

King Elementary School

1001 E. Florence Ave. Fresno, CA 93706

2026-2027 Parent Handbook

Telephone: 457-2970

FAX: 457-2974

Important Dates for 2024-2025

August 17.....	First Day of School
August 20.....	Back to School Night
September 7.....	NO SCHOOL---Labor Day Holiday
October 12.....	NO SCHOOL---Teacher Meetings(buyback)
October 26-30	Parent-Teacher Conferences (early dismissal)
November 11.....	NO SCHOOL---Veteran's Day
November 23-27	NO SCHOOL---Thanksgiving Vacation
December 21-January 8	NO SCHOOL---Winter Break
January 18.....	NO SCHOOL---Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday
February 8.....	NO SCHOOL---Abraham Lincoln Holiday
February 15.....	NO SCHOOL---President's Holiday
March 8.....	NO SCHOOL---Teacher Meetings (buyback)
March 22-29	NO SCHOOL---Spring Break
May 31	NO SCHOOL---Memorial Day Holiday
June 10.....	Last Day of School for all students
	Early Dismissal for All Students

***Please note that all Tuesdays on a 5 day school week will be early dismissal for the 26-27 school year**

Dear King Families,

Welcome to our school! We are so pleased to have your children as our students and to have your family as one of our King families.

We are committed to providing your child with a safe, high quality learning environment. We want to work as partners with our families because we know that when the school and home work together, we make a powerful team that supports our students as they work toward becoming career-ready graduates.

The purpose of this Parent Handbook is to provide you with information about our school. It also helps clarify some of our policies and procedures. Please keep this as a reference throughout the school year; it will answer many of the questions you might have.

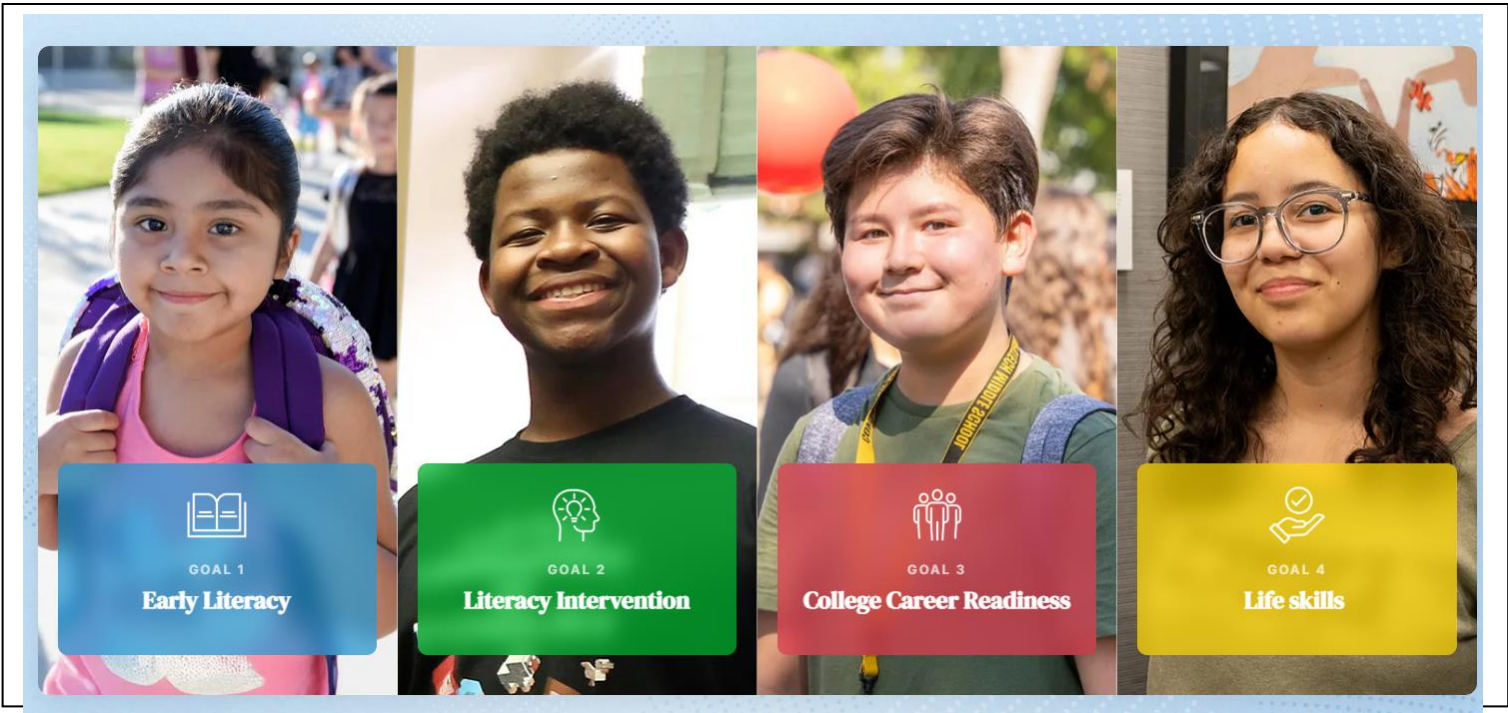
Some of these policies may Change due to state guidelines. Please check the school website or parent square.

Official Sites

King Elementary School Website	 https://www.fresnounified.org/schools/king
Parent Square	 

We're looking forward to a successful year!

Sincerely,
Summer Gaston-Gehris, Principal



Who Do You Contact?

