FREMONT
SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

2026-2027

Family Handbook

The Fremont SD79 Mission:

Fremont School District 79 is an inclusive community committed to excellence, innovation, and responsible stewardship.

28855 N. Fremont Center Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
www.fsd79.org

Welcome to Fremont School District 79. We strive for "an inclusive community committed to excellence, innovation, and responsible stewardship." The District draws students from seven municipalities across Lake County: Hawthorn Woods, Grayslake, Libertyville, Long Grove, Mundelein, Round Lake, and Wauconda. We are proud to work collaboratively with our school community to provide the best educational opportunities for our students.

This handbook aims to familiarize families with the policies and procedures followed at Fremont SD79. All board policies are available on the district website (https://boardpolicyonline.com/?b=fremont_79). The rules published in this handbook are subject to change to ensure continued compliance with federal, state, and local regulations. They are also subject to review and alteration as necessary for the district's routine operation.

Mission

Fremont School District 79 is an inclusive community committed to excellence, innovation, and responsible stewardship.

Vision

Fremont School District 79 empowers the next generation of resilient lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and courageous leaders.

Values

We recognize each learner is unique, and these values honor our commitment to personalized learning:

• Individualized • Voice and Choice • Reflective • Authentic and inquiry-based • Community-connected • Responsive

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Fremont School District Office

28855 North Fremont Center Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 566-0169

FSD79 Board of Education BOE@fsd79.org
Gabriela Whipple, President
Pamela Shaw, Vice President
Shawn Killackey, Secretary
Courtney Wilhelm Billittier
Latoya Conners Gray
Aga Macoch
David Whitson

District Administration	
Superintendent of Schools	Dr. Trisha Kocanda
Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations	Ivy Fleming
Assistant Superintendent of Learning	Dr. Brian Bullis
Executive Director of Human Resources	Allison Stempien
Executive Director of Student Services	Krista Winkelman
Assistant Director of Student Services	Dr. Tegan Dittmer
Director of Buildings and Grounds	Sean Smith
Director of Communications	Nick Brilowski
Director of Food Service	Tony Smith
Director of Information Technology and Network Security	Craig Albers
Director of Transportation	Leslie Lauritzen
Safety & Security Coordinator	Sara Balmes-Flores

Fremont School District 79 Schools

Lincoln Early Learning Center

Principal: Katie O'Brien
Building Assistant Supervisor: Cathi Ivack
Administrative Assistants: Danielle Garcia, America Lanuza
Serving: Early Childhood (EC) / Preschool (PS)
200 West Maple Street
Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 949-2720

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

School Hours: A.M. 8:00 a.m.-10:30 a.m.
P.M. 12:15 p.m.-2:45 p.m.

Fremont Elementary School

Principal: Beth Carmody
Asst. Principal: Andrea Wiklund
Administrative Assistant: Christie Johnson
Receptionist: Aura Perez Cruces
Serving: Kindergarten (K) - 2nd grade
28908 North Fremont Center Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 837-0437

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

School Hours: Daily 8:50 a.m. - 3:38 p.m.
Early Release 3:08 p.m.

A.M. K only 8:50 a.m. - 11:45 a.m.

Fremont Intermediate School

Principal: Stefan Ladenburger
Asst. Principal: Alana Davidov
Administrative Assistant: Heather Linane
Receptionist: Robin Fine
Serving: 3rd grade - 5th grade
28754 North Fremont Center Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 388-3700

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

School Hours: Daily 8:50 a.m. - 3:38 p.m.
Early Release 3:08 p.m.

Please do not drop elementary and intermediate school students off before 8:45 a.m. Supervision is not available. Please note that the latest early pickup time is 3:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Fridays and 2:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Fremont Middle School

Principal: Dr. Emily Loerakker
Asst. Principal: Nick Atchley
Administrative Assistant: Linda Flaherty
Receptionist: Lillian Rodriguez
Serving: 6th grade - 8th grade
28871 North Fremont Center Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 566-9384

Office Hours: 7:05 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

School Hours: Daily 7:55 a.m. - 2:43 p.m.
Early Release 2:13 p.m.

Please do not drop Middle School students off before 7:30 a.m., unless they are scheduled to participate in a club or activity. Any student arriving before 7:50 a.m. must report to the Middle School Media Center (Den). Please note that the latest early pickup time is 2:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

FREMONT SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

Grades K-8

2026-2027 School Calendar

August 2026

Su	M	T	W	R	F	Sa
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September 2026

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October 2026

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November 2026

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December 2026

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January 2027

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Aug. 17, 2026: Teacher Work Day
Aug. 18, 2026: Teacher Institute Day
Aug. 19, 2026: Teacher Institute Day
Aug. 20, 2026: First Day for Students (Grades K-8)

Sept. 7, 2026: Labor Day - No School
Sept. 21, 2026: Not In Attendance - No School

Oct. 2, 2026: Special Event Early Dismissal
Oct. 12, 2026: Indigenous Peoples' Day - No School

Nov. 3, 2026: General Election Day - No School
Nov. 12, 2026: End of 1st Trimester
Nov. 23, 2026: Parent/Teacher Conferences - No School
Nov. 24-27, 2026: Thanksgiving Break - No School

Dec. 21, 2026-Jan. 1, 2027: Winter Break - No School

Jan. 4, 2027: Teacher Institute Day - No School
Jan. 18, 2027: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School

Feb. 15, 2027: Presidents' Day - No School
Feb. 25, 2027: End of 2nd Trimester

March 11, 2027: Parent/Teacher Conferences - No School
March 12, 2027: Teacher Institute Day - No School
March 22-26, 2027: Spring Break - No School

May 31, 2027: Memorial Day - No School

June 3, 2027: Last Day of Student Attendance (without Emergency Days)/Special Event Dismissal Schedule

June 10, 2027: Last Day of Student Attendance (if all Emergency Days are used)

February 2027

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March 2027

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April 2027

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May 2027

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June 2027

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Legend

- Not In Attendance (NIA)
- Teacher Work Day
- Teacher Institute Day
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Special Event Dismissal
- Holiday
- Emergency Day

Typical M/Tu/Th/F Schedule
Elementary - 8:50 a.m. - 3:38 p.m.
Intermediate - 8:50 a.m. - 3:38 p.m.
Middle - 7:55 a.m. - 2:43 p.m.

Weekly Wednesday Schedule - Early Release
Elementary - 8:50 a.m. - 3:08 p.m.
Intermediate - 8:50 a.m. - 3:08 p.m.
Middle - 7:55 a.m. - 2:13 p.m.

Special Event Dismissal Schedule
Elementary - 8:55 a.m. - 2:08 p.m.
Intermediate - 8:55 a.m. - 2:08 p.m.
Middle - 7:55 a.m. - 1:13 p.m.

Board Approved on 11/17/2025
Board Approved (Revised) on 2/23/2026
Board Approved (Revised) on 4/20/2026

FREMONT
SCHOOL DISTRICT 79

Lincoln Early Learning Center

2026-2027 School Calendar

August 2026

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September 2026

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October 2026

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November 2026

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December 2026

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January 2027

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Daily Schedule
AM: 8:00-10:30
PM: 12:15-2:45

Aug. 17, 2026: Teacher Work Day - No School
Aug. 18, 2026: Teacher Institute Day - No School
Aug. 19, 2026: Tri-District Teacher Institute Day - No School
Aug. 20, 2026: Meet & Greet - No School
Aug. 21, 2026: Screening Day - No School
Aug. 24, 2026: First Day for Students (Grades PK & EC)

Sept. 7, 2026: Labor Day - No School
Sept. 18, 2026: Parent Involvement Day - No School
Sept. 21, 2026: Not In Attendance - No School

Oct. 2, 2026: Tri-District Teacher Institute Day - No School
Oct. 12, 2026: Indigenous Peoples' Day - No School
Oct. 23, 2026: Screening Day - No School

Nov. 3, 2026: General Election Day - No School
Nov. 12, 2026: End of 1st Trimester
Nov. 23, 2026: Parent/Teacher Conferences - No School
Nov. 24-27, 2026: Thanksgiving Break - No School

Dec. 2, 2026: Tri-District Screening Day - No School
Dec. 21, 2026-Jan. 1, 2027: Winter Break - No School

Jan. 4, 2027: Teacher Institute Day - No School
Jan. 15, 2027: Screening Day - No School
Jan. 18, 2027: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - No School

Feb. 15, 2027: Presidents' Day - No School
Feb. 25, 2027: End of 2nd Trimester

March 10, 2027: Parent Involvement Day - No School
March 11, 2027: Parent/Teacher Conferences - No School
March 12, 2027: Teacher Institute Day - No School
March 22-26, 2027: Spring Break - No School

April 7, 2027: Tri-District Screening Day - No School

May 5, 2027: Parent Involvement Day - No School
May 31, 2027: Memorial Day - No School

June 2, 2027: Last Day of Student Attendance (without Emergency Days)
June 3, 2027: Parent Involvement Day - No School
June 10, 2027: Last Day of Student Attendance (if all Emergency Days are used)

February 2027

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March 2027

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April 2027

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May 2027

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June 2027

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27	28	29	30			

Legend

- Not In Attendance (NIA)
- Screening Day
- Teacher Work Day
- Teacher Institute Day
- Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Holiday
- Emergency Day

Board Approved on 1/26/2026
Board Approved (Revised) on 2/23/2026
Board Approved (Revised) on 4/20/2026

GENERAL INFORMATION

Automated Phone Calling and Texting System

The District utilizes an automated phone calling and texting system to the household's selected phone number. This system is used on a limited basis and will be implemented to communicate to families about school emergencies, school closures, and program cancellations. ***The schools must have up-to-date phone information to receive these phone calls and text messages.***

Home / School Communications

Messages that must be delivered to students during the day must be directed to the school office. Teachers might be unable to check voicemails or emails before the end of the day. To ensure proper delivery, written messages from parents/guardians should be sent in a sealed envelope, labeled with the student's and teacher's name. In the case of illness or other emergencies at school, staff members will make the necessary telephone calls to parents/guardians.

Email

Each staff member has a district email address to facilitate communication. Staff are asked to respond to emails in a timely manner. Time-sensitive messages should be directed to the school office.

Contacting the School or District about Concerns

If parents/guardians feel there is an issue with a child or an opinion that needs to be expressed, please follow this procedure: Teacher → Assistant Principal→ Principal→ Assistant Superintendent of Learning→ Superintendent.

Visitors (Reference: Board Policy 8:30)

All visitors, including parents/guardians and siblings, must enter through the front door of the building. Visitors should identify themselves and inform office personnel of their reason for being at school. All FSD79 buildings have secure entrances. Upon being buzzed into the school office, the office staff will scan a picture ID using the Raptor visitor management system. The visitor shall wear a printed visitor ID badge if further entry is required.

Visitors are required to proceed immediately to their location in a quiet manner. They must then return to the school office and sign out before leaving the school.

Equal Educational Opportunities and Sex Equity (Reference: Board Policy 7:10, 7:20, 2:260)

Equal educational and extracurricular opportunities shall be available for all students without regard to color, race, nationality, religion, sex, sexual orientation, ancestry, age, physical or mental disability, gender identity, status of being homeless, immigration status, order of protection status, actual or potential marital or parental status, including pregnancy.

No student shall, based on sex, sexual orientation, or gender identity, be denied equal access to programs, activities, services, or benefits or be limited in the exercise of any right, privilege, advantage, or denied equal access to educational and extracurricular programs and activities. Any student may file a sex equity complaint

by using Board policy 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure. Any student may file a sexual harassment complaint by using Board policy 2:265, Title IX Grievance Procedure.

Any student or parent/guardian with a sex equity or equal opportunity concern should contact the Fremont SD79 staff below.

