

Inside TUSD

2026-2027

AUG
27

MEET YOUR TUSD LEADERSHIP TEAM

📍 eCademy PDC
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

FEB
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NJROTC AND MILITARY OPPORTUNITIES

📍 eCademy PDC
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

SEPT
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CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN TUSD

📍 TJHS
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

MAR
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STATE TESTING

📍 eCademy PDC
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

OCT
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ACADEMIC PATHWAYS & DUAL ENROLLMENT

📍 eCademy PDC
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

APR
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TUSD FACILITIES UPDATE

📍 D.O. 102
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

NOV
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HOW TO SUPPORT YOUR STUDENT IN MATH

📍 Family Resource Center
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

MAY
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SUMMER LEARNING

📍 eCademy PDC
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

JAN
21

LOCAL CONTROL ACCOUNTABILITY PLAN

📍 D.O. 102
🕒 6:30-7:30 PM



Turlock Unified School District



MEET OUR DISTRICT ADMIN TEAM

The Family Resource Center Presents:

INSIDE TUSD

Family Education Series

Join TUSD this month for a deep dive into TUSD's Annual Parent Notifications. Learn about your rights and responsibilities as a parent and have your questions answered by an expert panel.

PARENTS' RIGHTS & RESPONSIBILITIES

🕒 6:30-7:30 PM

📅 August 27, 2026

Link to APN





David Lattig
Superintendent

Executive Cabinet



Trish Anderson
Business Services



Angela Freeman
Educational Services



Marjorie Bettencourt
Finance and Accountability



Joseph Silveira
Human Resources

2026-2027 TUSD Initiatives

- Student Achievement
 - Early Literacy
 - Math
 - Science
- Safety
- Facilities
 - Capacity
 - Opportunity
- Personnel
 - Training
 - Retention
- Communications
 - Partnerships

Gil Ogden

Director Student Services

August 26, 2026

TURLOCK UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parent Notice of Rights and Responsibilities

2026–27 Academic Year

*A comprehensive guide to the rights, responsibilities, and
protections afforded to students and their parents or guardians
under California state and federal law.*

New Online Format

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3. Visitors to the School

- (EC § 51512)
 - All visitors shall report to the office and “sign-in” to notify staff they are in the building or on school grounds.
 - The principal or designee shall provide a visible means of identification for all individuals who are not students or staff members while on school premises.
 - Visitors shall return to the office and “sign-out” before leaving the campus.
- Penal Code § 626.7, the principal or his/her designee is authorized to deny access, ban or bar future access, remove or request the removal of any visitor whose behavior is disruptive to the educational/ working environment of the school.

4. Rights and Responsibilities of Students

Rights (EC § 48980):

- Attend school unless removed via due process.
- Learn in a safe, inclusive environment free from discrimination, bullying, or violence.
- Engage in PBIS and restorative practices for respect and conflict resolution.
- Access counselors, review records (age 16+), and know school rules.

Responsibilities:

- Attend school regularly and on time.
- Be prepared, put forth best effort, and show kindness/empathy.
- Participate in restorative practices to resolve conflicts.
- Follow school rules and respect others.

5. Unexcused Absences

- An absence is recorded as unexcused if a student is absent for 30 minutes or more for a single period in one school day and the parent and/or guardian does not contact the school to clear the absence with an approved excuse within 3 days or 72 hours.
 - Truancy Letter – 3 Unexcused Absences
 - School Attendance Review Team (SART) – 5 Unexcused Absences
 - District Attendance Review Conference (DARC) – 10 Unexcused Absences
 - School Attendance Review Board (SARB) – 15 or More Unexcused Absences

10. Absence for Religious Exercises and Instruction

- Pupils may be excused, with written permission from a parent or guardian, in order to participate in religious exercises or receive moral and religious instruction away from school property. Every pupil so excused must attend at least the minimum school day. No pupil shall be excused from school for such purpose on more than four days per school month. (EC § 46014)

12. Excuse from Instruction in Health

- Upon written request of a parent or guardian, a pupil may be excused from any part of instruction in health which conflicts with the parent(s)' or guardian(s)' religious training or beliefs (including personal moral convictions). (EC § 51240)

19. Medical Coverage for Injuries

- Medical and hospital services for pupils injured at school or school-sponsored events, or while being transported, may be insured at parent's expense. No pupil shall be compelled to accept such services without their consent or, if the pupil is a minor, without the consent of a parent or guardian. (EC § 49472)

27. Sexual Harassment

- BP 5145.7(a) The Governing Board is committed to maintaining a safe school environment that is free from harassment and discrimination. The Board prohibits, at school or at school-sponsored or school-related activities, sexual harassment targeted at any student by anyone. The Board also prohibits retaliatory behavior or action against any person who reports, files a complaint or testifies about, or otherwise supports a complainant in alleging sexual harassment.

