

### **Enroll at John Weldon Elementary**

Everything you need to know is found on the district [enrollment web page](#).

## Daily Schedule:

### Full Day Schedule:

| Grade        | Lunch            | Recess              |
|--------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Preschool    | 11:30 - 12:10 PM | 10:00 - 10:30 AM    |
| Kindergarten | 11:10 - 11:35 AM | 11:35 - 11:55 AM    |
| First Grade  | 11:40 - 12:05 PM | 12:05 - 12:25 PM    |
| Second Grade | 10:40 - 11:05 AM | 11:05 AM - 11:25 AM |
| Third Grade  | 1:10 - 1:35 PM   | 1:35 - 1:55 PM      |
| Fourth Grade | 12:10 - 12:35 PM | 12:35 - 12:55 PM    |
| Fifth Grade  | 12:40 - 1:05 PM  | 1:05-1:25 PM        |

## Infinite Campus Parent Portal

### [Infinite Campus Information](#)

Log into the Infinite Campus Parent Portal to view your student's grades, missing assignments, report cards, pay for field trips, update contact information and bus routes.

## Kindergarten Registration

[Visit the District website to learn more about Kindergarten Registration](#) and access all the information you need to enroll your Kindergarten student for school. Kindergarten teacher assignments are sent out immediately following the summer Kindergarten Summer Success program.

## Before and After Care

Vacation Station is a tuition based program that offers programming for your child before & after school, during school breaks, on early release days and during summer for children. We are a district program and offer our programming at your child's elementary school.

## Lunch Visitor Procedures

To ensure the safety of our students, all visitors and volunteers must sign in and out of the main office. At that time, you will be given a visitor's badge to wear throughout your time in the building. If you want to join your child for lunch at school, you will need to arrive 5 minutes before the start of the lunch time and wait in the office. We will no longer accept forgotten lunches for students in the office. If your student forgets their lunch, you are welcome to bring their lunch to them at their scheduled lunch time or they can purchase

lunch through the cafeteria. Lunch may be brought in for your child, but not for other students due to food allergies. Please note, if you are joining your student for lunch, you will sit at a separate table with your students.

### **Nutrition Services**

Breakfast and lunch are served by Sodexo Food Service. Please visit our [District website](#) for accessing Meal Menus and setting up an account for Online Meal Payments at the [FHSD Web Store](#). Free and reduced lunch applications can also be found on this page. You also have the option to set up an account to track what your student is purchasing by setting up an account with [EZ School Pay](#).

We will no longer accept forgotten lunches for students in the office. If your student forgets their lunch, you are welcome to bring their lunch to them during their scheduled lunch time or they can purchase lunch through the cafeteria.

### **Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)**

The [John Weldon PTO](#) guides fundraising efforts, allocates funds, plans and hosts outreach events, helps connect the school and families, and generally supports the school. It's a great way to meet other parents and have a positive impact on our kids and our school community.

### **Volunteering**

If you are interested in volunteering in the school or attending field trips with your student you must be an approved volunteer. The process may take several weeks, as there are a few steps that need to be completed. You can find more information about volunteering on the [Volunteer Website](#).



# 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](#).

## Birthday Treats

Due to the growing number of allergies and health concerns for our students, FHSD is making changes to Student Wellness Regulation 2750, which addresses food brought in for elementary classroom parties and birthday celebrations. Starting with the 2019-20 school year, outside treats will no longer be allowed to be brought to school for class sharing. This change will help maintain the safety of all students with life-threatening food allergies or restrictions. Parents will still be able to bring in non-food items, such as stickers, pencils, etc. for birthday celebrations. The following guidelines and recommendations are presented to reduce the risk of transmission of Hepatitis A in Francis Howell School District schools:

The Sharing of lunches, snacks, or treats by students should be monitored and eliminated.

Check on snack nutrition value through the [Smart Snacks Product Calculator](#).

## **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.

## **Early Dismissal**

[View the Early Release Days on the FHSD 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 the 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 the student, parent and teachers. 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 FHSD Weather Guidelines.](#)

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

[Visit the District website to view the 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.

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.](#)

### **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@fhdschools.org](mailto:fhsdvolunteer@fhdschools.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 to view 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 IEA 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.

*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. Suzanne Leake  
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.

## **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.