If you're not sure who to contact, please always feel free to call our school office(457-2970) and we'll be happy to help you. Here are some suggestions for who can give you the best information for some commonly asked questions or concerns:

School Safety Issue
Discipline
Absences
Upcoming Events
Parent Classes
SSC and ELAC Meetings
Health Questions
Homework
Grades or Classroom Performance
Missing Textbooks or Library Books
Someone is bothering my child
Complaint about school staff
Academic Test Results
Extra Help for My Child
After School Program

Principal or Vice Principal
Principal or Vice Principal
Front Office Staff
Front Office Staff/Classroom Teacher
Home School Liaison or Community Schools Coordinator
Home School Liaison/Principal or Vice Principal
School Nurse
Classroom Teacher
Classroom Teacher
Classroom Teacher or School Librarian
Teacher, Principal or Vice Principal
Principal or Vice Principal
Classroom Teacher
Classroom Teacher
After School Program Coordinator

DISTRICT CALENDAR 2026-2027



Fresno Unified School District
ACADEMIC CALENDAR 2026 – 2027

REVISED/APPROVED
March 11, 2026
BOARD APPROVED
February 25, 2026

HOLIDAY

INSTITUTE DAY

NOT IN SESSION

BUYBACK DAY

EARLY RELEASE

July '26							August '26							September '26							October '26						
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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November '26							December '26							January '27							February '27						
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March '27							April '27							May '27							June '27						
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July '27						
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SCHOOL BEGINS
AUGUST 17, 2026

SCHOOL ENDS
JUNE 10, 2027

ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY REPORTING PERIODS
OCT. 16 PERIOD 1 ENDS (43 DAYS)
DEC. 18 PERIOD 2 ENDS (39 DAYS)
MAR. 19 PERIOD 3 ENDS (46 DAYS)
JUN. 10 PERIOD 4 ENDS (52 DAYS)

REPORT TO PARENTS
SEPT. 14-18 1ST PROGRESS NOTICE
OCT. 19-23 1ST REPORT CARD

(ELEMENTARY PARENT CONFERENCES)
OCT. 26 – 30

NOV. 9-13 2ND PROGRESS NOTICE
JAN. 11-15 2ND REPORT CARD
FEB. 16-19 3RD PROGRESS NOTICE
MAR. 30-APR. 2 3RD REPORT CARD
MAY 3-7 4TH PROGRESS NOTICE
JUN. 10 4TH REPORT CARD

END OF SEMESTER DATES ELEMENTARY & SECONDARY
DEC. 18 (82 DAYS)
JUNE 10 (98 DAYS)

STANDARDIZED TESTING WINDOW STATE TESTING
APRIL 13 – JUNE 10

Deviations from the calendar require Board approval.

Visit us on the web www.fresnounified.org

2026: JULY 3, SEPT. 7, NOV. 11, 26 & 27, DEC. 24 & 25

2027: JAN. 1 & 18, FEB. 8 & 15, MAR. 26, MAY 31, JUN. 18, JULY 5

Public Schools Month APR. 2027
CA Day of the Teacher May 3, 2027
Classified Employee Week May 16-20, 2027

BLACK DATES DENOTE DAYS SCHOOL IS IN SESSION
RED DATES DENOTE DAYS WHEN SCHOOL IS NOT IN SESSION
UNDERLINED DATES DENOTE BOARD MEETINGS

TRADITIONAL SCHOOL YEAR – 180 DAYS AND 5 NON-STUDENT DAYS

Awards 2026-27

Date			Event	Time
Quarter 1 October 16	Monday	2-Nov	1st Awards	8:45
	Monday	2-Nov	2nd Awards	1:00
	Tuesday	3-Nov	3rd Awards	8:45
	Wednesday	4-Nov	4th Awards	8:45
	Wednesday	4-Nov	5th Awards	1:00
	Thursday	5-Nov	6th Awards	8:45
Quarter 2 December 18	Tuesday	19-Jan	1st Awards	8:45
	Tuesday	19-Jan	2nd Awards	1:00
	Wednesday	20-Jan	3rd Awards	8:45
	Wednesday	20-Jan	4th Awards	1:00
	Thursday	21-Jan	5th Awards	8:45
	Thursday	21-Jan	6th Awards	1:00
Quarter 3 March 19	Monday	5-Apr	1st Awards	8:45
	Monday	5-Apr	2nd Awards	1:00
	Tuesday	6-Apr	3rd Awards	8:45
	Wednesday	7-Apr	4th Awards	8:45
	Wednesday	7-Apr	5th Awards	1:00
	Thursday	8-Apr	6th Awards	8:45
Quarter 4 June 11	Monday	7-Jun	1st Awards	8:45
	Monday	7-Jun	2nd Awards	1:00
	Tuesday	8-Jun	3rd Awards	8:45
	Tuesday	8-Jun	4th Awards	8:45
	Wednesday	9-Jun	5th Awards	1:00

King Events 2026-27

Date			Event	Time
Quarter 1 Oct 16	Thursday	20-Aug	Back to School Night	4:00-6:00pm
	Friday	18-Sep	Picnic w/Parents	at Lunch
	Friday	2-Oct	Jog-A-Thon/Color Run	8:00-11:00am
Quarter 2 December 18	All Week	October 26-30	Parent Teacher Conferences	After School
	Friday	30-Oct	Trunk or Treat	12-2pm
	All Week	Nov 2-5	Q1 Awards	8:45/1:00
	Friday	6-Nov	Dia de los Muertos Celebration	8:30-10:30am
	Thursday	19-Nov	Movie Night	4:30-6pm
	Saturday	12-Dec	Breakfast w/Santa	8:00am-12:00pm
	Wednesday	16-Dec	Winter Band/Choir Concert	8:45am
Quarter 3 March 19	All Week	Jan 19-21	Q2 Awards	8:45/1:00
	Friday	12-Feb	Family Dance	5-7PM
	Friday	26-Feb	African American Celebration	8:30-10:30am
	Friday	5-Mar	Folklorico Loteria Night	5:30-7:30
Quarter 4 June 10	All Week	Apr 5-8	Q3 Awards	8:45/1:00
	Thursday	22-Apr	Open House / Spring Concert	4-6pm
	Friday	7-May	Carnival	4:30-7:30pm
	Thursday	20-May	Game Night	4:30-6:00pm
	All Week	June 6-9	Q4 Awards	8:45/1:00
	Wednesday	9-Jun	6th Grade Promotion	9:00am

DAILY SCHEDULE

TRANSITIONAL KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN

7:30 a.m. – 7:50 a.m. Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 1:05 p.m. Instruction
TK/Kinder dismissal at 1:05

GRADES 1-6

7:30 a.m. – 7:50 a.m. Breakfast
8:00 a.m. – 2:05 p.m. Instruction

○ Staggered Dismissal:

- 1:55 All ASP Students to the cafeteria.
- 2:00 All Walkers will be dismissed out the front/back gate.
- 2:05 1st-6th pickups will be escorted/released to the front/Back gate.

