



2026-2027 Student Handbook

**Hours: 7:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
Monday - Thursday**

**Tiger Trades Academy
1401 East 6th Street La Junta, CO 81050
Phone: (719) 363-1504 Fax: (719) 363-1505
Principal, George Ferguson**

Notice

The East Otero School District does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, national origin, or age in its programs and activities.

Tiger Trades Academy Purpose Statement

At Tiger Trades Academy, we believe that our community's success depends on preparing students to enter the workforce, pursue trades, or continue their education with confidence and skill. Our mission is to empower graduates to lead purposeful and impactful lives by

nurturing their adaptability, thoughtfulness, and capabilities. By making sure everyone feels valued and supported, we emphasize that our path to success is a team effort

ADMINISTRATOR'S MESSAGE

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome each of you to Tiger Trades Academy for the 2026/2027 school year. On behalf of the administration, teachers, and staff, we stand ready and willing to assist you in any manner possible. We would also like to extend a special welcome to the new students at Tiger Trades Academy this year. You will find the atmosphere positively engaging.

Our goal is to bring more effective, intensive, and creative instruction to each of you. Your responsibility is to perform at your highest level every day that you are in class. We would like to challenge each student to begin this school year on the right foot and keep moving forward. Any time wasted is time that cannot be replaced. Your school years will slip by you so quickly - Get involved and take pride in our school! We look forward to this school year with great anticipation.

We wish each of you the very best in the many opportunities that await you. Make the most of them. With mutual respect and cooperation, we can succeed together.

Our door is always open to you – let us know how we can support you.

The purpose of this information is to make clear to students and parents the policies and procedures of Tiger Trades Academy. We hope you will take time to go over it carefully so you can be informed and supported. Should a problem or concern arise regarding a particular teacher, we encourage you to follow these steps:

1. **Contact the teacher.** The teacher is the best person to clarify and resolve concerns in the classroom. Do not fear a question or a complaint. You benefit when you show enough interest to contact a teacher. Email is a more efficient way of contacting teachers. However, if necessary, you can call (719) 363-1504 to contact a teacher. All staff email addresses can be found on our website, www.lajuntaschools.org.
2. **The Infinite Campus Parent Portal** is a valuable tool that students and parents can use to monitor student progress. Contact our office for help in getting set up on the portal.
3. **Contact an administrator.** If you have discussed the problem with the teacher and still have concerns, feel free to contact the appropriate administrator. If the problem concerns discipline or attendance, please contact the Principal or Secretary.
 - a. **Note:** Teachers are expected to keep parents informed of any concerns they have regarding student behavior and academic progress. Consequently, a teacher may contact the parent to arrange a conference or to discuss the student's behavior.

RAISING THE BAR - CREATING A CULTURE OF LEARNING

Our Expectations for Student Achievement and Behavior

Building a Successful School

The East Otero School District is investing heavily in some of the key elements that make schools successful:

- Curriculum - carefully laying out “what we teach” our students
- Learning - shifting our focus on “how we teach” our students
- Assessment - creating measurements of “how well we taught” our students

We are committed to having high expectations of ourselves, and we also have high expectations of all our students and believe you can succeed.

Establishing a Culture of Learning

We make education our top priority! That is the reason we come to school every day. Our staff firmly believes that all students can pass their classes and be successful. We maintain high expectations for our students so we can create a productive culture of learning.

How We Raise the Bar

- We want to protect the rights of all students in a classroom so each can receive their education.
- We want to maintain a culture of learning in classrooms where students value what has been prepared for them that day, and they allow their teachers to teach.
- We want parents to be confident in the fact that their student is coming to school and learning every day and not having their right to an education interfered with by students who refuse to be focused in classrooms.

We commit to involving students and parents in this process. **When a teacher has to issue multiple redirects to a student and the student’s behavior is not changing, the teacher will contact the parent about the situation for assistance with improving it.** If this situation continues and works its way up to administration, administration will contact the parent again to work together on resolving the situation. We intend to convince students to change this kind of behavior before they get suspended for it.

We will also teach all our students about our high expectations for them. We will gather students together in the first week of school, by grade levels, and talk through this process. We want students to know how this process works and how to succeed.

We want our students to succeed, and schools can’t do it alone. We need parents to be involved with students and the school. Research has shown that when parents are involved, students perform better at school. Parents should regularly monitor students' grades and attendance. We want to work together to create a successful school and incredible futures for ALL!

Join us in working together for our children

We all want our kids to succeed, and schools can not do it alone. We need you as parents to be involved with your student and the school. Talk to them about the fact that we are “raising the bar” at school. Check their grades, check their attendance. Your child may try to push you away when it comes to school, but all the research has shown that when parents are involved, kids do better at school. WE appreciate the challenges that you face as parents in raising this generation - they are smart and tough! This is why we want to work together with you to create our successful school and incredible futures for your children.