Nondiscrimination Coordinator and Title IX Coordinator:
Allison Stempien
28855 N Fremont Center Rd, Mundelein, IL 60060
astempien@fsd79.org
(847) 566-0169

Complaint Managers:
Dr. Brian Bullis
28855 N Fremont Center Rd, Mundelein, IL 60060
bbullis@fsd79.org
(847) 566-0169

Krista Winkelman
28855 N Fremont Center Rd, Mundelein, IL 60060
kwinkelman@fsd79.org
(847) 566-0169

Lost and Found

Personal belongings, such as coats, boots, and book bags, should be marked with the student's name. Lost and found articles are placed in an area located near the cafeteria or in the front office. Students and parents are invited to search the area for lost items periodically. All unclaimed items will be donated before the end of the year.

School Supply Lists

School Supply Lists will be sent home by the end of the school year and are available on the District's website. Students need to bring the grade-level-specific supplies on Meet and Greet day (usually the day before school starts). Classroom teachers may also send home lists for additional supplies needed during the school year.

Before- and After-School Care

Fremont School District 79 does not offer childcare services. However, the school district does provide space for the child care services provided by Right at School. This group offers a before-school program, an after-school program, and a program on days students are not at school.

Class Parties: Lincoln ELC, Fremont Elementary and Fremont Intermediate Schools

Classroom parties will be held for pre-kindergarten through 5th grade to celebrate Halloween, the Winter Holiday, and Valentine's Day. Parents/guardians who object to their child participating in class parties should contact the building administration. Please refer to the PTO's Party Host Guidelines if you want to volunteer.

NOTE: For the Halloween party, students are encouraged to wear age-appropriate costumes in which they can be dressed independently at school for a school party. Violence should not be depicted in any costumes. Make-up, masks, and weapons are not permitted at school. Please direct all questions to the classroom teacher.

Invitations and Gifts

Party invitations or gifts for classmates should not be brought to school to be distributed. These are personal items that should be delivered to the home.

Nutrition Break (Reference: Board Policy 7:285, 6:50)

At the teacher's discretion, a daily nutrition break will be provided. Please send a nutritious snack to school with your child each day. Please also keep in mind specific allergies in classrooms. A note will be sent home informing parents/guardians of requirements for a particular class.

Birthdays (Reference: Board Policy 7:285)

To promote healthy choices and support a culture of wellness in our schools, along with our concern for food allergies and childhood obesity, birthday treats **will not be allowed.** If food items are sent, they will not be served and will be sent home. The elementary and intermediate schools welcome other ways to celebrate birthdays that do not involve food. Please contact the building administrator with further questions.

Accommodating Individuals with Disabilities (Reference: Board Policy 8:70)

Individuals with disabilities will be provided an opportunity to participate in all school-sponsored services, programs, or activities. If they have a disability requiring special assistance or services, they should notify the superintendent or building administrator as far in advance as possible of the school-sponsored function, program, or meeting.

Early Release and Institute Days

FSD79 teachers must continue utilizing best teaching practices. Early Release and Institute Days are used for teacher professional development. Topics for the day focus on district goals and initiatives, building goals, and current educational practices.

Non-Attendance Days

Non-attendance days are days when students are not in school.

eLearning Days

In the event of school closings, eLearning days may be utilized by Fremont School District 79 in lieu of the traditionally scheduled emergency days at the end of the academic year. On eLearning days, students engage in remote and virtual instruction, while not being physically present at school. Our goal on these days is to partner with our families to provide meaningful and engaging learning opportunities outside of the classroom, which will maintain our high expectations and pursuit of increased student growth and achievement. You may read our complete eLearning Day Procedures, which highlights the roles of our students, staff, and parents/guardians on these days, in addition to other important information. The integration of eLearning days will provide families and staff with a more predictable school calendar while also maintaining continuity in student learning.

Video and Audio Monitoring Systems (Reference: 4:110, 7:190, 7:220, 7:340)

A video and/or audio monitoring system may be used on school buses and public areas of the school building. These systems have been implemented to protect students, staff, visitors, and school property. If a discipline

problem is captured on audiotape, these recordings may be used to impose student discipline. If criminal actions are recorded, a copy of the tape may be provided to law enforcement personnel.

Emergency School Closings / Weather Conditions (Reference: Board Policy 4:170)
Parents/Guardians should monitor daily weather forecasts and send children to school dressed for possible weather conditions. Based on weather conditions, the building administrator will determine if students are to stay indoors during recess. As a general policy, students will go outside for recess if it is not raining and it is above 10 degrees with the wind chill, according to weather.com.

In the event of extreme weather conditions or any other reason that would require the school to be closed, the district will officially post that information to the website, send notifications using the district's automated notification system, and through major news media outlets. For more information, visit www.emergencyclosingcenter.com.

NOTE: Parents/Guardians have the right to keep their children home if they so choose as a result of inclement weather. Students will, however, be marked absent.

When school is in session, students will be dismissed on time unless extremely hazardous weather conditions exist.

FAMILY / SCHOOL PARTNERSHIP

Parent/Guardian Involvement (Reference: Board Policy 8:95)

Parent/guardian involvement is essential as a partner in educating children. We encourage participation in your child's school activities. Please let your child's teacher know if you want to volunteer in the classroom or school.

NOTE: We ask that siblings not accompany the parent/guardian when you help in the classroom or at school parties.

School Volunteers (Reference: Board Policy 6:250, 8:90)

Teachers may request parent support for classroom projects, chaperoning field trips, routine tasks, or working with individual students.

Before volunteering, Fremont Elementary and Intermediate Schools require all volunteers to complete a **self-guided training** and submit a **completion form**. The volunteer training can be accessed **here**.

In addition, the Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) is a vital component of our school community. Throughout the year, this organization of volunteers sponsors and coordinates many activities to support our school, sports, and fine arts programs. The PTO sponsors parties, book fairs, family outings and supports several other activities. The organization is open to any FSD79 parent/guardian or staff member. Monthly meetings are held at 6:00 p.m. in the Fremont Middle School Media Center (Den) on the third Wednesday of the month unless otherwise noted.

Without the support and effort of all these volunteers, many beneficial activities would not be possible. Due to potential liability and disruption of the academic environment, volunteers are discouraged from bringing young children or siblings to their volunteer activities.

Guidelines for Volunteers

1. Follow the District's Visitor policy as outlined on page 13.
2. Notify the teacher or school office if you cancel your scheduled volunteer time.
3. Maintain confidentiality and professionalism at all times.
4. PTO Party Host Guidelines

Parent/Guardian-Teacher Conferences

Please contact the child's teacher at any time to discuss their progress. Individual parent/guardian-teacher conferences are scheduled in November and February to discuss student progress. The conference goal is to establish a cooperative relationship between schools and home so that the instructional process is successful. Additional conferences may be scheduled if the need arises. Parents/Guardians or teacher(s) may request that an administrator attend conferences.

ENROLLMENT, ATTENDANCE, & PROMOTION

Registration of Students

Students in grades PreK-7 must register for the next school year in Fremont SD79 each year. The district's website has more information. Class assignments are communicated in early August.

Parents/guardians of students who will enter kindergarten in the fall are encouraged to register beginning in late February, as this assists the district in making appropriate plans and distributing information. To be eligible for admission, a child must be five years old on or before September 1 of that school year, or a child entering first grade must be six years old on or before September 1 of that school year.

A certified copy of the child's birth certificate should be provided at registration. The individual enrolling the student must establish residency in Fremont SD79. The residence of the person who has legal custody of a student is deemed to be the residence of the student. Documentation of residency is required at the time of registration.

School Admissions (Reference: Board Policy 7:60, 6:135, 6:140, 7:30, 7:50, 7:100, 7:340)

Children are enrolled in the district following state and federal guidelines and district policies.

a. Kindergarten / New Enrollment

Children are eligible for initial admission based on these state guidelines:

- Kindergarten entrance: A child must be five years old on or before September 1 of that school year.
- First-grade entrance: A child must be six years of age on or before September 1 of that school year.
- Early Childhood entrance: A child with exceptional needs who qualifies for special education services is eligible for admission at age 3.

b. Admissions Procedure

All students must register for FSD79 every year by following the directions on the District's website. For initial enrollment to the district, parents/guardians must present the following documents:

- Certified copy of the student's birth certificate or other reliable proof, as determined by the Illinois Department of State Policy, of the student's identity and age, and an affidavit explaining the inability to produce a copy of the birth certificate.
- Proof of residence within the district boundaries as outlined in 7:60, *Residence*.
- Proof of disease immunization and medical examination, as required by state law and 7:100, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students.

c. Homeless Children

Any homeless child shall be immediately admitted to school following 6:140, *Education of Homeless Children*, even if records usually required for enrollment are not available. Parents/guardians seeking support should contact the FSD79 McKinney-Vento Liaison, Krista Winkelman, at 847-566-0169. Refer also to the McKinney-Vento Homeless section of this handbook and the district website.

d. **Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools**
A student may transfer into or out of the district according to State law and procedures developed by the Superintendent. Enrollment of a student will not be refused due to failure to present their student's permanent or temporary record from a school previously attended.

e. **Military Service Obligation**
When a student's change of residence is due to the military service obligation of the student's legal custodian, the student's residence is deemed to be unchanged for the duration of the custodian's military service obligation if the student's custodian made a written request. The District, however, is not responsible for the student's transportation to or from school. If, at the time of enrollment, a dependent child of military personnel is housed in temporary housing located outside of the District, but will be living within the District within six months after the time of initial enrollment, the child is allowed to enroll, subject to the requirements of State law, and must not be charged tuition.

Attendance (Reference: Board Policy 7:70)
Illinois law mandates that any child between the ages of six (by September 1st) and 17 must attend school in the district where they reside throughout the academic year.

Regular attendance is crucial as it fosters dependability, responsibility, and enhances academic achievement. Students who attend classes regularly:

- Stay on track with their learning.
- Fully engage with the material.
- Participate in discussions, collaborate with peers, and receive immediate feedback from teachers.

Active participation in the learning process improves understanding, retention, and overall academic performance. At FDS79, we value our students and prioritize attendance to create a supportive environment where every student feels valued and empowered to succeed.

Our goal is to support students who may require assistance to ensure equitable access to education for all. Together, we can foster a community of learning and growth, making a positive impact on each student's educational journey.

Early Pick-Up (Reference: Board Policy 7:90)
If the child's daily schedule changes once the school day has begun, please contact the school's front office. Please be aware that emails may not reach the intended party before students are dismissed. To guarantee student safety, we prefer a written note, phone call, or email to the school office as early as possible in the day. Also, if changes are made with daycare providers, including Right at School, the daycare provider and the school must be notified in writing.

Parents/guardians are encouraged to arrange appointments so that students do not have to miss school. When it is necessary to pick a student up early, parents/guardians must sign out the student at the office.

Parents/guardians are expected to send a note to the office at the beginning of the day stating they will pick up their child early.

NOTE: For the Elementary and Intermediate Schools, the latest early pickup time is 3:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 2:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

NOTE: For the Middle School, the latest early pickup time is 2:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.

Late Arrivals (Tardies)

Students are expected to arrive on time for school and for their classes. Any student who arrives late **(after 7:55 a.m. for the Middle School and 8:50 a.m. for the Elementary and Intermediate Schools)** is considered tardy and **must report** to the school office to sign in. If a student in grades 6-8 arrives after 8:51 a.m., it is considered a partial day for attendance. If a student in grades K-5 arrives after 9:38 a.m., it is considered a partial day for attendance. Parents or guardians should give a signed note to their child to be turned in to the school office or call to explain the late arrival. Frequent unexcused tardiness may result in disciplinary action. Middle school students receiving three or more **unexcused** tardies to a class in a one-month period will be issued a major detention.