Please Note that all Tuesdays will be early dismissal on 5-day school weeks for the 26-27 school year! TK-K will be released at 12:00 and 1st-6th will be released at 1:00.

Academic Instruction

King School is working hard at improving student achievement in Language Arts, Math, and Science. All classrooms, including Kindergarten, will provide instruction based on California Grade Level Standards and Fresno Unified adopted curriculum. Teachers are maximizing every possible instructional minute.

If you must take your child out of school for an appointment, please try to schedule the appointment for after school. Also, our office staff have been instructed not to interrupt classrooms with phone calls during instructional time. If you need to speak with the teacher, our office staff will be happy to take a message so the teacher can call you back at his/her earliest convenience. Please make all after school arrangements with your child before he/she comes to school that day. If an emergency arises, the office staff will get a message to the classroom. Because of staggered dismissal we will not be able to call classes for student pick up any time after 1:50.

Admission to School

Children born between Sept. 2, 2021, and Sept 1, 2022, are eligible to enroll in our Transitional Kindergarten Class. Children born between Sept. 2, 2020, to Sept. 1, 2021, are eligible to enroll in Kinder. If the child has not attended any Fresno Unified school before, parents will need to bring a birth certificate for the child. Parents will also need to provide proof of residency (i.e. current PG&E bill, rental contract, or phone bill) and evidence that the child has been protected against polio, diphtheria, pertussis, tetanus, rubella (red measles), varicella (chicken pox), and Hepatitis B.

Attendance

Attending school regularly helps children feel better about school and themselves. Start building this habit in preschool so they can learn right away that going to school on time, every day is important. Good attendance will help children do well as they continue their education in high school, college, and at work.

Our goal is for students to be available for Bell-to-Bell instruction.

Attendance is taken first thing in the morning in each classroom. Therefore, it is important that each student gets to school on time. **School starts at 8:00 a.m.** Students should be in class, ready for instruction at 8:00. Students who arrive after 8:00 a.m. will be marked tardy by the teacher. Students who arrive after 8:15 a.m. will need to go to the school office to get a pass to class. Office staff will mark them tardy.

Absences for illness or medical appointments are considered “excused” absences. Other excused absences would include bereavement for a funeral or emotional. These absences must go through the principal. Please call the school office or have your doctor’s office fax a note for medical. Other reasons for absences are considered “unexcused” absences even though there may be good reasons for the absence. Our district attendance system will begin contacting parents at 9:00am regarding absences. In addition, the school will call parents to inform them that their child has been marked absent from school and to ask the reason for the absence. It is a state law that all children between the ages of 6 and 16 must attend school whether onsite or online.

3 unexcused absences or 6 excused absences will trigger a truancy letter being sent home. After 6 absences, parents will be asked to attend a conference at the school. During this conference, school/district staff will share important information about your child’s attendance, listen to your concerns and work with you to improve your child’s attendance.

Independent Study: If you know that your child will be out for 3 or more days you may request independent study. Please talk to our office staff as soon as possible to make independent study arrangements. Work completed will excuse your child’s absence.

TARDIES/PULL OUTS

If a child is late, after 8:00 a.m., he/she is considered tardy. Habitual tardiness and early pull out is a deterrent to a child’s academic success. It is impossible for a child to get adequate introduction to the day’s curriculum unless he/she reports to the class promptly and stays for the full day. Our teachers provide instruction up until the last minute of the day. A student that misses 30 minutes or more of the school day, without a valid excuse, three times in one school year is considered truant. (Ed. code 48260)

Per Fresno Unified District Policy, students who are signed out of school before dismissal time, will be coded the same as students who are tardy. The code indicates that the student was not in school that day for bell to bell instruction.

RELEASE OF STUDENTS DURING SCHOOL HOURS

If a child is to be released during school hours, for any reason, parents must sign him/her out in the office. When the parents arrive in the office to sign the child out of school, the room can be called, and your child will meet you in the office. Sometimes classes are on the playground, in the cafeteria or in the library. If you have an appointment, please allow enough time for us to locate your child’s class and have him/her gather homework and belongings before coming to the office. **Students must be released to an adult 18 years of age or older listed on the yellow emergency card. All adults picking up students must show a valid ID. This is for the safety of your child. Please do not assume we already know you.**

After School Program

King School offers a comprehensive After School Program that includes academic tutoring, enrichment activities, nutrition and character-building activities. The after-school program operates from 2:05pm-6:00pm and (1:05 for TK/kindergarten students). Parents can contact our After-School Coordinator by calling the office or emailing her at Kimberly.Cooper@fresnounified.org.

Before/After-School Supervision

Please be aware the Fresno Unified School District does not assume liability for children left unsupervised **before 7:30 AM** or **after the dismissal time of 2:15 PM.** **Students should be on their way home immediately after school is dismissed** unless participating in an adult-supervised activity such tutoring, Afterschool Program or sports. Students may not leave campus; for example, to go across the street and buy a snack, then return for afterschool activities. Once a student leaves campus, he/she must go home.

For safety reasons, please pick up your child on time. Your assistance in this matter will help ensure the maximum safety of our King family. If an emergency arises and you will be late picking up your child, please call the school (457-2970) so arrangements can be made.