La Junta Public Schools 2026-2027 School Calendar



August 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			29	30	31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days 13 Staff Days 19

November 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

Student Days 13 Staff Days 14

February 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Student Days 15 Staff Days 16.5

May 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Student Days 12 Staff Days 13

September 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Student Days 17 Staff Days 18

December 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Student Days 11 Staff Days 12

March 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Student Days 15 Staff Days 16

June 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Student Days 12 Staff Days 13

October 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Student Days 15 Staff Days 17.5

January 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Student Days 15 Staff Days 17

April 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Student Days 17 Staff Days 18

July 2027						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Student Days 12 Staff Days 13

REPORTING PERIODS:

August 10 – October 8
October 12 – December 17
January 5 – March 11
March 22 – May 20
Total Student Days=
Total Hours=
(Including Supervised Passing Periods)
Total Staff Work Days = 161 Days

Junior/Senior High/TTA

7 hours 40 min
7:50 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
35 Days
34 Days
38 Days
36 Days
143 Days
1096.33 Hours

Intermediate/Primary

7 hours 40 min
7:45 a.m. – 3:55 p.m.
35 Days
34 Days
38 Days
36 Days
143 Days
1096.33 Hours

	School Closed/Holidays
	Graduation
	Parent/Teacher Conferences See building schedule

	First/Last Day of School
	In Building Registration
	Online Registration Opens

	Staff Work Days
	New Teacher Days



TIGER TRADES BELL SCHEDULE

2026-2027

EVERY STUDENT, EVERY DAY!



7/8 GRADE

REGULAR SCHEDULE

PERIOD	START	END
1 1st Hour	8:00 AM	8:57 AM
2 2nd Hour	9:01 AM	9:58 AM
3 3rd Hour	10:02 AM	10:59 AM
ADVISEMENT	11:03 AM	11:33 AM
LUNCH	11:34 AM	12:04 PM
4 4th Hour	12:05 PM	1:02 PM
5 5th Hour	1:03 PM	2:00 PM
6 6th Hour	2:01 PM	2:58 PM
7 7th Hour	3:01 PM	4:00 PM



7/8 GRADE

TWO-HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

PERIOD	START	END
1 1st Hour	10:00 AM	10:45 AM
2 2nd Hour	10:48 AM	11:33 AM
3 3rd Hour	11:36 AM	12:21 PM
LUNCH	12:24 PM	12:54 PM
4 4th Hour	12:57 PM	1:42 PM
5 5th Hour	1:45 PM	2:30 PM
6 6th Hour	2:33 PM	3:18 PM
7 7th Hour	3:21 PM	4:00 PM

SCHOOL DAY ENDS AT 4:00 PM



HIGH SCHOOL

REGULAR SCHEDULE

PERIOD	START	END
1 1st Hour	8:00 AM	8:57 AM
2 2nd Hour	9:01 AM	9:58 AM
3 3rd Hour	10:02 AM	10:59 AM
4 4th Hour	11:00 AM	11:57 AM
ADVISEMENT	11:58 AM	12:28 PM
LUNCH	12:29 PM	12:59 PM
5 5th Hour	1:00 PM	1:57 PM
6 6th Hour	2:01 PM	2:58 PM
7 7th Hour	3:01 PM	4:00 PM



HIGH SCHOOL

TWO-HOUR DELAY SCHEDULE

PERIOD	START	END
1 1st Hour	10:00 AM	10:45 AM
2 2nd Hour	10:48 AM	11:33 AM
3 3rd Hour	11:36 AM	12:21 PM
4 4th Hour	12:24 PM	1:09 PM
LUNCH	1:09 PM	1:39 PM
5 5th Hour	1:42 PM	2:30 PM
6 6th Hour	2:33 PM	3:18 PM
7 7th Hour	3:21 PM	4:00 PM

SCHOOL DAY ENDS AT 4:00 PM



BE
RESPECTFUL



BE
RESPONSIBLE



BE
SAFE

**STRONG PRIDE.
BRIGHT FUTURES.**

LA JUNTA, COLORADO

Students must meet the minimum course requirements to receive a high school diploma from TTA.

- **Career Plus Pathway**- intended for students with goals and plans to obtain a 4- year or advanced degree.
- **Career Options Pathway** - intended for students with goals and plans to obtain a 2-year degree, transfer to a 4-year degree, professional certification, enter the workforce, or enlist in the military.