Student Absences (Reference: Board Policy 7:70, 7:80, 6:110)

Parents/guardians are expected to notify their child's school by 9:00 a.m. if the child is to be absent from school on any given day. Parents/guardians can call their child's school to leave a recorded message regarding their child's absence. When calling, please give the following information:

1. Student's first and last name
2. Student's teacher's name
3. Reason for absence
4. Length of absence
5. A phone number where you can be reached on the day of the absence

The Illinois State Board of Education guidelines for half-day and full-day attendance are based on instructional time with these general parameters:

Full Day Credits

Kindergarten:	4 hours / 240 minutes
First Grade:	4 hours / 240 minutes
Grades 2-8:	5 hours / 300 minutes

Half Day Credits

Kindergarten:	2.0 hours / 120 minutes
First Grade:	2.0 hours / 120 minutes
Grades 2-8:	2.5 hours / 150 minutes

If there is no call regarding the absence, school personnel will contact the parent. Participation in before- and after-school activities on the day of an absence from school is not permitted without approval from the building administration.

Valid Cause of Absence
A child may be absent from school because of:

- Illness (including mental and behavioral health of the student)
    - After an illness, a child may not return to school unless they have been fever-free for 24 hours. Also, if your child is on an antibiotic, they may not return to school unless they have been on medication for a 24-hour period and are fever-free for 24 hours. If a child has a contagious illness, i.e., strep throat, pink eye, chicken pox, lice, or Covid-19, please contact the health office as soon as possible.

  NOTE: A doctor's note must be presented to the school if a child is absent for more than three consecutive days due to illness.

- Medical appointment
- Observance of a religious holiday
- Death in the immediate family
- Attendance at a civic event including career-development or college-course activities
- Family emergency
- Attendance at a verified medical or therapeutic appointment (including a victim services provider)
- Fulfillment of a parenting responsibility
- Addressing circumstances resulting from domestic or sexual violence
- Situations beyond the student's control as determined by the Board of Education
- Other circumstances which cause reasonable concern to the parent/guardian for the safety or health of the student

Students absent for a valid cause of absence will be considered excused. The student will be given an equivalent opportunity to make up any examination, study, or work requirement in a reasonable timeframe.

Removing students from school for vacation is discouraged.

- Absences during family vacations will be marked unexcused.
- The child's building administrators and teacher should be notified **before** the absence.
- Missed work will be given to students **upon returning to school** and must be completed.
- Students will be given the same number of missed days to complete missing assignments.
- Some assignments may not be able to be completed upon return to school. *This may affect the student's grade.*

Truancy (Reference: Board Policy 7:70)
When a student misses school frequently (unexcused absences), the following steps may be taken to promote better attendance:

1. After 5 cumulative days of absence in a school year, a letter will be sent home to the parents/guardian.
2. After 7 cumulative days of absence in a school year, the principal will meet with the student and send a letter home to parents/guardians. Parents will be notified if unexcused absences continue to accrue, the

child will be referred to ATD (Attendance Truancy Division of the ROE). A parent conference may be scheduled to discuss attendance.

3. After 9 cumulative days of absence in a school year, the principal will meet with the student again. The parents/guardians will be called to discuss the problem.
4. After 10 unexcused days of absence in a school year, a letter will be sent home letting the parents/guardians know that their child will be referred to ATD. If there is no doctor's note, all absences will now be marked as unexcused.

All chronically absent students, regardless of the reasons for the absences, are reported to the state of Illinois as per the School Code. Parents will be notified periodically if student absences are predicted to equal 10% of the school year.

Make-up Work (Reference: Board Policy 7:70)

Homework assignments for a student absent due to illness will be prepared and ready to be picked up 24 hours after the initial request is made to the child's teacher. Students will be given the same number of missed days to complete missing assignments. For example, if a student misses three school days, they will be given three school days to make up the work. Please work with the child's teacher individually if more time is needed.

Homework (Reference: Board Policy 6:290)

Homework and daily reading expectations for each grade level will be discussed on Curriculum Night. Assignments are designed to serve one or more of the following purposes:

- Help students develop good study habits.
- Help students assume responsibility for learning.
- Provide practice for students towards mastery of a specific skill or concept.

When homework comes home, parents/guardians can:

- Provide a suitable area to complete homework.
- Set aside an agreed-upon time of day for homework.
- Set aside time with the student to review homework assignments, teacher website(s), textbook websites, and/or assignment notebook/planner.
- Provide encouragement and support.
- Emphasize the importance of homework.

Progress Reports and Report Cards (Reference: Board Policy 6:280)

Parents/guardians shall be informed at regular intervals regarding their children's progress in school. If you have any questions concerning your child's progress, please do not hesitate to contact his/her teacher directly. Parents/guardians will be notified when there are indications that a student is doing unsatisfactory work in any subject or when a teacher notices a significant decline in a student's performance, i.e., a decline of two letter grades or more. Grades at the middle school are available online for parents/guardians to view. The school district endorses the use of various avenues of communication with parents/guardians, including the following:

- Parent/teacher conferences, which should be conducted regularly, are an effective means of reporting student progress to parents/guardians.
- Teachers inform parents/guardians of their child's progress through notes, homework papers, and test results.

- Student progress reports, which teachers shall submit to parents/guardians according to a regular schedule.
- Interim reports, through which teachers contact parents/guardians to impart information or to arrange a conference when teachers believe additional information should be shared, shall be encouraged.

Report cards are issued three times a year. The 4-6 strands identified for each course will organize our grade book. A level of progression will be reported for each strand. This reporting of specific strands will replace the traditional overall letter grade. Not all strands will be reported on each academic term in all subject areas. Academic grades will be reported separately from habits of success grades. Report cards will be compiled and emailed home once per trimester. K-5 related studies courses will report once, at the end of the academic year, in alignment with the frequency at which they see their students over the course of the year.

Standardized test results, such as those produced in nationally normed achievement tests, i.e., Measures of Academic Progress (MAP), are sent to parents/guardians. Additional copies of these score reports can be provided upon request.

In cases where parents or guardians require separate notifications, both may be informed of their child's progress in school.

Honor Roll

Fremont Middle School

Students are eligible to earn honor roll designations in two areas: Academic and Habits of Success. Honor Roll is calculated each trimester.

The criteria are as follows:

- Academic Honor Roll: All 3s and 4s on all academic strands in each course
- Habits of Success Honor Roll: All 3s and 4s on habits of success strands in each course

Home and Hospital Instruction (Reference: Board Policy 6:150)

A student who is absent or whose physician or designee anticipates that the student will be absent from school because of a medical condition may be eligible for instruction in the student's home or hospital. For information on home and hospital instruction, contact the building administration.

STUDENT FEES AND FOOD SERVICE

Fees, Fines and Charges; Waiver of Student Fees (Reference: Board Policy 4:130, 4:140)
The district, under the direction of the Board of Education, establishes a schedule of fees for textbooks, consumable materials, extracurricular activities, and other school student fees. FSD79's Fee Schedule can be found on the District's website. Students must also pay fines for the loss of or damage to school books or other school-owned materials.

Students will not be denied the opportunity to participate in curricular and extracurricular programs of the school district due to the inability of their parent/guardian to pay fees or certain charges. No child will be discriminated against because of race, gender, national origin, ability, or inability to pay fees or any other factor or combination of factors. Students whose parent or guardian cannot afford student fees may receive a fee waiver. Fee waiver determination will remain confidential; all students will receive the same consideration regardless of the family's ability to pay fees. A fee waiver applies to all fees related to school, instruction, and extracurricular activities.

A parent/guardian may request fee waivers by submitting a fee waiver form. Applications may be obtained by contacting the District Business Office. A student is eligible for a fee waiver if at least one of the following prerequisites is met:

- The student currently lives in a household that meets the same income guidelines and household size limits used for the federal free meals programs.
- The student's parent is a veteran or active-duty military personnel with income at or below 200% of the federal poverty line.
- The student is homeless, as defined by the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act.

Additional consideration will be given if a family's income level is above the eligibility cut-off, but where one or more of the following factors are present:

- An illness in the family;
- Unusual expenses such as fire, flood, storm damage, etc.;
- Unemployment;
- Emergency situations;
- When one or more of the parents/guardians are involved in a work stoppage.

After receiving and reviewing your application, the District Business Office will advise you within 10 days of receipt whether the fee waiver request has been granted or denied, along with the appropriate appeal process. If you have questions regarding the fee waiver process, please contact the District Business Office.

You may apply anytime during the school year if your financial situation changes.

Fines for loss or damage to school property are waived for students who meet certain eligibility guidelines.

Food Service (Reference: Board Policy 4:120, 4:130, 6:50)

Quest Food Management Services Inc. provides food services for Fremont School District 79 students. Quest believes the variety of food, cuisine, and dining experiences students have shouldn't stop at the doors of their school. That's why Quest offers a program based on cooking fresh food from scratch, assembled-to-order menu options, healthy choices that are flavorful and appealing, and an inviting dining experience for all. Contact the Quest Food Management Services office at (847) 388-3700 x3100 with any questions regarding school lunches.

Lunch Program

Lunch will be served in the cafeteria. Monthly menus are available online and in the cafeteria for review. Every student will be issued an ID card with an imprinted barcode, which can be used to purchase lunch food items.

Payment for lunches can be made either with cash, check, or credit card. For credit card (additional fee applies) payments, go to the My MealTime website. Cash or checks should be sent to the student's school, marked with the child's first and last name. Checks should be made to Quest Food Management Services with the student's name indicated in the memo section of the check.

At the end of a student's eighth-grade year, any remaining lunch balance will be automatically transferred to a sibling's account if the sibling is still enrolled in the district. If no sibling is attending, parents can request a refund if the balance exceeds $5.00.

To request a refund, parents must contact the Food Services Director. They will send a form that must be completed to process the refund. Please note that Quest Foods handles all lunch balances and processes refund requests manually across its clients, so there is no automatic refund process. Emailing is the fastest way to begin the process.

Negative Lunch Balances

A student with a negative balance of—$10.00 can only purchase a hot lunch and milk. Until sufficient payment is received, no a la carte items will be sold to the student. Please monitor your student's lunch account and make sure it does not go negative.

2026-27 Lunch Prices

Lunch with Milk or 8 oz Water	$3.75
Lunch without Drink	$3.20
Entree Only	$2.60

Free and reduced lunch applications are available by logging into your TeacherEase account and clicking on the Misc. tab. Eligibility for free and reduced benefits must be established each school year. After receipt and review of your application, the Business Office will advise you within ten days of receipt of the application whether or not your child is eligible for free or reduced meals.

TRANSPORTATION & PARKING

Bus Transportation (Reference: Board Policy 4:110, 4:170, 7:190, 7:220)
Fremont School District 79 students are provided transportation to and from school. Fremont School District 79 strongly encourages parents/guardians to take advantage of the transportation system; more children riding the bus will reduce the number of vehicles in and around the schools, which will make the pick-up and drop-off times at school much safer for the children.

The Business Office determines all bus assignments, routes, and stops. Families/guardians whose children ride school buses are asked to ensure their household information is correct. Please note that snow, ice, and extremely cold temperatures may affect bus pick-up and/or drop-off times, occasionally causing buses to run late. If you have any questions, please contact the Transportation Department at (847) 566-0305.

Students are expected to follow all school rules while on the bus. While students are on the bus, they are under the supervision of the bus driver. In most cases, bus discipline problems can be handled by the bus driver. In the case of a written disciplinary referral, the building administrators will investigate and manage student bus problems. Video and audio cameras may be active on buses to record student conduct and may be used to investigate misconduct or accidents on the bus. The right of all students to ride on the bus depends upon their behavior and obeying the rules and regulations.

Fremont School District 79 does not permit parents/guardians or other unauthorized individuals to board a school bus at any time, except in the event of an emergency or with permission from authorized school personnel. Only authorized school personnel and assigned students are allowed on the bus.

Bus Conduct (Reference: Board Policy 4:110, 4:170, 7:190, 7:220)
Bus transportation is a privilege provided by your Board of Education as directed by the Illinois School Code. We need the students' full cooperation to operate a safe and orderly bus program. Bus drivers have one major responsibility—to safely transport their riders to and from school. Students who ride our buses are held responsible for exercising good judgment and behavior.