Please talk with your child in the morning before school about who will be picking him/her up after school or if he/she is to walk home.

During dismissal, school staff will remain in front of the school with students until approximately 2:15pm. Any students who have not been picked will go to the office and staff will begin calling emergency contacts to find someone to pick-up the child. The school office closes at **4:00 PM. Any student in the office after 2:30 must be signed out by an adult. Our local authority agencies will be contacted when a student is left more than two hours without any contact from parents/guardians for pick.**

Behavior

There will be classroom and schoolwide expectations that your child's teacher will review with you and your child. The teacher and school site will actively communicate with you when your child is not following expectations. Consequences could include removal from class. King School is committed to providing a healthy, safe and positive learning environment for all our students. As part of our work with Safe and Civil Schools we have developed the following "Guidelines for Success" for our students. Please join us in teaching and reinforcing these guidelines for our students.

- **Dare to Dream**
- **Respect Self and Others**
- **Exceptional Effort**
- **Attitude Matters**
- **Make your dreams come true!**

The staff at King Elementary School believes that every student has the right to learn and that every teacher has the right to teach within a safe environment. As part of our Safe and Civil Schools work, we have developed the following school rules to assure that students are safe, have the best

opportunity to learn, and that teachers can provide the high quality instruction our students need. Please help us teach and reinforce these school rules.

- ★ Follow staff directions.
- ★ Avoid negative body contact
- ★ Use kind and respectful words
- ★ Take care of school property
- ★ Solve problems peacefully

At the beginning of the school year, we will be teaching students about our schoolwide rules, expectations and procedures for the classroom, cafeteria, playground, school arrival and school dismissal. We will review these throughout the school year.

Our goal is to prevent negative behaviors, keep students involved in positive activities and interactions with others, and focused on learning and safely!

Positive Incentives

Some of our schoolwide incentives for recognizing outstanding character and positive behavior will include: daily and weekly prizes for positive behavior, positive phone calls home, extra play time, lunch with the teacher or principal.

Responses to Misbehaviors

When students are not following the school rules or meeting expectations for positive behavior, appropriate strategies for correcting the behavior will be used. **Strategies will be matched to the severity of the behavior.** Strategies that will be used include, but are not limited to:

- Student-teacher discussion
- Review of classroom expectations and procedures
- Practicing the correct behavior
- Working with our Restorative Practices Counselor to resolve conflicts
- Work with our mentors on problem-solving, making better choices, conflict resolution
- Restitution (for example, if a student makes a mess, he/she helps clean it up and does something extra to make the school or classroom look better)
- Daily behavior plan or report
- Weekly behavior plan or report
- Progressive Discipline Steps in the Classroom
- Temporary change in environment (for example, working in the MLK Dream Center for a time out)
- Parent Phone Call or Conference
- Loss of privileges
- Suspension
- Parent/Teacher/Administrator Conference
- Development of formal Level 1 Behavior Plan
- Referral to FUSD ICET Team
- Recommendation for Expulsion

We are trying hard to teach and reinforce messages about peace and kindness. One of the reminders we give our students is the following: "We are Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School. We are named after a man who promoted peace. More than any other school in Fresno Unified, our school should be the one that models peace and kindness"

BREAKFAST AND LUNCH

All King students have the opportunity to receive free breakfast and lunch.

BREAKFAST PROCEDURES:

Please note that there is no supervision of students until 7:30 a.m.

Cafeteria Procedures for Students at Breakfast:

1. Please feel free to pack and send a lunch for your child if they do not like school lunch. We will only deliver a lunch dropped off in the office in an emergency. This is due to all students receiving a free school lunch here at King. We have a very busy office, and we WILL NOT call students out of class for door dash, uber eats, fast food deliveries...ect.
2. Students enter the cafeteria and proceed to get their utensil packet and breakfast. There is limited space in the cafeteria. Students will be supervised as they wait their turn to eat breakfast. **Parents will not be allowed in the cafeteria during breakfast.**
3. We have assistants that will wait with/ kindergarten in the cafeteria at their designated table until their teacher arrives. Please say your goodbyes in front of the school. After the first two weeks of school all TK/K and Kinder parents will not be permitted through the front gate unless they are checked into the office.
4. 1st-6th Students sit no more than 3 to a full table leaving an empty space between students. All appropriate seats will be marked. Each grade level has its own designated table. Parents may not walk students into the cafeteria.
5. We will have staff to move throughout the cafeteria and we will supervise and assist students and escort them to their correct classroom line or to their classroom.
6. Students may not leave the cafeteria to walk to their lines or classrooms until they are dismissed by school staff.
7. Only students that are eating breakfast will need to go to the cafeteria in the morning. All other students will need to line up in their classroom line. We encourage students who do not want to eat breakfast at school to please plan to arrive between 7:45-7:55 to line up on the blacktop.

Lunch Schedules:

10:45 TK, Kdgn

11:00 1st, 2nd

11:40 3rd, 4th

12:20 5th, 6th

On rainy days or bad air days in which students cannot play outside, lunch schedules will be modified to where students will have an indoor recess in the classroom and then meals in the cafeteria.

Please Note-Due to federal and district guidelines, parents and non-King students cannot share food with King students. If you would like a meal for yourself or your non-King child, please see our Cafeteria Manager. Also, food cannot be taken out of the cafeteria.

Class Parties

Due to the rigorous curriculum that our teachers must teach each day, we must limit the number of class parties. Teachers may choose to have a class party during the last 30 minutes of the day on the following occasions: Halloween, Christmas, Valentine's Day, and Last Day of School. Parties on these days are optional. **There is not enough time to have a class party to celebrate individual student birthdays.** If you would like to bring a treat in honor of your child's birthday, you will need to make arrangements with your child's teacher prior to bringing any treat and to be sure there are enough for every child. We would prefer a non-edible treat that students can take home. Teachers cannot reschedule instruction for individual celebrations. Any items brought for a celebration will need to be in original packaging and sealed and served at the End of the Day. Please No Ballons!