Career Plus Pathway	Career Options Pathway
4 Credits English Language Arts • English I • English II • English III • English IV 4 Credits Math • Algebra I • Geometry • Algebra II • Upper Level Math Choice • 3 Credits Social Studies • .5 World History - Freshman Year • .5 Geography - Sophomore Year • .5 US History - Junior Year • .5 Government - Senior Year • 1 Social Studies Electives - 9th through 12th Years 3 Credits Science • Earth Science - Freshman Year • Biology - Sophomore Year • Physical Science/Chemistry - Junior Year 1 Credit PE .5 Credit Personal Finance 1-2 Credits Foreign Language 6.5-7.5 Credits Electives College and Career Readiness Demonstrations** • Assessment Option or Performance Option	4 Credits English Language Arts • English I • English II • English III • English IV 3 Credits Math • Career Math I • Career Math II • Pre-Algebra • Algebra I • Geometry • Math Choice 3 Credits Social Studies • .5 World History - Freshman Year • .5 Geography - Sophomore Year • .5 US History - Junior Year • .5 Government - Senior Year • 1 Social Studies Electives - 9th through 12th Years 3 Credits Science • Earth Science - Freshman Year • Biology - Sophomore Year • Physical Science - Junior Year 1 Credit PE .5 Credit Personal Finance 9.5 Credits Electives College and Career Readiness Demonstrations** • Assessment Option or Performance Option

24 Total Credits

24 Total Credits

** Demonstrations of readiness in English and math are required. See the Menu of Options documents for specification and benchmark scores.

College & Career Ready Demonstrations

Assessments

	English Score	Math Score
SAT	470	480
ACT	18	19
ASVAB (AFQT Score)	31	31
Next Generation Accuplacer	Reading 241 or higher Writing 236 or higher	255 on Arithmetic 230 on Quantitative Reasoning, Algebra, and Statistics
Advanced Placement (AP)	2	No math offering

Concurrent Enrollment Courses (must register for credit through Otero College)

	English	Math
Registered for Otero C credit	English Comp I & II, AP Into to Lit, Public Speaking, Technical Writing	Math for Liberal Arts, College Algebra, College Trigonometry

Industry Certificate: Complete coursework and a board-certified test for a particular field

- Examples:
 - Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) - Completed through Otero
 - Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) - Completed through Otero
 - OSHA 10 - Can be completed through La Junta Jr/Sr High School
 - Elanco- Animal Science- Can be completed through La Junta Jr/Sr High School
 - AMS- Food Safety and Science - Can be completed through La Junta Jr/Sr High School
 - Elanco- Vet Science - Can be completed through La Junta Jr/Sr High School
 - AMS- Food Science - Can be completed through La Junta Jr/Sr High School

- School
- NRCS - Can be completed through La Junta Jr/Sr High School
- BASF-Plant Science - Can be completed through La Junta Jr/Sr High School.

Cell Phones (Student)

Our students are encouraged **not** to bring cellphones to school. Should they have a need to bring a cell phone to school, **the cell phone must remain turned off and left in their backpack or given to the teacher until the end of the day.** When school has been released and students have **left the building**, they may use their cell phones.

-If students are using a cell phone during school hours the phone will be confiscated and the teacher will call guardians to pick it up.

First Offense: The device is confiscated by staff, taken to the front office, and returned directly to the student at the end of the school day.

Second Offense: The device is confiscated and held in the main office until a parent or guardian comes to pick it up.

Third Offense: Administration requires a mandatory parent-school meeting to create a personalized device plan, which may include banning the phone from school grounds entirely or the use of phone lock device.

Students may use PTDs (personal technology device) as a designated tool for learning if authorized by the student's teacher. It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the PTD is turned off or placed in silent mode during unauthorized times. Students shall not use PTDs to engage in, promote or facilitate any other conduct that violates the student code of conduct, other Board policies or regulations, or state or federal law. Violation of this policy or any other district, school or classroom rule or regulation on student use of PTDs may result in disciplinary measures and/or temporary confiscation of the PTD. Confiscated devices shall be returned to the student only after a conference with the guardian/guardian, student and school personnel. If the building principal or designee believes a student's possession or use of an PTD may involve a violation of the law, the building principal or designee may also refer the matter to law enforcement.

The district shall not be responsible for loss, theft or destruction of PTDs brought onto school or district property or while the student is attending district or school-sponsored activities or events.

The only permitted listening device would be headband headphones only if permitted by the teacher. Earbuds are not allowed in the building.

Dress Code for Students

Every Thursday will be Orange and Black Day---please wear Orange and Black to support our La Junta Tigers.

A safe and disciplined learning environment is essential to a quality education. These guidelines for student attire are intended to help students concentrate on schoolwork, reduce discipline problems, and improve school order and safety. Students shall not wear apparel that is deemed disruptive or potentially disruptive to the learning environment or to the maintenance of a safe and orderly school.