The following are rules of conduct we expect our students to follow:

- Be on time for the bus stop.
- Display appropriate behavior at the bus stop.
    - Stand at least ten feet from the curb.
    - Wait for the driver's signal to cross the road.
    - Do not approach the bus until it has come to a complete stop.
- Be respectful of the bus driver, fellow passengers, and their belongings.
- Follow the rules and procedures established by the driver.
- No eating or drinking on the bus at any time.
- Use personal electronic devices appropriately on the bus. If devices are misused, students will lose the right to carry electronic devices on the bus.

    - It is prohibited to use a device to take photographs, video or audio recordings, text messages, cheat, signal others, or otherwise violate student conduct.
- School-issued Chromebooks and iPads are not permitted to be used on the bus.
- Keep the aisle clear and remain seated throughout the ride.
- Keep hands and feet to yourself.
- Sit in an assigned seat and wear seat belts at all times.
- Do not throw or place anything outside the windows.
- Talk in a reasonable tone of voice. Screaming, yelling, and other loud noises are not permitted.
- Use respectful language.
- You may not bring live animals, large school projects, glass containers, inflated objects, skateboards, or anything prohibited under school guidelines on the bus.

All students must display appropriate bus conduct. The superintendent, or any designee permitted in the School Code, is authorized to suspend a student from riding the school bus for up to 10 consecutive school days for engaging in gross disobedience or misconduct, including but not limited to the following:

- Prohibited Student Conduct as defined in *7:190, Student Discipline*.
- Willful injury or threat of injury to a bus driver or to another rider.
- Willful and/or repeated defacement of the bus.
- Repeated use of profanity.
- Repeated willful disobedience of a directive from a bus driver or other supervisor.
- Any other behavior that the administration deems threatens the safe operation of the bus and/or its occupants.

Suppose a student is suspended from riding the bus for gross disobedience or misconduct on a bus. In that case, the Board of Education may suspend the student for over ten days for safety reasons. The district's regular suspension procedures shall be used to suspend a student's privilege to ride a school bus.

A student suspended from riding the bus who does not have alternate transportation to school shall have the opportunity to complete or make up work for equivalent academic credit. It shall be the responsibility of the student's parent or guardian to notify the school that the student does not have alternate transportation.

Bus Discipline

Disciplinary action will be taken against students who violate these rules of conduct. This includes behavior during field trips and athletic trips. Students who violate bus expectations may receive a verbal warning, a written warning, or a bus referral. Any conduct considered disruptive and unsafe will be addressed by building administrators. Parents/guardians will be contacted, and students will be appropriately disciplined should they abuse their bus-riding privileges. Parents/guardians are asked to discuss the situation with their child and review bus expectations. Repeated or serious incidents can result in the suspension of bus service for a period of time.

Consequences may include:

- Verbal warning with a reteaching from the bus driver or school personnel.
- Written warning with a reteaching from the bus driver or school personnel.

- School-based disciplinary measures.
- Restorative Practices.
- Suspension from the bus.

A student assigned to a bus suspension will not be permitted to ride the bus during the suspension period. Parents/guardians must arrange for alternate transportation. Denial of the bus riding privileges is not sufficient cause for absence from school.

Transportation Changes

Bus Riders:

Students are expected to ride their assigned bus. If the student's transportation needs change permanently, please contact the Transportation Department at (847) 566-0305 ext. 5100.

Individual requests for a child to change bus routes for the day **cannot** be granted.

If your elementary or intermediate child's daily transportation schedule changes, the parent or guardian must notify the school and the transportation department by 2:45 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and by 2:15 p.m. on Wednesdays. Otherwise, the child's regular daily transportation schedule will be followed.

All preschool and kindergarten students must be released from the bus to a parent or guardian who meets them at the bus stop. If the parent or guardian wishes to release the child to a sibling, relative, or neighbor, they **must** contact the transportation department to make the necessary change.

Parent/Guardian Pick-Up:

If someone other than the child's parent or guardian is picking them up, the school office must be notified.

Parking

We ask that all parents and guardians who transport students exercise extra caution while driving in the area around our schools to ensure that all our children can arrive and leave school safely. All drivers must cooperate by following the procedures to help ensure our traffic flows as safely and efficiently as possible. As a reminder, North Fremont Center Road and all school parking lots are **hands-free cell phone zones** and school zone speed limits apply.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up

Lincoln Early Learning Center

The designated pick-up and drop-off zone is at Door #2, which is located on the east side of the building. Parents who drop off and pick up their children on set scheduled days will have a laminated sign with their child's first and last name on it in their district's color. Please make this sign visible so supervisors can easily identify you. If you need an extra sign at any point during the school year, please contact the main office at 847-949-2720.

- **Drop-Off /Pick-Up**
    - There are 5 drop-off/pick-up spots along the curb designated by a cone.
    - Pull along the curb. The first car to arrive should stop at the first cone along the curb. The line will continue along the curb and onto Ridgeland Ave if needed.
    - Once at a designated cone, please **wait on the curbside of the car with your child** for a staff member to get your child or drop off your child. **Do not walk to the door.**
    - Please keep in mind your speed when arriving and leaving, as students, parents, and staff members are arriving at school.
    - Do not pass other cars to pull up to a cone unless you have been directed to do so by a staff member.
        - Note: If you arrive late and staff are no longer at Door #2, please pull around to Door #1 or park in the lot and walk your child to Door #1 and come into the building. You must sign your student in or out for the day.

- **Change in Dismissal**
    - **Please contact América Lanuza (lanuzaa@hawthorn73.org) or Danielle Garcia (dgarcia@d75.org) at the Lincoln Front Office (847-949-2720) for any end-of-day changes throughout the school year.** Teachers may not always be available to answer calls or check emails during instructional hours, so contacting the front office is recommended for prompt assistance. América and Danielle will promptly relay any changes to the classroom teacher once contacted. **For morning session changes, please notify the main office by 10:00 a.m., and for afternoon session changes, by 2:00 p.m., regarding your child's dismissal procedures.**

Fremont Elementary and Intermediate Schools

The curb area is designated for pick-up and drop-off only and as a fire lane. Cars are not allowed to park curbside at any time during the day. Student safety is jeopardized when students are crossing between cars. An adult should be in the car along the curb at all times. When cars are double-parked, cars parked in designated spaces cannot get out of the lot.

Move up to the end of the curb to meet your child near the exit as much as possible to allow room for more cars to enter the lot, relieving bus traffic, and for the safety of the students. Waiting in the parking lot rows will not be permitted. Driving around to cut in front of a car as a student is loading is not allowed.

- **Drop-Off**
    - Parents/guardians may drop off their child along the front curb in the morning. **Students may only exit their vehicle on the passenger side nearest the curb. It is unsafe to exit using the door behind the driver**. If parents or guardians wish to escort their child to the building, they should park their vehicle in a designated parking space. The child MUST be walked to the front doors by an adult, as this necessitates crossing in the middle of our carpool line. This leaves the curb free for drop-off vehicles only.

- **Pick-Up**
    - **Cars may not begin cueing up for dismissal until 3:20 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 2:45 p.m. on Wednesdays.**
    - At the end of the day, families may pick up their children by waiting in their cars in the car pick-up line. If siblings are from both schools, all of the children will be sent to the elementary building to be picked up. Adults must stay in their cars throughout pick-up.
    - Early pick-up of students ends before the dismissal process begins. If you need to pick up your child before the end of the school day, please notify the respective school no later than 2:45 p.m. Parents/Guardians must arrive by 3:00 p.m. and come into the building to sign your child out. After 3:00 p.m., all pickups must follow our regular end-of-day parent pick-up procedures. On Wednesdays, the respective school needs notification of early pickups by 2:15 p.m. and the Parents/Guardians must arrive by 2:30 p.m. to pick your child up.

Fremont Middle School

- The designated pick-up and drop-off zone is in front of the school.
    - Early pick-up of students ends before the dismissal process begins. Please note that the latest early pickup time is 2:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays and 1:30 p.m. on Wednesdays.
- The area behind the building is reserved for buses only.

INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS & SERVICES

Curriculum

FSD79 has developed a core curriculum based on the Illinois Learning Standards (ILS). Further information about the district's curriculum can be found on the district website: https://www.fsd79.org/departments/learning-student-services.

Social-Emotional Learning and Interventions

Students in grades Pre-K-8 receive instruction in social-emotional learning in the core curriculum, which is aligned with the Illinois State Social Emotional Learning Standards. To strengthen this commitment, the school district is adopting the RULER tools as our universal SEL framework for all students. Those identified through data as needing additional support are referred to participate in a short-term Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) Intervention Group led by a school social worker and/or school psychologist.

Students identified through data as needing additional support may also be referred to Check-in/Check-out (CICO). This program is designed for students who would likely benefit from a supportive relationship with a staff member who serves as a mentor. It involves check-in at the beginning and check-out at the end of the school day. During the day, the teacher has brief "check-ins" with the teacher, and the student receives positive reinforcement for exhibiting district-wide PAWS expectations (Practice Safety, Act Responsibly, Work for Success, and Show Respect).

Inspection of Instructional Materials (Reference: Board Policy 6:260)

Parents/guardians have the right to inspect all instructional materials used as apparent in their child's education. If you believe that curriculum, instructional materials, or programs violate rights guaranteed by any law or Board policy, you may file a complaint under the District's uniform grievance policy.

Parents/guardians with other suggestions or complaints about curriculum, instructional materials, or programs should complete a Curriculum Objection Form, which is available in the district office. By completing a Curriculum Objection Form, a parent/guardian may also request that their child be exempt from using a particular instructional material or program.

Class Options: Fremont Elementary and Fremont Intermediate School

Fremont School District 79 offers various options for parents/guardians and elementary/intermediate school students. Listed below are brief descriptions of each type of program. Please call the building administration with any further questions.

- **Single-Age Classes**
  - Single-age classes are found in all grade levels. Students in single-age classes span one grade level.
- **Multi-Age Program (MAP)**
  - The ages of the children in the class span two grade levels. Students in a Multi-age Program have the same teacher for two years.

Preschool Screenings

Fremont School District 79 conducts periodic screenings of the district's three- and four-year-old children. The areas addressed include gross and fine motor skills, speech and language, and conceptual development. As a result of the screening, students may be referred for further evaluation. Early intervention and preschool special education services are available through Fremont School District 79 and the Special Education District of Lake County for qualified students. Parents/guardians with concerns about their child's development are encouraged to contact the principal of Lincoln Early Learning Center.

Programs

- **Preschool**
  - This program is for students between the ages of three and five. The program runs 2.5 hours a day, 5 days a week. Students qualify for this program based on several criteria. Criteria for a student's entry into the program will be reviewed after the student attends Preschool Screening. Parents/guardians may sign up for Preschool Screening through the Student Services department or by contacting the Lincoln Early Learning Center.
    - Tuition-based Preschool:
      - Spots are available on a first-come, first-serve basis for students who are ineligible for the intervention program. A total of 40 spots are reserved and split equally between morning and afternoon. The tuition for the 2026-27 school year is: $3,750 including bus transportation and $3,500 without bus transportation.

- **Accelerated Placement**
  - Fremont School District 79 provides an Accelerated Placement Program, which includes early entrance to Kindergarten or Grade 1 and grade-level or subject-level acceleration in Grades 1-8. This program is open to all students who demonstrate high ability and may benefit from accelerated placement.
  - The method used to determine eligibility for accelerated placement involves an analysis of multiple data points, which may include, as applicable, the NWEA MAP growth scores, the Social, Academic, and Emotional Behavior Risk Screener (SAEBRS), parent interviews, observations of the student, records reviews, and social development studies.
  - Parent(s)/guardian(s) may contact the building administration for additional procedure information. The application deadline for grade level or subject acceleration is April 1 each year.

- **Enrichment**
  - Students identified as significantly above average in one or more areas may qualify for additional instructional services. Parents/guardians will be notified if students may qualify for this programming.