Home-School Communications

***Please Make Sure the School has updated numbers at all times. At any given time there may be an emergency and we will need to have contact information.**

Emergency Cards

All Emergency Cards will be online starting the 26-27 school year. Students must have an up-to-date emergency card in order to participate in after school program, sports, clubs, field trips...ect. This information is vital to your child's safety! In case of an accident or illness we use this online information to reach you. **Only the adults whose names are listed are allowed to remove a child from the school.** *For student safety, adults will be asked for identification before a student can be released to him/her.* If you move or change telephone numbers, please notify the office and go online to update the information on the online emergency card.

Parent Square

Fresno Unified School District uses a **telephone communication** system called "Parent Square". Throughout the school year you may receive messages from the school sharing important information. Please be sure the school has an updated phone number for you so that you don't miss out on important information. You can upload the Parent Square app on your phone. **This system is also used in case of a schoolwide emergency and to notify parents that their child has been marked absent for the day.**

So, what kind of safety issue will warrant an Alert? The district has given that question a lot of thought and has determined the system will be used in the event there is a safety issue at a school site that is going to 1) disrupt the school day or 2) cause an early dismissal. So, for example:

- A gas leak or water main break that requires early dismissal
- Foggy day schedule impacting classes or buses
- School cancellation (district-wide power or phone outage for example)
- Full-scale reunification causing early dismissal
- Lockdowns that impact arrival and dismissal

It's extremely important that parents are aware of this new communication tool, but **we can't emphasize enough how vital it is that parents update their school sites when they change their contact information, especially their cell phone.** **If a child's school doesn't have an emergency contact in**

the system, there is no way to communicate. We hope parents understand the value of this tool, for the sake of their child and the safety of our entire Fresno Unified community.

EduText

EduText is a Fresno Unified technology tool that provides frequent grade and attendance updates to parents/guardians via text messaging. Why is this a valuable tool? Parents/guardians can now have a more up-to-date status on their student's academic progress. It further engages parents and provides opportunity for healthy conversations around academic improvement, productive study habits and celebrating academic success.

EduText messaging will be provided to parents/guardians of 3-12 graders. Pre-Kindergarten, Kindergarten, 1st, 2nd and Special Education families will not receive EduText grade and attendance updates as academic progress is noted differently than traditional letter grades.

To access EduText, please see the flyer in your child's 1st Day of School Packet or visit the Fresno Unified Parent Portal online.

Telephone Use By Students

The telephones located in the classrooms and school office are for business only. A student may be given permission by a staff member to use the telephone if the call is absolutely necessary. Only in an emergency should the office be contacted to interrupt a classroom to deliver personal messages to a student.

Students will be asked to wait for 10 minutes after dismissal to call home if they have not been picked up yet. Please be sure your child knows the after school arrangements so he/she does not need to call home.

Cell Phones and Social Media at School

According to Fresno Unified School District Board Policy 5139 *"Elementary school students are not permitted to possess or use portable communication devices on district elementary school campuses or at district-sponsored elementary school activities, except upon the approval of the principal for medical reasons as required by Board Policy."*

Portable communication devices include cell phones.

Because we understand that many parents give their students cell phones so they can be sure they're safe on the way to school and on the way home, we have allowed our students to have cell phones at school as long as they are following these rules:

1. Cell phones **must be turned off and put away at all times** on campus.
2. Students may not text, take photos, record, post or use their cell phones in class, in the cafeteria, at recess, or in any other location on campus.

If a student is not following our school rules regarding cell phones on campus, school staff will remind the student of our cell phone rules. Most teachers will ask your child to put their phone away first. After that first warning students may be asked to turn their phone into the teacher or office to be picked up after school. If

the student continues to not follow our cell phone rules, staff will contact the parent and request that the cell phone no longer be brought to school or that it is checked in to the office or teacher each morning. As long as students follow the rules above, we will continue to allow them to possess cell phones on campus so that you can have contact with them as they are traveling to/from school. Due to the risk of loss, damage or theft, it is our recommendation that students do not bring items such as cell phones from home. We will not conduct investigations for lost cell phones.

Use of Social Media: We have also begun to have issues between students at school, including threats to fight, that have begun with use of Social Media such as Instagram, TikTok, Snapchat..Etc. outside school hours. We recommend that parents monitor their children’s use of Social Media. This is not an invasion of privacy; it’s assuring that your child is safe. **If you see/hear anything that puts your child’s safety or the safety of others at risk at school, please notify us immediately.**

If students are using social media in a negative or threatening way that impacts the school environment, they will still be subject to school consequences even if the negative or threatening use took place outside of school hours. In addition, students are not permitted to use district/school computers to access Social Media or other sites that have not been approved by the district for educational use.

Please Note: *Fresno Unified School Board policy states, “No electronic listening or recording device may be used by students or visitors in a classroom without the teacher and principal’s permission”. (Education Code 51512)*

Dress Code

The following information are excerpts from the Fresno Unified School District adopted Dress Code that pertain to elementary school. The entire board policy is available on the FUSD website, FUSD Parent Handbook or upon request in our school office.

Fresno USD | 5000 | AR 5132 Students
Educationally Appropriate Dress and Appearance

The responsibility for the dress and appearance of a student rests primarily with the student and their parents or guardians. In the interest of maintaining an appropriate learning environment, the district believes in the following basic principles:

- * All students are encouraged to dress in a manner that is appropriate, comfortable and conducive to an active academic school day.
- * Students should be able to wear clothing without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.
- * The student dress code should serve to support all students to develop a body-positive self-image.
- * The district standard dress and appearance policy is gender neutral and applies to all students equally regardless of gender on school campuses and at school-sponsored functions and will be enforced consistently and fairly by all members of the school staff

* Clothing and hair styles are a matter of personal choice. The school shall be concerned only when this impacts the health and safety of students and staff.