30. Student Attire Guidelines

Students MUST Wear:

- Tops with straps, bottoms covering buttocks (no micro minis/short shorts), shoes (no backless for elementary).
- Secured, opaque clothing covering personal body parts.

Students MAY Wear:

- Hats (bills forward, except religious headwear) and hooded shirts/jackets.
- Hats/hoods may be adjusted for classroom activities or identification.

•Students CANNOT Wear:

- Clothing with violent, drug-related, hateful, or profane images/language.
- Sheer/see-through clothing, visible underwear, backless/tube tops, or unsecured clothing.
- Accessories posing safety risks (e.g., spiked jewelry, heavy chains).
- Items that intimidate or obscure identity (e.g., sagging pants, steel-toe boots, non-team color red/blue items, bandanas).

Why It Matters:

- Promotes a safe, inclusive, and equitable school environment.
- Ensures student identification and focus on learning.

31. Release of Student Information

- The following categories of directory information may be made available to various persons, agencies or institutions unless the parent or guardian notifies the District in writing not to release such information:
- Name, address, telephone, date of birth, email address, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, diplomas and awards received, and most recent previous educational institution attended.

34. Family Education Rights & Privacy Act

What is FERPA?:

Federal law protecting the privacy of student education records.

Parent/Student Rights:

- Inspect Records: Review your child's records within 5 school days by submitting a written request to the school principal.

- Amend Records: Request changes to inaccurate/misleading records; if denied, request a hearing.

Control Disclosures: Consent to sharing personally identifiable information, with exceptions

(e.g., school officials with legitimate educational interests or transferring schools).

- Grade 12 GPA may be shared with the Cal Grant program unless opted out (Ed. Code § 69432.9).

File Complaints:

Contact the U.S. Dept. of Education if FERPA rights are violated.

Key Details:

- Grade 11 students/parents notified by Jan. 1 about GPA sharing; opt-out period ≥30 days.

- Records shared with new schools without consent if student intends to enroll.

38. Student Residency

- A student may be enrolled in the District if (1) the student's parent, legal guardian or other person having control and charge of the student resides in the District (EC § 48200); (2) the District has approved Interdistrict attendance (Ed. Code, § 46600); (3) the student is placed in a regularly established children's institution, licensed foster home, or family home; (4) the student is a foster child who remains in their school of origin pursuant to Education Code section 48853.5(f) and (g); (5) the student is emancipated and lives within the District; (6) the student lives in the home of an adult who has submitted a caregiver affidavit; (7) the student resides in a state hospital within the District; or (8) the student's parent or legal guardian resides outside of the boundaries of the school district but is employed and lives with the student at the place of their employment within the school district boundaries for a minimum of three days during the school week.

46. Leaving School Grounds

- Pursuant to section 44808.5 of the Education Code, the Governing Board has decided to NOT permit TUSD pupils to leave the school grounds during the lunch period. Section 44808.5 of the Education Code further states: “Neither the school district nor any officer or employee thereof shall be liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such time as the pupil has left the school grounds pursuant to this section.” (EC § 44808.5)

58. Military Recruiter Information

- 20 U.S.C. section 7908 requires that school districts disclose the names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students to military recruiters upon request, unless parents request that this information not be released without prior written consent. Parents have the option of making such a request. If parents do not wish this information to be provided to military recruiters, they must notify the District office of this fact in writing.

65. Communication Devices

Key Rules:

- Grades TK–8: Students may not use smartphones, smartwatches, smart glasses (wearables), or any other mobile communication devices from arrival on campus through dismissal. This also applies to students in TUSD after-school programs.
- Grades 9–12: Students may use smartphones or other mobile communication devices (smart watches) on campus during the lunch period only. Smart glasses/wearables are prohibited at all times.