- **Multilingual Learner (ML)** (Reference: Board Policy 6:160)
  - Bilingual students for whom English is a secondary language or who are in transition learning English are eligible to receive academic and/or language assistance through the ML program. Parents/guardians will be notified if students qualify for this program. Students are referred for screening according to the Home Language Survey. An English Learner teacher completes all

screening and testing. English Learners who qualify for ML services also participate in ACCESS testing.

- **Summer**
  - Fremont School District 79 offers summer programs each year. Various programs based on academics, enrichment, and other engaging activities will be available to parents/guardians in the spring.

Assessments (Reference: Board Policy 6:340)

Fremont School District 79 administers several standardized tests throughout the school year. Recognizing that assessing student learning is complex, teachers and administrators gather as much data as possible, including work samples and classroom observations, to make decisions about individual student learning and achievement.

Additionally, Fremont School District 79 believes that meaningful assessment does more than measure—it provides direction to guide instruction. Testing data helps our teachers and administration make important choices about curriculum and instructional methods.

- **NWEA's Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)**
  - All students in Grades K-8 take a Common Core MAP test in Reading and Mathematics in the fall, winter, and spring. Each test takes an average of 40-50 minutes for students to complete. The results allow teachers to target instruction specifically to the needs of the individual students. The district also uses this data to improve curricular offerings. Parents/guardians can learn more about this specific testing program by visiting its website.

- **Illinois Assessment for Readiness (IAR)**
  - In the spring, the Illinois Assessment for Readiness (IAR) measures individual student achievement relative to the Illinois Learning Standards incorporating the Common Core. The results give parents/guardians, teachers, and schools one measure of student learning and school performance.
  - Students will participate in state testing as determined by the Illinois State Board of Education and as required by the Illinois School Code. State standardized tests may include English Language Arts, Math, and Science. State tests measure the students' understanding of state learning standards, and test data is also used to measure school accountability. Parents/guardians can learn more about the IAR Assessment and the New Illinois Learning Standards by visiting the ISBE website. The IAR assessment is for grades 3-8.

- **Illinois Science Assessment (ISA)**
  - A science statewide assessment for students in grades 5 and 8. This online test measures how well students are mastering the Illinois Learning Standards for Science and the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). These standards focus on ensuring students have a deep, practical understanding of scientific concepts.

- **Dynamic Learning Maps (DLM)**
  - An alternative state assessment for students with significant cognitive disabilities. It measures student achievement in English Language Arts, Math, and Science using personalized tools that go beyond standard testing accommodations.

- **ACCESS for Multilingual Learners**
  - ACCESS is a statewide, standards-based, criterion-referenced English language proficiency test designed to measure English Learners' social and academic proficiency in English. This test is only administered to students who speak another language or live in a home where another language is spoken and qualify for multilingual services.
  - ACCESS assesses social and instructional English and the language associated with language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies within the school context across four language domains: reading, writing, listening, and speaking.

- **KIDS Assessment**
  - This assessment is administered to all kindergarten students in the first 40 days of student attendance and is required by the Illinois State Board of Education. The teacher gathers observational evidence on measurable components during the student's day.

- **Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT)**
  - The Cognitive Abilities Test (CogAT) will be administered to 2nd grade students in the spring. The CogAT is a nationally recognized assessment that measures general reasoning and problem-solving skills. Results indicate how well a student uses these skills to solve verbal, quantitative, and nonverbal reasoning problems.

- **FastBridge Reading Assessments**
  - FastBridge is a universal screening tool used in K-5 to check student progress in reading. It is administered in the fall, winter, and spring to help identify each student's reading level and pinpoint specific skills that may need more support, such as phonics, vocabulary, or comprehension.

Academic Intervention Services

Academic interventions are provided to qualifying students in reading and math. Students are identified as needing intervention based on several data points, including assessment scores and teacher input. Parent(s)/guardian(s) may contact the building administration to receive additional information regarding intervention services.

Field Trips (Reference: Board Policy 6:240)

Teachers may extend the academic program by taking students to off-campus locations. The same standard of behavior at school is expected on the field trip. Students who have had previous disciplinary actions may not be allowed to participate. The location and duration of a field trip will determine any additional cost that may be necessary. If cost is an issue, please contact the building administrator. Parents/guardians who do not wish their child to attend a field trip should contact the teacher. Arrangements for an alternate program of study

during the time the class is on the trip will be made. A permission slip, signed by the parent or guardian, is necessary for participation in any field trip.

Library Media Center (Reference: Board Policy 6:230, 6:235)

Each building has a Library Media Center (LMC). Students are encouraged to take advantage of resources available through the LMC. Materials and books may be checked out to support student learning at school and at home. Students are asked to care for the materials and books that they borrow from the LMC so that they are available to the school community throughout the year and for years to come. Please help the child do this by establishing a place in the home where the child can store books so they do not become lost or damaged. On rare occasions when that does not happen, there may be a charge for library materials that are lost or damaged beyond repair.

School-Parent Engagement Plan (Reference: Board Policy 6:170)

Fremont School District 79 and the parents/guardians of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), agree that this compact outlines how the parents/guardians, school staff, and the students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents/guardians will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the state's high standards.

District Responsibilities

Fremont School District 79 will:

- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards as follows:
    - Highly qualified teachers will use the district-adopted curriculum that is aligned with the Illinois Assessment Frameworks to instruct all students.
    - Parents/guardians will be provided access to the curriculum via the district and school website and annually during Curriculum Night.
- Hold parent-teacher conferences twice a year, during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held:
    - November
    - February/March of each school year.
- Provide parents/guardians with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:
    - The school will provide parents with progress reports each trimester.
    - Parents/guardians will be provided with the results of reading and math assessments.
    - Parents/guardians of Limited English Proficient students will also receive ACCESS testing scores.
    - This information can also be translated into Spanish and Russian.
- Provide parents/guardians reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents/guardians as follows:
    - Staff will provide parents/guardians with email addresses and school telephone numbers. Staff will be available to meet with parents/guardians during the school day as necessary and when scheduled.
- Parents/guardians are always encouraged to:

    - Volunteer and participate in their child's classroom.
    - Contact Fremont's PTO to learn about more ways to be involved.
    - Participate in school committees.

Parent Responsibilities

- Parents/guardians will support children's learning in the following ways:
    - Monitoring attendance.
    - Ensuring that homework is completed.
    - Volunteering, if possible, in a child's classroom.
    - Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to their child's education.
    - Promoting positive use of their child's extracurricular time.
    - Staying informed about their child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district, either received by the child or by mail, and responding, as appropriate.
    - Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups

Student Responsibilities

- The student will share the responsibility to improve academic achievement and achieve the state's high standards. Specifically, students will:
    - Do assigned homework and ask for help when needed.
    - Read every day outside of school time.
    - Give parents or the adult who is responsible for his or her welfare all notices and information received from school every day.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

Health Information

Parents/guardians are expected to notify the school of any health issues their child may have or any changes in their child's health status during the school year.

Automated External Defibrillator (AED)

Each school is equipped with Automated External Defibrillators (AED) for emergency purposes. An AED is used in conjunction with cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) for anyone suffering from sudden cardiac arrest. Administrators, school nurses, and Physical Education teachers have been trained in CPR and the use of the AED. If the defibrillator must be used, 911 will be called immediately.

State law requires the Illinois High School Association to post a hands-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and automated external defibrillators (AED) training video on its website. The law also requires the District to notify staff members and parents/guardians about the video. You are encouraged to view the video, which will take less than 15 minutes of your time, at: https://www.ihsa.org/health-safety/cpr-training

Emergency Calls

Every effort will be made to contact parents/guardians in case of an emergency. Telephone numbers must be kept up-to-date and accurate in school records. Arrangements for alternate adult emergency contacts should be made with appropriate names and phone numbers listed on school records. If, in the judgment of school officials, an injury requires immediate attention, paramedics will be called first, and parents/guardians will be notified as soon as possible after contacting the paramedics.

Student Health Examination & Immunizations (Reference: Board Policy 7:100)

The State of Illinois requires that certain health forms be turned in for all children entering kindergarten or first grade, whichever is the child's first year in school, entering sixth grade, or enrolling in an Illinois school for the first time, regardless of the student's grade, verified by a licensed prescriber. A licensed prescriber is a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, physician's assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.

Grade	Required Forms
K (1st)	• Health Examination Form (with up-to-date immunizations) • Dental Examination Form • Eye Examination Form
2nd	• Dental Examination Form
6th	• Health Examination form (with up-to-date immunizations) • Dental Examination Form

Proof of immunization against meningococcal disease and tdap booster is required for students in 6th grade. A diabetes screening must be included as part of the health exam (though diabetes testing is not required). Lead Assessment is required by law for children aged 6 years or below before admission to preschool, pre-kindergarten, or kindergarten. An age-appropriate developmental screening and an age-appropriate social and emotional screening are required parts of each health examination.

Failure to comply with the above requirements by October 15 of the current school year will result in the student's exclusion from school until the required forms are presented to the school, subject to certain exceptions. A student will not be excluded from school due to their parent/guardian's failure to obtain a developmental or social and emotional screening.

New students who register after October 15 have 30 days following registration to comply with the health examination and immunization requirements if they are moving from outside of Illinois. If they are moving from within Illinois, the health examination and immunization requirements must be received before they start school.

Eye Examination

All students entering kindergarten or an Illinois school for the first time must present proof of an eye examination performed within one year by October 15 of the current school year. Failure to show proof by October 15 allows the school to hold the student's report card until the student presents (1) proof of a completed eye examination or (2) that an eye examination will occur within 60 days after October 15.

Dental Examination

All students entering kindergarten, second, and sixth grades must present proof by May 15 of the current school year of having been examined by a licensed dentist within the last 18 months. Failure to show proof allows the school to hold the child's report card until the student presents (1) proof of a completed dental examination or (2) that a dental examination will occur within 60 days after May 15.

Exemptions

A student will be exempted from the above requirements:

1. Religious grounds if the student's parent/guardian presents a completed Illinois Certificate of Religious Exemption form.
2. Health examination or immunization requirements on medical grounds if the examining physician provides written verification.
3. Eye examination requirement, if the student's parents/guardians show an undue burden or lack of access to a physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches who provides eye examinations, or a licensed optometrist.
4. Dental examination requirement, if the student's parent/guardian shows an undue burden or lack of access to a dentist.

Vision Screening

Vision screenings are conducted by certified screening personnel each fall for every student in kindergarten, second, and eighth grades and for all special education and new students, as mandated by the Illinois Department of Public Health. Students with glasses will not be screened, but their glasses will be checked. If a child is not in these categories, please contact the appropriate school nurse to have him or her screened.

Hearing Screening

Hearing screenings are conducted by certified screening personnel each fall for every kindergarten, first, second, and third grade student and for all special education and new students as mandated by the Illinois Department of Public Health. If a child is not in these categories, please contact the appropriate school nurse to have him or her screened.

Restrictions from any Physical Activities and/or Recess (Reference: Board Policy 7:260)

Any student who is to be excused from physical education class and/or recess, for more than one day, must have a note from his or her physician.

The note must state:

- Reason for the exclusion **and**
- Date when they can participate in PE class and/or recess.

A statement from the child's physician explaining any physical restrictions must be kept on file in the health office for any student requiring special consideration. Students can use the elevator per a physician's or designee's note.

Illness

Healthy children learn better. To prevent the spread of germs at school, we ask that you keep your child home from school if they are ill. With consultation from the school nurse, the school office may contact you to take your child home should they become ill while at school. Your child should be at home if they have any of the following symptoms:

- Fever of 100.0 degrees F or higher. Students must remain at home until the fever is below 100.0 degrees F without medications for 24 hours. CDC Recommendation
- Nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, or diarrhea (not related to an already established medical issue)
- Any rash that has not been diagnosed or open and draining sores
- Red, inflamed eyes with a discharge
- Red or swollen joints
- Diarrhea (three or more episodes in 24 hours)
- Has symptoms that prevent them from participating in school, such as:
    - Headaches, body aches, earaches
    - Severe sore throat (Could be strep throat even without fever. Other symptoms of strep throat in children are headache and stomach upset). Contact your healthcare provider to assess or diagnose strep throat.