Examples of inappropriate clothing include:

- clothing where the torso is exposed, i.e., tube tops, half shirts, halters
- clothing that is see-through. (clothing must be opaque)
- clothing or accessories which show profanity, obscene words or pictures, sexually suggestive statements, or incites to violence
- clothing representing gang-related activities
- clothing where the entire thigh is exposed, such as micro minis or short shorts.
- bathing suits or cut-offs
- the wearing and carrying of tobacco promotional items, or items promoting controlled substances (drugs) and/or alcohol,
- clothing where undergarments are exposed
- clothing that has text that is libelous, bullying, constitutes harassment or discrimination
- footwear must be worn at school and all functions
- no backless footwear for elementary students

Sun Protective Clothing

Each school site shall allow for outdoor use during the school day, articles of sun-protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats, provided that sun-protective clothing does not otherwise violate this regulation. Each school site may set a policy related to the type of sun protective clothing, including, but not limited to, hats, that students will be allowed to use outdoors, if that policy is stricter than this regulation. Specific clothing and hats determined by the school district or school site to be gang-related or inappropriate apparel may be prohibited by the school site's dress code policy.

Consequences of Dress and Appearance Code Violations

- Site Leadership can determine consequences for dress and appearance code violations provided these consequences are applied consistently and equitably. Except under exigent circumstances, suspension or expulsion will not be used as a consequence for the violation of a dress code.
- Site Staff shall provide students opportunity to remedy the violation. Opportunities to remediate may include, but are not limited to, parental contact or offer of exchange of clothing. Any discipline that shall arise out of dress code violations shall have minimal loss of instructional time as its goal.
- If a parent/guardian or student disagrees with the site administrator's decision on a standard violation, the parent/guardian or student shall attempt to resolve the problem by requesting a personal conference with the site administrator. If the problem cannot be resolved informally to the parent/guardian or student's satisfaction, the site administrator's decision may be appealed to the Superintendent's designee, whose decision shall be final.

1. **Dangerous or Disruptive Violations.** Dress or appearance-violations that cause actual disruption of the educational environment, result in actual violation of law or other school rules, including hate-crime laws, or cause actual injury may result, at the discretion of the district Administration, in more serious disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion without regard to the policy set forth above for standard violations. The process for appeal of these dangerous or disruptive violations shall be consistent with standard district disciplinary procedures.
2. **Physical Education Grades.** No grade of a student participating in a physical education class shall be adversely affected due to the fact that the student does not wear standardized physical education apparel where

the failure to wear such apparel arises from circumstances beyond the student's control. (Education Code 49066.) (cf. 5121 - Grades/Evaluation of Student Achievement)

Exception to Regulations

Generally, these neutral dress rules will be applied to all students without regard to personal circumstances. However, religious beliefs, medical requirements or other reasons may be grounds for an exception to a specific portion of the district Standard Dress & Appearance policy with specific advance approval from the district. A petition for an exemption from enforcement of a specified portion of district Standard Dress & Appearance policy may be submitted to the principal. Under no circumstances will the principal allow an exception for dress that displays gang symbols, uses profanity, displays products or slogans that promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs or sex, materially interferes with school work, materially disrupts the school environment, substantially disrupts the school environment or which creates a risk of safety.

Gang-Related Apparel

Gang-related apparel is not acceptable. If individual schools that have a dress code prohibiting gang-related apparel at school or school activities, the principal, staff and parents/guardians participating in the development of the school safety plan shall define "gang-related apparel" and shall limit this definition to apparel that reasonably could be determined to threaten the health and safety of the school environment if it were worn or displayed on a school campus. (Education Code 32282)

Principals will collaborate with Law Enforcement Agencies to update changes in gang-related apparel at the beginning of each semester or as often as needed. Because gang-related symbols are constantly changing, definitions of gang related apparel shall be reviewed at least once each semester and updated whenever related information is received

Students who participate in a nationally recognized youth organization shall be allowed to wear organization uniforms on days when the organization has a scheduled meeting. (Education Code 35183)

Field Trips (Study Trips)

Students may have the opportunity to participate in various study trips throughout the school year. Detailed information about the particular study trip and permission slips will be sent home before each trip. Students will not be allowed to participate in the trip unless the permission slip has been signed and returned to school. Permission for a student to attend a field trip by telephone is NOT accepted. Students will be expected to follow all school rules and bus rules on study trips.

If a student has had continual difficulty following the directions of school staff while at school then we cannot be certain that the student will follow directions away from school in a less restrictive setting, the student may be asked to remain at school to work on an alternative learning activity in order to protect that child's safety as well as the safety of others.

We encourage parents to volunteer as chaperones. Field trip chaperones must complete the FUSD Volunteer Form, be fingerprinted and complete required training to be eligible to attend the field trip. FUSD will pay for fingerprinting. Since it can take several weeks for fingerprints to clear, it is important that you work with your child's teacher to complete the necessary paperwork to be fingerprinted before the fieldtrip. The staff of King School considers chaperones a vital part of these trips and rely on chaperones for safety and supervision; therefore, we ask that chaperones not bring younger children/siblings to the event so full attention can be devoted to supervision.

All students must travel with the class to/from a fieldtrip and must remain with the class during the fieldtrip. Parents cannot meet the class at the fieldtrip destination and walk around separately from the class.

Health

*Any students that show signs or symptoms of Cold or Flu will be isolated and sent home.

*Students cannot return to school unless they are 24 hours fever free without medication.

*If your child is sick, they **MUST** stay home.

If your child has a health condition that may affect his/her activities at school, please inform the school office so that we can meet your child's needs and be sure the health condition is noted on your child's emergency card.

Medications

All medications taken at school must be prescribed by a physician. Medications must be brought to the school office by the parent or guardian in the original prescription container with complete instructions. Parents must also have a consent form signed by themselves and the prescribing physician explaining the time and dosage to be given at school along with any special instructions that might be necessary. Medications will be stored in a locked cupboard in the nurse's office.