74. Tobacco-Free Campus Policy

- The District Governing Board has adopted and enforces a tobacco-free campus policy. All TUSD TK-12 schools are 100% tobacco-free. Smoking and other forms of tobacco use by anyone is prohibited everywhere and at all times on school grounds, in school vehicles, and all school-sponsored activities.

79. Parent Guardian Liability

- Parents or guardians are **liable** for any willful conduct of their minor children which results in injury to another pupil or to school District personnel, or for any willful cutting or defacing of any school property belonging to a school District or to a school District employee, or for any property belonging to their school District and loaned to the minor student and not returned. (EC § 48904)

101. Notice of Non-Discrimination

- The Turlock Unified School District is committed to providing a working and learning environment free from discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying. The District prohibits discrimination, harassment, intimidation and bullying based on the actual or perceived characteristics set forth in Penal Code § 422.5, EC § 220 and actual or perceived sex, sexual orientation, gender, gender identity, gender expression race or ethnicity, immigration status, ethnic group identification, ancestry, nationality, national origin, religion, color, mental or physical disability, age, or on the basis of a person's association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics, in any program or activity it conducts or to which it provides significant assistance.

104. Physical Fitness Test

- The physical fitness test (PFT) for students in California schools is the FITNESSGRAM. The main goal of the test is to help students in starting life-long habits of regular physical activity. District students in grades 5, 7, and 9 will take the fitness test. The District shall report aggregate results of its physical fitness testing on the annual school accountability report card (SARC).

116. Freedom of Expression

- Every student is entitled to his/her constitutional rights as a citizen of the United States which include, but are not limited to, the right to say what one wishes, distribute literature, or put up posters so long as they are not perceived as obscene, libelous, slanderous, or likely to cause a disturbance to the educational process. Students may put up posters or signs with prior administrative approval. All posters or signs shall bear the following disclaimer in type of readable size. “This activity is not sponsored by the Turlock Unified School District.”

Pupil Fees123.

Policy (EC § 49011):

- No pupil fees required for participation in educational activities (e.g., classes, sports, clubs).
- Schools provide all necessary supplies, materials, and equipment free of charge.

Key Rules:

- Fee waivers cannot make fees permissible; no two-tier educational system allowed.
- Course credit or privileges cannot be tied to payments or donations from parents/students.
- No discrimination against students for not providing money or donations.

Voluntary Activities:

- Schools may solicit voluntary donations or encourage fundraising participation.
- Students may receive prizes/recognition for voluntary fundraising, but it's not required.

Concerns?:

- File a complaint via Turlock USD's Uniform Complaint Procedures (EC § 49013).
- Contact Student Services for assistance.

146. Immigrant Student Protections

Policy (EC §§ 200, 220, 234.1, 234.7):

- All children have a constitutional right to free public education, regardless of immigration status.
- Protected from discrimination, harassment, bullying, or intimidation based on immigration status, nationality, or ethnicity.

Key Rights:

- Access to safe, peaceful schools and all programs/activities without discrimination.
- Enroll using various documents (e.g., proof of age/residency); no citizenship/SSN required.
- Student records protected; directory info release optional (parents can opt out).

Family Safety Plans:

- Provide emergency contacts or complete a Caregiver's Authorization Affidavit for trusted adults to care for your child if detained/deported.

Support:

- Report discrimination or bullying to Turlock USD; file complaints via Uniform Complaint Procedures.
- Contact Student Services *for* "Know Your Rights" resources.

201. Appropriate Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- AI tools should only be used for educational purposes as directed by teachers or school authorities. Unauthorized use of AI in assignments or the representation of AI-generated content as original work is prohibited.
- Students must adhere to ethical standards, respecting copyright, privacy norms, and the intellectual property of others. AI should not be used for academic dishonesty (plagiarism or cheating).
- Recognize AI's limitations and impact on the individual's critical thinking and problem-solving skills. Students should not rely on AI tools as a fact-checker to confirm their work or research, as AI may not always provide accurate or up-to-date information. Be aware that AI is susceptible to biases.

202. Parental Opt-Out Rights Under Mahmoud v. Taylor (2025)

Parents have a First Amendment free-exercise right to opt their children out of classroom instruction that substantially interferes with the religious beliefs and practices they wish to instill.

- Parents are encouraged to review curriculum through school site or district office.
- Parents may have their children excused from lessons found in curriculum that interferes with their religious beliefs.
- The ruling focuses on opt-outs, not a ban on inclusive curriculum itself.

Questions?