If your child has recently been ill, please be aware of the following guidelines before having your child return to school, athletic or social activities:

- They should feel fit for at least 24 hours.
- Be free of fever for at least 24 hours (without medications for 24 hours).
- Be free of vomiting and/or diarrhea for at least 24 hours.
- If they have strep throat, they must be on the appropriate antibiotic for at least 24 hours.
- If they have conjunctivitis, they must be on the proper eye drops for at least 24 hours or cleared by a physician.
- A doctor should assess rash illnesses. If chickenpox is suspected, stay home for at least five days after the rash appears or until all blisters have scabbed over.

Parents/guardians can help curtail the possibilities of epidemics by daily inspection of their own children. Because of the contagious nature of many illnesses, please consider the child's physical complaints before leaving or sending a child to school. If a child displays any symptoms of illness, parents/guardians will be contacted and expected to arrange for the student to be picked up. Sick children cannot remain in school. Please note, a Doctor's note must be presented to the school if a child is absent for three or more consecutive days of school due to illness.

Communicable Diseases (Reference: Board Policy 7:280)

If a child has an illness that is considered contagious, please contact the school nurse. Examples include strep throat, lice, mononucleosis, skin rashes, infections, scarlet fever, chicken pox, impetigo, conjunctivitis (pink eye), hand foot, and mouth disease, COVID, flu, and Fifth's Disease (a form of measles). Children who come to school showing symptoms of any of these diseases will be sent home, and parents/guardians will be requested to seek medical attention for the child. Children may not return to school unless they have been fever-free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medication. Also, if the child is on an antibiotic, they may not return to school unless they have been on medication for a 24-hour period, as well as fever-free for 24 hours.

Students with Food Allergies (Reference: Board Policy 7:285)

State law requires our school district to annually inform parents/guardians of students with life-threatening allergies or life-threatening chronic illnesses of the applicable provisions of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and other applicable federal statutes, federal regulations, and state rules.

If your student has a life-threatening allergy or chronic illness, please notify the building administrator and school nurse.

Federal law protects students from discrimination due to a disability that substantially limits a major life activity. If your child has a qualifying disability, an individualized Section 504 Plan may be developed and implemented to provide the needed support(s) to access their education as effectively as students without disabilities.

Not all students with life-threatening allergies and chronic illnesses may be eligible under Section 504. Our school district may be able to appropriately meet a student's needs through other means. Individual Student Allergy Action Plans are on file in each Nurse's office.

Prevention of Anaphylaxis (Reference: Board Policy 7:285)

Fremont School District 79 has implemented a Life-Threatening Allergy Management/Anaphylaxis Prevention Program. This program focuses on allergies to food but is easily adapted to allergies such as bees/insects and latex. While it is not possible for the School or District to completely eliminate the risks of an anaphylactic emergency, the District maintains a comprehensive policy on anaphylaxis prevention, response, and management to reduce these risks and provide accommodations and proper treatment for anaphylactic reactions. Parent(s)/guardian(s) and students wanting more information may contact the building administration.

Medical Needs of Students

Parents/guardians must inform the school nurse of their child's medical condition or needs related to allergies, glasses, diabetes, asthma, or other health concerns. Students with severe or unique medical concerns may be placed on an Individual Health Plan after a school nurse has assessed the child's needs. Parents/guardians will be contacted to develop the Individual Health Plan together.

Student Medication

Medication will be administered only when a Medication and Diagnosis Authorization form is on file in the nurse's office. **Both the parent and a licensed prescriber must complete this form**. A licensed prescriber is a physician, dentist, podiatrist, optometrist, physician's assistant, or advanced practice nurse.

The administration of medication to children is the responsibility of the parent, not the school. On rare occasions, a child's medical condition may require that medication be administered at school. The school does not provide any medications for students. In such cases, the administration of medication to a student will be subject to the following guidelines:

- Documented permission from the parent must be on file in the Nurse's Office to allow the child to receive medication (including over-the-counter medication) during school hours. This permission must be renewed with each new prescription.
- A written order from a licensed prescriber detailing the medication, dosage, time interval to be given, and possible side effects must be on file in the nurse's office. Medication Authorization forms can be obtained on the District website linked here or by visiting the appropriate building nurse's office. A Medication Count for Controlled Substances form must also be completed by families for any controlled substances being administered at school.
- All medication must be in an original container and properly labeled by a pharmacy or a physician. The container must state clearly the student's name, the medication's name, the dosage, the time of day to administer, and the duration of administration. Such medication will be placed in a locked cabinet in the nurse's office. All medicines must be delivered to the Health Office by a parent. Only the parents/guardians should pick up any unused medication at the end of the school year.
- The parent must confer personally with the school nurse before administering any medication at school. Any change in medication must come directly from the doctor in written form.

- Please do not give a student any medication (including cough drops, nose drops, aspirin, etc.) to keep and take at school. This is for the safety of all students.
- When it is impossible for the school nurse to be present, authorized personnel will administer medication only after receiving instructions from the school nurse.

Administering Medicine to Students (Reference: Board Policy 7:270)

Students should not take medication during school hours or school-related activities unless it is necessary for a student's health and well-being. When a student's licensed health care provider and parent/guardian believe that it is essential for the student to take medication during school hours or school-related activities, the parent/guardian must request that the school dispense the drug to the child and otherwise follow the district's procedures on dispensing medication.

No school district employee shall administer to any student or supervise a student's self-administration of any prescription or nonprescription medication until a completed and signed Medication and Diagnosis Authorization Form is submitted by the student's parent/guardian. No student shall possess or consume any prescription or nonprescription medication on school grounds or at a school-related function other than as provided for in this policy and its implementing procedures.

A student may possess and self-administer an epinephrine injector (e.g., EpiPen®) and/or an asthma inhaler or medication prescribed for use at the student's discretion, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed a School Medication Authorization Form and an Action Plan has been developed. A student may self-administer medication required under a qualifying plan, provided the student's parent/guardian has completed and signed an SMA Form. A qualifying plan means (1) an asthma action plan, (2) an Individual Health Care Action Plan, (3) an ILL. Food Allergy Emergency Action Plan and Treatment Authorization Form, (4) a plan pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, or (5) a plan pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. A student may also possess the supplies and equipment necessary to monitor and treat diabetes in accordance with the student's diabetes care plan and or the supplies, equipment, and medication necessary to treat epilepsy in accordance with the student's seizure action plan.

The school district shall incur no liability, except for willful and wanton conduct, due to any injury arising from a student's self-administration of medication, including asthma medication or epinephrine injectors, or medication required under a qualifying plan. A student's parent/guardian must indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct arising out of a student's self-administration of an epinephrine injector, asthma medication, and/or medication required under a qualifying plan.

In accordance with the Compassionate Use of Medical Cannabis Program, qualifying students are allowed to utilize medical cannabis-infused products while at school and school events. Please contact the building principal for additional information. Discipline of a student for being administered a product by a designated caregiver pursuant to this procedure is prohibited. The District may not deny a student's attendance at a school solely because he or she requires the administration of the product during school hours.

The school may maintain the following undesignated prescription medications for emergency use: (1) Asthma medication, (2) Epinephrine injectors, (3) Opioid antagonists, and (4) Glucagon. No one, including, without limitation, parents/guardians of students, should rely on the school or district for the availability of undesignated medication. This procedure does not guarantee the availability of undesignated medications. Students and their parents/guardians should consult their physician regarding these medication(s).

If you do not want your child to receive undesignated prescription medication in emergencies, you must submit a written request to the school nurse. Please note that schools are not obligated to accept opt-out requests from parents regarding the administration of undesignated medications.

Nothing in this policy shall prohibit any school employee from providing emergency assistance to students, including administering medication.

Supporting Students Who are Parents, Expectant Parents, or Victims of Domestic or Sexual Violence (Reference: Board Policy 7:255)

Domestic and sexual violence affect a student's ability to learn. Students who are parents, expectant parents have unique needs. Providing support services that enable students who are parents, expectant parents, or victims of domestic or sexual violence (Article 26A Students) to succeed in school are important and are required by 105 ILCS 5/26A (Article 26A).

Article 26A Resource Person for Lincoln Early Learning Center
Katie O'Brien, Principal
200 West Maple Street Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 949-2720

Article 26A Resource Person for Fremont Elementary School
Beth Carmody, Principal
28908 North Fremont Center Road Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 837-0437

Article 26A Resource Person for Fremont Intermediate School
Stefan Ladenburger, Principal
28754 North Fremont Center Road Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 388-3700

Article 26A Resource Person for Fremont Middle School
Dr. Emily Loerakker, Principal
28871 North Fremont Center Road
Mundelein, IL 60060
(847) 566-9384

Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention (Reference: Board Policy 7:290)

Youth suicide impacts the safety of the school environment. It also affects the school community, diminishing the ability of surviving students to learn and the school's ability to educate. Suicide and depression awareness and prevention are important. Fremont SD79 students are encouraged to reach out to their school social worker or any school staff member if they need support for themselves or are seeking support for a peer or loved one.

The school district maintains student and parent/guardian resources on suicide and depression awareness and prevention on the school district website.

Suicide Prevention Hotlines (also printed on the back of student IDs):

- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Dial 988 or 1.800.273.8255 (https://988lifeline.org)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741
- Safe2Help Illinois HelpLine: Dial 844.472.3345 or Text 23443 (https://www.safe2helpil.com)
- ReferralGPS

Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, Grooming Behaviors and Boundary Violations (Reference: Board Policy 4:165. 7:250)

Child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, and boundary violations harm students, their parent/guardian, the District's environment, its school communities, and the community-at-large while diminishing a student's ability to learn.

Warning Signs of Child Sexual Abuse

Warning signs of child sexual abuse include:

Physical signs:

- Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) or other genital infections
- Signs of trauma to the genital area, such as unexplained bleeding, bruising, or blood on the sheets, underwear, or other clothing
- Unusual weight gain or loss

Behavioral signs:

- Excessive talk about or knowledge of sexual topics
- Keeping secrets
- Not talking as much as usual
- Not wanting to be left alone with certain people or being afraid to be away from primary caregivers
- Regressive behaviors or resuming behaviors that the child had grown out of, such as thumb sucking or bedwetting

- Overly compliant behavior
- Sexual behavior that is inappropriate for the child's age
- Spending an unusual amount of time alone
- Trying to avoid removing clothing to change or bathe

Emotional signs:

- Change in eating habits or unhealthy eating patterns, like loss of appetite or excessive eating
- Signs of depression, such as persistent sadness, lack of energy, changes in sleep or appetite, withdrawal from everyday activities, or feeling "down"
- Change in mood or personality, such as increased aggression
- Decrease in confidence or self-image
- Anxiety, excessive worry, or fearfulness
- Increase in unexplained health problems such as stomach aches and headaches
- Loss or decrease in interest in school, activities, and friends
- Nightmares or fear of being alone at night
- Self-harming behaviors or expressing thoughts of suicide or suicidal behavior
- Failing grades
- Drug or alcohol use

Warning Signs of Grooming Behaviors

School and District employees are expected to maintain professional and appropriate relationships with students based on students' ages, grade levels, and developmental levels.