Education Code Section #49423 defines the requirements for administration of medication at school:

"Any pupil who is required to take, during the regular school day, medication prescribed for him/her by a physician, may be assisted by the school nurse or other designated school personnel if the school district receives (1) a written statement from such physician detailing the method, amount, and time schedules by which such medication is to be taken and (2) a written statement from the parent or guardian of the pupil indicating the desire that the school district assist the pupil in the matter set forth in the physician's statement". The medication must be clearly labeled with the name of the student and name of the medication and the dosage. At the beginning of each school year or upon entry to school, a "Medication at School" form must be completely renewed. These rules pertain to all over-the-counter medicines as well. Prescription inhalers and pills must be in the original box/bottle with label attached."

Snacks at School

Through participation in a special grant, our school is able to offer students fresh fruit or vegetables as a snack during their morning recess. If you feel your child needs an additional snack, he/she may bring a **healthy snack** to eat during recess. Snacks such as chips, candy and soda pop are discouraged, and will only be allowed to eat them after they have eaten their lunch. Snacks must be eaten in designated areas and all trash thrown in the trash can.

Homework

King School's educational philosophy includes required homework in grades K-6. Homework not only allows students to practice what they have learned at school, but it encourages independent study habits, facilitates learning, and promotes responsibility. In general, the homework assignment for a student of average ability should be 10 to 30 minutes, at least four days a week. Each grade level and teacher have his/her specific homework policy. Please check with your child's teacher for specific requirements.

Teacher Guidelines for Homework:

- Homework assignments should be carefully explained.
- Homework should cover material previously introduced in class.
- Homework should be assigned on a daily basis rather than on a long-term basis. Some long-term assignments may be given, but periodic checks should be made to verify that assignments are being carried out.

- Whenever possible, homework assignments that involve research should be based on materials available at the school site.
- Teachers should assign only as much work as can be carefully checked.

Parent Guideline for Homework:

- **Study Area** – The child should have an area that has good lighting, proper seating, sufficient space to place materials, and be free from distractions (radio, television, siblings, etc).
- **Time Period** – A regular daily routine of a specific time period will encourage good study habits.
- **Frame of Mind** – Homework assists your child's progress in learning. If a student sees that his/her parent has a positive attitude and values learning, it has a lot of influence on how the student approaches learning. Try to get him/her to see the value of the knowledge they are trying to acquire. Do not tell your child he/she does not have to complete work he/she does not want to do and do not do the work yourself.
- **Supervision** – Make sure your child has enough time, understands directions, and works carefully. When the homework is finished, please see that it is returned to school so your child can be given credit.
- **Illness and/or concerns** – Parents should communicate with the teacher regarding homework for any child being absent from school. When there are concerns regarding the homework assignment, parents are encouraged to contact the specific teacher.

If your child is consistently telling you that he/she does not have homework, please contact the teacher to confirm.

Library

When a student checks out a book from the library, the student should take responsibility for the care of the book. If the student loses or damages the book it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to replace the book. Parents may also check out books from our library.

Parent Participation

King parents are encouraged to participate as much as possible in their children's education. Research has proven that students whose parents are involved in school activities achieve more in school. Here are some of the ways you can be involved at school:

- Volunteer at special events.
- School Site Council (SSC)
- English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC)
- Attend Parent Engagement Meeting
- Participate in special classes offered at school (Parent University, Nutrition Classes, Computer Classes)
- Attend "Back to School Night", Parent Conferences, "Open House".
- Assure that students complete homework each night
- Assure that your children have good school attendance, arrive on time, and stay until the end of the school day.

School Site Council (SSC)

The School Site Council is an elected group of King staff, parents, and community members. Elected members serve for 2 years. Although only elected SSC members can vote, all parents and community members are invited to attend SSC meetings to get information and give input about

school programs. Agendas will be posted 72 hours in advance in the school office and cafeteria windows. The SSC is responsible for advising the writing of the Single Plan for Student Achievement and monitoring the implementation of programs funded by categorical monies.

English Learner Advisory Council (ELAC)

Any parent who has a student at our school who has been designated as an English Learner can automatically be a voting member of ELAC. We hold a minimum of 4 meetings each year. Agendas will be posted 72 hours in advance in the school office and cafeteria windows. The ELAC serves as an advisory body to the Single Plan for Student Achievement and the program for English Learners. Any parent or community member is invited to attend these meetings.

Personal Property

Supplies and Materials

Students are furnished most school supplies and all textbooks. Students are responsible for taking care of these materials. Students are responsible for and will be expected to pay for the damage and/or loss of all non-expendable materials issued them by the school. This would include textbooks, library books, physical education equipment, and musical instruments checked out or issued to them during the year.

Lost and Found

Articles of clothing found on the school grounds are placed in the Lost and Found located in the cafeteria. Smaller articles such as wallets, jewelry, eyeglasses, keys, etc. are kept in an office drawer. Unclaimed articles are donated to charitable organizations at the end of the school year if not claimed. Parents are advised to write their children's names on backpacks, sweaters, coats, and all other personal belongings.

Bicycles

Bicycles are to be parked and **locked** in the bike rack (next to the cafeteria). Bicycles are **not** allowed elsewhere on the school grounds at any time, unless authorized by school personnel for special events. Students should walk their bikes off campus at dismissal time to avoid collisions with other students and parents. The school **does not** assume liability for stolen bicycles or bicycle equipment or accessories. The law requires that bicycle helmets are worn by children riding bicycles, including to/from school.

Scooters

Our school doesn't have a secure area to keep student scooters and skateboards so we recommend that students not ride/bring these to school. If students choose to bring a scooter or skateboard, they will need to check with their teacher to find out where it can be kept during the school day. Scooters and skateboards should only be ridden outside the school gate, not on the playground, entrance, or blacktop areas.