1. You must wear shoes and undergarments.

2. Please wear appropriate shoes on P.E. days
3. Sleeveless shirts must be three fingers wide. (No spaghetti straps without a cover)
4. Jeans, pants, shorts & skirts must be worn at the waist. If we are suspicious, we will have you prove that they are at the waist.
5. Midriff must not be exposed.
6. Your underwear cannot be showing. This includes bra straps and boxers. Keep them covered.
7. Caps, hats, du-rags, bandannas, gloves, and hoods are not to be worn in the building.
8. You cannot wear clothing with logos or words that promote the use of drugs, alcohol, or cigarettes, are sexually suggestive, gang related, have profanity or obscene gestures, or are otherwise offensive.
9. No bedroom slippers (fuzzy, animal shaped, etc.)
10. Shorts/skirts must be fingertip length.
11. Jeans with rips/holes/tears in them must also have those exposing features below the fingertip line (just like the rule for shorts) or have solid leggings worn beneath them.
12. Sunglasses, hanging belts, and chains are prohibited.
13. Any other attire, hairstyle, or accessory considered by the administration to be inappropriate or a distraction will be prohibited.

Please do not push the limits when dealing with dress code! For example, if you forget to take off your hat, we will remind you. If you “forget” it multiple times, we will not remind you anymore and you will receive the consequences of the policy. If you come to school dressed inappropriately that is not an issue of forgetting, that is a conscious choice.

- **1st offense** – Warning/call home by staff member that dress coded them
- **2nd offense** –Detention/call home by staff member that dress coded them
- **3rd offense** –ISS/call home by staff member that dress coded them

Gang related dress code issues

According to policy JICF-R, the type of dress, apparel, and activities displayed by students must not cause school officials to reasonably believe that they are gang related and would disrupt or interfere with the school environment. The administrators are empowered to make this decision, and it is typically done on a case-by-case basis. If a student is asked by the administration to correct this issue, they will only be asked once. The second time it occurs, the student will be formally written up on the district gang policy with guardians being notified. After that, an immediate 5-day suspension is the result.

Grades/Grading

Teachers are also required to keep a grade record book on Infinite Campus. *Teachers are responsible for posting their grades weekly.* Specials classes should have a minimum of one grade posted each week. Parents are encouraged to use the Parent Portal in order to monitor their child’s progress. It is of the utmost importance that record keeping is accurate and timely. Many teachers keep a hard copy to cross reference with Infinite Campus.

In Person Students

All grades for in person students will be entered into Infinite Campus. There should be one Edgenuity grade per course that will change throughout the semesters as Edgenuity assignments are completed. Instructors shall record the actual grade, NOT complete percentage or overall grade percentage. Edgenuity will be used to supplement classroom assignments, projects, etc., which will be entered into Infinite Campus as well. Overall course grade showing in Infinite Campus will be a combination of in class assignments and the one overall Edgenuity grade.

Online Students

All grades for online students will be entered into Infinite Campus. There should be one Edgenuity grade per course that will change throughout the semesters as Edgenuity assignments are completed. Instructors shall record the actual grade, NOT complete percentage or overall grade percentage. Edgenuity will be used to supplement classroom assignments, projects, etc., which will be entered into Infinite Campus as well. Overall course grade showing in Infinite Campus will be a combination of class assignments and the one overall Edgenuity grade. Online students taking core courses (math, reading, science, social studies) will move at the pace of the instructor. Lessons WILL NOT be unlocked to allow students to move ahead of the class. In elective courses students will work at their own pace, but lessons will be unlocked weekly by an online coordinator to ensure consistent student log-ins and lesson internalization.

Hybrid Students

All grades for hybrid students will be entered into Infinite Campus. There should be one Edgenuity grade per course that will change throughout the semesters as Edgenuity assignments are completed. Instructors shall record the actual grade, NOT complete percentage or overall grade percentage. Edgenuity will be used to supplement classroom assignments, projects, etc., which will be entered into Infinite Campus as well. Overall course grade showing in Infinite Campus will be a combination of class assignments and the one overall Edgenuity grade. Hybrid students taking core courses (math, reading, science, social studies) will move at the pace of the instructor. Lessons WILL NOT be unlocked to allow students to move ahead of the class. In elective courses students will work at their own pace, but lessons will be unlocked weekly by an online coordinator to ensure consistent student log-ins and lesson internalization.

***Tiger Trades Academy SCHOOL STAFF
2026-2027***

Administration

George Ferguson, Principal

Bookkeeper/Secretary

Rita Ojeda

Counselors

School Nurse

Shawna Daniel District

School Resource Officer

Officer Dom Mower

Special Education

Linette Griffy

Math

Jacob Pruyn

Science

Demian Ryder

Social Studies

Scott Cuckow

ELA

Michelle Bouldin

Physical Education

James Lopez

ELL

Danielle Dwyer, Coordinator

Custodial Arts

Ted Guerra, Custodian

Frank Barela, Custodian

Antonio Lucero, Custodian

District Social Worker

Hallie Miell

Kitchen