Prohibited grooming is defined as (i) any act, including but not limited to any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication or physical activity, (ii) by an employee with direct contact with a student, (iii) that is directed toward or with a student to establish a romantic or sexual relationship with the student. Examples of grooming behaviors include, but are not limited to, the following behaviors:

- Sexual or romantic invitations to a student
- Dating or soliciting a date from a student
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialogue with a student
- Making sexually suggestive comments that are directed toward or with a student
- Self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Sexual, indecent, romantic, or erotic contact with a student
- Failing to respect boundaries or listen when a student says "no"
- Engaging in touching that a student or student's parents/guardians have indicated is unwanted
- Trying to be a student's friend rather than filling an adult role in the student's life
- Failing to maintain age-appropriate relationships with students
- Talking with students about personal problems or relationships
- Spending time alone with a student outside of their role in the student's life, or making up excuses to be alone with a student

- Expressing unusual interest in a student's sexual development, such as commenting on sexual characteristics or sexualizing normal behaviors
- Giving a student gifts without occasion or reason
- Spending a lot of time with a student
- Restricting a student's access to other adults

Warning Signs of Boundary Violations

School and District employees breach employee-student boundaries when they misuse their position of power over a student in a way that compromises the student's health, safety, or general welfare. Examples of boundary violations include:

- Favoring a certain student by inviting the student to "hang out" or by granting special privileges
- Engaging in peer-like behavior with a student
- Discussing personal issues with a student
- Meeting with a student off-campus without parent/guardian knowledge and/or permission
- Dating, requesting, or participating in a private meeting with a student (in person or virtually) outside of a professional role
- Transporting a student in a school or private vehicle without administrative authorization
- Giving gifts, money, or treats to an individual student
- Sending a student on personal errands
- Intervening in a serious student problem instead of referring the student to an appropriately trained professional
- Sexual or romantic invitations toward or from a student
- Taking and using photos/videos of students for non-educational purposes
- Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day in a one-on-one or non-group setting
- Inviting a student to an employee's home
- Adding a student on personal social networking sites as contacts when unrelated to a legitimate educational purpose
- Privately messaging a student
- Maintaining intense eye contact with a student
- Making comments about a student's physical attributes, including excessively flattering comments
- Engaging in sexualized or romantic dialogue
- Making sexually suggestive comments directed toward or with a student
- Disclosing confidential information
- Self-disclosure of a sexual, romantic, or erotic nature
- Full frontal hugs
- Invading personal space

If you believe you are a victim of child sexual abuse, grooming behaviors, or boundary violations, or you believe that your child is a victim, you should immediately contact the building administrators, a school counselor, or

another trusted adult employee of the school. According to the *Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act, 325 5/1*, all school personnel, including, but not limited to, teachers, social workers, nurses, psychologists, and administrators who have reasonable cause to suspect that a student may be an abused or neglected child shall immediately report such a case to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services. In such a situation, the staff member shall notify the administration that a report has been made.

Additional Resources:

- National Sexual Assault Hotline at 800.656.HOPE (4673)
- National Sexual Abuse Chatline at online.rainn.org
- Illinois Department of Children and Family Services Hotline at 1.800.25.ABUSE (2873)
- Illinois State Board of Education's Sexual Abuse Response and Prevention Resource Guide

School Communication and Safety (Reference: Board Policy 4:170)

Severe Weather

If dismissal time occurs during a severe weather alert, and local conditions indicate children may be unable to travel home safely, dismissal will be delayed until the danger passes.

Comprehensive Emergency Preparedness Handbook (Safety Crisis Plan)

FSD79 has implemented a comprehensive Safety Crisis Plan. The goals of the program are to:

- Protect the safety and welfare of students and staff members;
- Provide for a safe and coordinated response to emergency situations;
- Restore schools to normalcy as soon as possible after a crisis and
- Protect school property.

Each school in the district has a crisis command structure and staff members have designated roles in that structure. Each building has practiced the procedures associated with the plan. Go-kits filled with emergency supplies can be found in each classroom.

Emergency Phone Numbers

It is very important that we have current contact information on record in order to contact parents/guardians in an emergency. At times during the year, an emergency may arise whereby we need to locate you or an individual whom you trust. If for any reason these phone numbers change during the year, please notify the school office immediately.

Emergency School Closing Information

In the event of extreme weather conditions or any other reason that would require school to be closed and/or implement an e-learning day, FSD79 will officially post that information on the district website, send notifications by phone and email through the district's automated notification system, and major news media outlets. You may also check online at www.emergencyclosingcenter.com.

Safety Drill Procedures (Reference: Board Policy 4:170)

Safety drills will occur at times established by the school board. Students are required to comply with the directives of school officials during emergency drills. There will be a minimum of three (3) evacuation drills, a

minimum of one (1) severe weather (shelter-in-place) drill, a minimum of one (1) law enforcement lockdown drill, and a minimum of one (1) bus evacuation drill each school year. There may be other drills at the direction of the administration. The law enforcement lockdown drill will be announced in advance, and a student's parent/guardian may choose to exclude their child from participating in this drill. A warning to students will not precede all other drills.

Threat Assessment Process (Reference: Board Policy 4:190)

Illinois Law—HB1561, passed in August 2019—requires all school boards and districts to develop threat assessment protocols and create threat assessment teams. The goal is to investigate the nature of a threat and follow predetermined steps in the event of a threat. Disciplinary action may result after the investigation and is determined by the administration. Each school in Fremont School District 79 has a threat assessment team in place.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

Fremont School District 79 strives to promote and maintain a safe and secure atmosphere so students learn and mature. A high level of self-discipline and responsibility is expected from each student in order to benefit most from the educational program.

Positive Behavioral Supports PAWS Program

Fremont School District 79 utilizes a Positive Behavioral Supports (PBS) system for a district-wide behavior program. The PBS program centers on showing PAWS-itive behavior.

PAWS stands for:

- **P**ractice Safety
- **A**ct Responsibly
- **W**ork for Success
- **S**how Respect

Fremont School District 79 focuses on promoting positive and inclusive behavior in all school settings. Students are taught specific lessons and procedures to help promote a positive behavior environment. The PAWS program incorporates a proactive, instructional approach to promote positive behavior.

Classroom Expectations

Compliance with School Expectations is always expected. At the beginning of each year, individual teachers will establish classroom rules and procedures.

Cafeteria Expectations

Compliance with School Expectations is always required. Additional guidelines are necessary to create the proper climate, allowing students to sit with their friends, talk, and relax. Students are expected to follow all expectations below:

- After students get their lunch, they must remain seated at their assigned tables.
- Students must walk at all times. No running, skipping, hopping, etc.
- Students must clean up after themselves before leaving their tables.
- Students must maintain their voices at an appropriate level--no screaming, yelling, etc.
- Students must ask for permission to go to the restroom.
- Students must have their ID to purchase lunch.

Playground Expectations

Compliance with School Expectations is always expected. The following additional guidelines are necessary to ensure the safety of all students on the playground:

- Use the playground equipment properly.
- Fighting and tackling sports will not be tolerated.
- Obey the boundary rules.
- Hard balls and bats are not permitted.
- Wood chips, stones, snow, or similar objects may not be thrown.

- Play fighting is not allowed.
- Line up promptly when the lunch supervisor blows the whistle.

Bus Expectations

- Practice Safety
  - Keep hands and feet to self
  - Keep the aisle clear
  - Stay in assigned seat
  - Wear a seatbelt
  - Food and drink free zone
- Act Responsibly
  - Keep bus clean
  - Find seat promptly
  - Use cell phones appropriately
- Works for Success
  - Go straight to bus/class
- Show Respect
  - Listen to driver/monitor
  - Use inside voice
  - Use appropriate language
  - Have empathy for others

Students who violate these expectations will be reported to a building administrator for appropriate disciplinary action.

To minimize classroom disruptions and maintain a focused learning environment, outside food and beverages—including commercial delivery services like DoorDash or UberEats—are not permitted in classrooms. Water is the only beverage allowed in instructional spaces.

Student Appearance Expectations (Reference: Board Policy 7:160)
Students are expected to wear clothing in a neat, clean, and well fitting manner while on school property and/or in attendance at school-sponsored activities. Students are to use discretion in their dress and are not permitted to wear apparel that causes a substantial disruption in the school environment.

- Student dress (including accessories) may not advertise, promote, or picture alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs, drug paraphernalia, violent behavior, or other inappropriate images or display lewd, vulgar, obscene, or offensive language or symbols, including gang symbols.
- Hats, hoods, coats, bandannas, sweat bands, and sunglasses may not be worn in the building during the school day. A student may be exempt based on religious, cultural, or medical reasons.
- Clothing that is showing undergarments may not be worn at school.
- The length of shorts or skirts must be appropriate for the school environment.
- Appropriate footwear must be worn at all times.

If there is any doubt about dress and appearance, the building administration will make the final decision.

Students whose dress causes a substantial disruption of the orderly process of school functions or endangers the health or safety of the student, other students, staff, or others may be subject to discipline.

Restorative Practice

Restorative Practices focus on building strong relationships, solving problems, and repairing harm with empathy and respect. They focus mainly on prevention by fostering trust and promoting positive behavior. Students are expected to follow shared expectations and values, creating an inclusive, respectful environment. These practices are used in classroom meetings, team-building activities, and discipline to create a supportive school community.

Lockers

Students have their own lockers/cubbies in which to store their coats, shoes, and backpacks. 1st through 5th grade lockers do not have locks.

- All lockers should be kept closed when not in use.
- Backpacks must fit in the child's locker/cubbies. Backpacks on wheels are not allowed due to safety concerns.
- Students are discouraged from bringing and keeping valuables, including electronic items, in their lockers. Responsibility of the item remains with the student. The school is not responsible for any items that are lost or stolen.
- Students are prohibited from accessing other students' lockers.

School Property and Personal Effects

Lockers are school property and may be searched by school officials with or without student permission. The school will assume no responsibility for lost or stolen property. Students are discouraged from bringing items of significant value to school. Students who mark, deface, or damage books, furniture, buildings, or other property belonging to the school are required to reimburse the school for damages.

Vandalism (Reference: Board Policy: 7:170, 7:190)

Payment and compensation for damage to school property or to the property of school personnel, attributed to the actions of a district student, shall be made by the student or parent/guardian within a reasonable period after demand by a school official.

Portable Electronic Equipment (Reference: Board Policy 7:190)

District 79 is prioritizing ***Away for the Day***. All student phones and smart watches must be **off** and **away** for the entire school day. A phone or other electronic device that is otherwise not banned by Board Policy 7:190 cannot be used in any manner that disrupts the educational environment, including using the device to cheat, signal, or communicate with others, or otherwise violate student conduct rules. Unless otherwise banned by Board Policy 7:190, all electronic devices must be kept off and out of sight during the regular school day unless a medical need warrants use or the use of the device is provided on a student's IEP/504.

An electronic device includes, but is not limited to, the following: cell phone, video recording device, smart watch, iPod, or other electronic device. The possession and use of cellphones and other electronic devices are subject to the following rules:

- All personal electronic devices must be kept powered-off or silenced during the regular school day unless a supervising teacher grants permission for them to be used, in case of an emergency, or its use is included in a student's IEP.
- Chromebooks must be carried exclusively in their school-issued bags or sleeves; personal bags or cases are not permitted for school devices. Additionally, all personal electronic devices must be stored completely out of sight. These personal devices must be kept inside the school-issued Chromebook bag or sleeve and are not permitted to be carried in pockets or waistbands.
- Electronic devices are not allowed in bathrooms or locker rooms at any time.
- Electronic devices may not be used in any manner that disrupts the learning environment or violates the rights of others. Using a device to take photographs, video or audio recordings, text messages, cheat, signal others or otherwise violate student conduct is prohibited. Also see guidelines under the Cyberbullying section.
- During extra-curricular activities or **on the school bus**, electronic devices may not be used in any manner that disrupts the environment or violates the rights of others. Cell phone cameras are not allowed to be used.
- The school is not responsible for the loss or theft of any electronic device brought to school. Personal electronic devices are discouraged at school.
- Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating, sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular phone.
- Earbuds and headphones are prohibited unless needed as part of the curriculum and instruction.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES AS IT RELATES TO DEVICES.