Toys At School

We have found that toys cause disruption in the classroom, as well as problems on the playground. Please be advised that **toys and electronic devices from home are not allowed at school.** Should your child bring a toy or electronic device to school without permission, a staff member will hold it so that it will not be a distraction to learning or school safety. The first time, the item will be held by the teacher or placed in the office for the student to pick up and take home after school. If the item is brought to school again, it will be held in the office until a parent picks it up. This includes

sports balls, cell phones, technology devices, game cards/items. Because these items should not be brought to school in the first place, the school does not assume liability if they are lost, damaged, or stolen.

School Safety

King School is a Drug Free Zone! All alcohol, drug, and tobacco products are **prohibited** on the King campus

Notification Regarding Expulsion

The Fresno Unified School District has established policies and standards of behavior which promote learning and protect the safety and well-being of students. When these policies are violated, it may be necessary to suspend or expel a student. Board Policy 5144.1 aligns with California Education Code in the approach to serious offenses.

The following offenses will warrant a mandatory referral for expulsion:

1. Possessing loaded or unloaded firearms
2. Brandishing a knife at another person
3. Unlawfully selling a controlled substance
4. Sexual assault (including attempt) or sexual battery
5. Possessing an explosive

The offenses listed above will not be tolerated in the school buildings, school grounds, and buses going to or coming from lunch or school or at any school-sponsored activity.

For all other violations, the principal shall have the discretion to recommend expulsion of a student. If expulsion is recommended, the Board shall order the student expelled only if it makes a finding of either of the following:

1. That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct
2. That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the student causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the student or others

It is critical that parents discuss this policy with their children so there are no misunderstandings of the intent of the items/actions covered by the policy, and the consequences for violating the policy.

All acts of physical violence, possession or use of weapons, or Health and Safety Code violations will be included in the student's file. In every case, students who violate applicable education and Penal codes referenced by the police, will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement authorities.

Emergency/Safety Plan

Each year our school reviews and updates a Comprehensive School Safety Plan. Every month we practice fire drills. At least 3 times per year we practice lockdown procedures and we have an earthquake drill once per quarter.

Extreme Emergency Procedures

In case of an extreme emergency, staff and students will follow the district's protocol for an emergency. Parents will be contacted by school personnel if necessary. Please be sure we have an updated phone number where you can be reached in an emergency.

Traffic and Parking

Please observe all laws: In a school zone, it is illegal to make u-turns or stop in the street to allow students to get in or out of your car. The maximum speed limit is 25 MPH. All of these infractions can result in costly traffic tickets. Here are some other traffic/parking guidelines we request that you follow for the safety of our students and families and to avoid citations by law enforcement:

- Please don't park in the handicapped areas unless you have a placard or license plate that allows you to park there. These stalls should not be used for student pick up and drop off unless there is a visible handicapped placard or license plate.
- At our parents request, we've designated an area in the parking lot, near CDC, as a parent drop-off area from 7:30am-8:00 am. Parents can pull up, drop off a child and pull out. There are signs posted in this area.
- Please don't park behind cars parked in parking stalls or in the area designated for school staff.

For the safety of our students, we ask that you talk with your child about crossing the street safely. We have had several near misses as students cross in the middle of the street rather than at designated crosswalks. Please walk with your child to teach him/her how to look both ways and judge when it is safe to cross. It is not safe for students to walk/run through the parking lot to go to waiting cars. Please walk your child through the parking lot if necessary.

There are a few very high traffic times in our parking lot: Rainy days, arrival (7:50-8:10) and dismissal (12:50-1:10) and (1:50-2:15). If you are in a hurry, please be advised that traffic will be slower during these times and plan for extra time.

Adults on the School Grounds

During the regular school day, an adult who wishes to contact a student must do so through the office. **Adults who are not a part of the school staff are not permitted in the play area or in the classrooms without checking in the office and being cleared through Fresno Unified.**

All school visitors/volunteers must report to the office immediately upon entering the campus to receive a visitor's pass. All visitors passes require an I.D. In order to maintain a safe, academic environment for all students, scheduling of classroom visitations and teacher conferences should be made in advance. Parents may call the office and leave a message for teachers to return the call and set up appropriate times. We welcome parents to visit their children's classroom after making prior arrangements with the teacher or administrator; however, in order to maintain a focused learning environment, we ask that younger non-school age siblings not to be brought to the classroom during instructional time. Starting the 26-27 school year, parents must be cleared by Fresno Unified through fingerprinting and training in order to have access to classrooms. In addition,

Board policy states, "No electronic listening or recording device be used by students or visitors in a classroom. (Education Code 51512)

Pets on the School Grounds

Dogs and other pets are not permitted on the school grounds or in the school office. For the protection of our students and your pet, please don't bring your dog on the school grounds, even if on a leash or being carried, during school events, student drop-off or pick-up. Even the most well-behaved dog may react in an unpredictable manner under certain circumstances.

Civility Policy

Maintaining an environment supportive of learning and free of disruptive conduct is important to the success of our children's education. Our school district has a civility policy in place to promote mutual respect, civility and orderly conduct among district employees, parents/guardians, and other members of the public. It is also the intent of this policy to encourage positive communication and discourage disruptive, volatile, hostile or aggressive communication or actions. Policy (BP 1265 Community Relations).

Volunteers

Volunteers enrich the educational program of our school. We encourage parents and community members to volunteer and share their experiences with our students. The presence of volunteers in the classroom, on school grounds, and at school-sponsored functions also enhances the supervision and safety of the school.

Every school volunteer, whether on campus or as a chaperone on a study trip, must complete the FUSD Volunteer Form, be fingerprinted and complete training through Fresno Unified. (FUSD Board Policy 1240) This form is for the protection of our students and the information is confidential

Parent/Student Response Form

**I have read the King Elementary
School Parent Handbook and have
reviewed it with my child.**

Parent's Signature

Date

Student's Signature

Date

**Please return this page, signed
To your child's teacher
On the 2nd day of school attendance**