Discipline Procedures for Use of Personal Electronic Devices

	Fremont Elementary School	Fremont Intermediate School	Fremont Middle School
First Occurrence	• An individual student conference will be held between the student and the supervising adult. • Student relinquishes portable electronic equipment to teacher or staff member. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee to retrieve portable electronic equipment. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.	• An individual student conference will be held between the student and the supervising adult. • Student relinquishes portable electronic equipment to classroom teacher for the remainder of the day. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.	• Electronic device will be taken away and given to the principal or designee. • The student may pick it up in the office at the end of the day. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.
Second Occurance	• An individual student conference will be held between the student and the supervising adult. • Student relinquishes portable electronic equipment to teacher or staff member. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee to retrieve portable electronic equipment. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.	• An individual student conference will be held between the student and the supervising adult. • Student relinquishes portable electronic equipment to teacher or staff member. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee to retrieve portable electronic equipment. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.	• Electronic device will be taken away and given to the principal or designee. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee to retrieve portable electronic equipment. • A minor detention will be issued. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.
Third Occurrence	• An individual student conference will be held between the student and the supervising adult. • Student relinquishes portable electronic equipment to teacher or staff member. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee to retrieve portable electronic equipment. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.	• A major detention will be issued. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee to retrieve portable electronic equipment. • Student relinquishes portable electronic equipment to teacher or staff member. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply.	• Electronic device will be taken away and given to the principal or designee. • Parent is contacted by the principal or designee to retrieve portable electronic equipment. • A major detention will be issued. • An occurrence of the AUP may also apply. • After three occurrences, the electronic device is stored in the main office daily. Must be dropped off at the start of the day and picked up at the end of the day.

Discrimination and Harassment on the Basis of Race, Color, and National Origin

(Reference: Board Policy 2:270)

Board Policy 2:270 is about treating everyone with respect and kindness, no matter their race, color, or origin. This is important because when people are treated unfairly because of these things, it makes it hard for them to learn or work happily.

- Imagine if someone got in trouble at school just because of their skin color or where they're from. That wouldn't be fair, right? So, this rule says that shouldn't happen. It also says that making fun of someone's race or saying mean things about where they're from is never okay.
- If someone sees or experiences this kind of unfair treatment, they should tell a teacher or another trusted adult. If someone doesn't follow this rule and treats others unfairly, they might get in trouble.
- But it's not just about being mean with words. It's also about not using hurtful symbols or doing anything that makes others feel bad because of their race or where they're from.
- And here's a big rule: if someone tells you about unfair treatment, they shouldn't get in trouble for telling. That's called retaliation, and it's also against the rules.
- Board Policy 2:270 helps everyone feel safe and happy at school and is a really important part of ensuring everyone gets along nicely. Remember, treating others kindly is always the best choice.

Board Policy Summary - Spanish
Board Policy Summary - Russian
Board Policy Summary - Hindi
Board Policy Summary - Polish

Harassment of Students (Reference: Board Policy 7:20, 7:190, 2:265)

No one in the school (students, teachers, or staff) is allowed to harass, bully, or intimidate anyone else. This includes making fun of or being mean to someone because of their race, color, where they come from, military status, gender, how they look, religion, disability, homelessness, or any other reason. The school must provide a safe environment without any form of sexual harassment. This means no inappropriate touching, comments, or gestures.

Examples of, but not limited to, Inappropriate Behavior:

- Calling people names or using hurtful words
- Stalking or following someone around in a scary way
- Being violent or threatening violence
- Damaging someone's property
- Wearing or showing items that suggest hate or prejudice

Reporting: If a student is being harassed or bullied, they should tell someone right away. They can talk to:

- A trusted school employee
- The building level Principal or Assistant Principal
- Complaint Managers, Dr. Brian Bullis (bbullis@fsd79.org) and Krista Winkelman (kwinkelman@fsd79.org)

- The Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Allison Stempien (astempien@fsd79.org)

The school will keep reports as confidential as possible and will investigate all claims. If harassment is found, the school will take action against the offender.

Anyone found guilty of harassment could face serious consequences, including being suspended or expelled from school.

No one is allowed to get back at someone for reporting harassment. If this happens, it should be reported immediately.

This policy ensures that all students feel safe and respected at school.

Bullying (Reference: Board Policy 7:180, 7:20)
Bullying, intimidation, and harassment diminish a student's ability to learn and a school's ability to educate. Fremont School District 79 is committed to maintaining a safe, inclusive, and respectful learning environment for all students.

Definition of Bullying
Bullying includes **cyberbullying** and is defined as any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made orally, in writing, electronically, or through digital means, that is directed toward a student and has the effect of:

- Placing a student in reasonable fear of harm to their person or property;
- Causing a substantially detrimental effect on a student's physical or mental health;
- Substantially interfering with a student's academic performance; or
- Substantially interfering with a student's ability to participate in or benefit from school services, activities, or privileges.

Bullying may take many forms, including but not limited to:

- **Physical:** pushing, kicking, hitting, spitting, biting, threats of violence
- **Verbal:** name-calling, sarcasm, spreading rumors, persistent teasing, threats
- **Emotional/Social:** humiliation, ridicule, exclusion from groups or activities
- **Racial or Identity-Based:** slurs, taunts, graffiti, gestures
- **Sexual:** unwanted physical contact or inappropriate comments
- **Cyberbullying:** use of technology (email, text messages, social media, websites, digital images, impersonation, AI-generated or manipulated images, etc.) to threaten, harass, embarrass, or target another student

Where Bullying Is Prohibited
Bullying based on actual or perceived characteristics—including race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and other protected characteristics—is prohibited:

- During any school-sponsored program or activity

- On school property, school buses, and at bus stops
- At school-sponsored or school-sanctioned events
- Through school computers or networks
- Through off-campus electronic communication if it causes a substantial disruption to the educational environment

Reporting Bullying
Any student who believes they have been bullied—or who witnesses bullying—should report it immediately to:

- A teacher or faculty member
- A building administrator
- The District's Nondiscrimination Coordinator, Allison Stempien (astempien@fsd79.org)
- The FSD79 Student Tip Line

Reports may be made verbally or in writing. Anonymous reports are accepted.

Response and Consequences
District 79 has a comprehensive Bullying Prevention and Response Process that aligns with State law (105 ILCS 5/27-23.7).

- Parents/guardians of students involved will be notified.
- Reports are investigated promptly.
- Students who engage in bullying may face disciplinary action, up to and including suspension or expulsion.
- Students may also be referred to school social work services or other supportive interventions.

Retaliation against anyone who reports bullying is strictly prohibited.

Additional Resources
https://www.stopbullying.gov/
https://pacerkidsagainstbullying.org/- /home
https://www.niot.org/
https://www.edutopia.org/blog/film-festival-bullying-prevention
https://www.edutopia.org/blog/bullying-preventi on-tips-teachers-parents-anne-obrien

Teen Dating Violence (Reference: Board Policy 7:185)

Teen dating violence is unacceptable and prohibited, as stated in Board Policy 7:185. Students are encouraged to report claims or incidents of sexual harassment, teen dating violence, or any other prohibited conduct to the Nondiscrimination Coordinator, building administration, or a Complaint manager. A student may choose to report to a person of the student's same sex. Complaints will be kept confidential to the greatest extent possible, given the need to investigate. Students who make good faith complaints will not be disciplined.

Student Behavior (Reference: Board Policy 7:190)

When and Where Conduct Rules Apply

A student is subject to disciplinary action for engaging in *prohibited student conduct*, as described in the section with that name below, whenever the student's conduct is reasonably related to school or school activities, including, but not limited to:

- On, or within sight of, school grounds before, during, or after school hours or at any time;
- Off school grounds at a school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school;
- Traveling to or from school or a school activity, function, or event;
- During periods of remote learning,
- If the conduct interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of students, staff, or school property.

Student Conduct

As students are gaining social-emotional skills and learning the norms of the school system, from time to time, they may have moments in which they do not fully meet the expectations of the school. Typically, these discipline situations represent minor deviations from the norms, which require redirection and re-teaching of skills and are managed within the classroom environment. However, occasionally, the student's behavior or actions fall into a category of major discipline situations and will require the involvement of building administration in order to determine the appropriate response that will help the student address behaviors, strengthen social-emotional skills, repair the harm, and restore relationships with the school community.

The building administration is authorized to discipline students for gross disobedience or misconduct, including, but not limited to:

- Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling tobacco materials, vaping devices, or e-cigarettes.
- Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling alcoholic beverages.
    - Students who are under the influence of an alcoholic beverage are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had alcohol in their possession.
- Using, possessing, distributing, purchasing, or selling:
    - Any illegal drug, controlled substance, or cannabis (including marijuana and hashish)
    - Any anabolic steroid, unless being administered in accordance with a physician or licensed practitioner's prescription.
    - Any performance-enhancing substance on the Illinois High School Association's most current banned substance list, unless administered in accordance with a physician or licensed practitioner's prescription.
    - Any prescription drug, when not prescribed for the student by a physician or licensed practitioner, or when used in a manner inconsistent with the prescription or prescribing physician or licensed practitioner's instructions.
    - Any inhalant, regardless of whether it contains an illegal drug or controlled substance: (a) that a student believes is, or represents to be capable of causing intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system; or (b) about which the student engaged in

behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student intended the inhalant to cause intoxication, hallucination, excitement, or dulling of the brain or nervous system. The prohibition in this section does not apply to a student's use of asthma or other legally prescribed inhalant medications.

- "Look-alike" or counterfeit drugs, including a substance not containing an illegal drug or controlled substance, but one: (a) that a student believes to be, or represents to be, an illegal drug or controlled substance; or (b) about which a student engaged in behavior that would lead a reasonable person to believe that the student expressly or impliedly represented to be an illegal drug or controlled substance.
- Drug paraphernalia, including devices that are or can be used to: (a) ingest, inhale, or inject cannabis or controlled substances into the body; or (b) grow, process, store, or conceal cannabis or controlled substances.

Students who are under the influence of any prohibited substance are not permitted to attend school or school functions and are treated as though they had the prohibited substance, as applicable, in their possession.

- Using, possessing, controlling, or transferring a "weapon," as that term is defined in the Weapons section of this policy, or violating the Weapons section of this policy.
- Using or possessing any electronic device in any manner that disrupts the educational environment or violates the rights of others, including using the device to take photographs in locker rooms or bathrooms, cheat, or otherwise violate student conduct rules.
- Unless otherwise banned under this policy or by the building principal, all electronic devices must be kept off and out of sight during the regular school day unless: (a) the supervising teacher grants permission; (b) use of the device is provided in a student's IEP or 504; or (c) it is needed in an emergency that threatens the safety of students, staff, or other individuals.
- Prohibited conduct specifically includes, without limitation, creating and sending, sharing, viewing, receiving, or possessing an indecent visual depiction of oneself or another person through the use of a computer, electronic communication device, or cellular telephone, commonly known as "sexting."
- Using or possessing a laser pointer unless under a staff member's direct supervision and in the context of instruction.
- Disobeying rules of conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. Examples of disobeying staff directives include refusing a district staff member's request to stop, present school identification, or submit to a search.
- Engaging in academic dishonesty, including cheating, intentionally plagiarizing, using a writing service and/or generative artificial intelligence technology in place of original work unless specifically authorized by staff, wrongfully giving or receiving help during an academic examination, and wrongfully obtaining test copies or scores.
- Engaging in any kind of bullying or aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to another or any urging other students to engage in such conduct. Prohibited conduct includes any use of violence, force, noise, coercion, threats, intimidation, fear, harassment, bullying, hazing, or other comparable conduct.
- Causing or attempting to cause damage to, or stealing or attempting to steal, school property or another person's personal property.

- Being absent without a recognized excuse; State law and Fremont School District 79 Board of Education policy regarding truancy control will be used with chronic and habitual truants.
- Being involved with any public school fraternity, sorority, or secret sorority, by: (a) being a member; (b) promising to join; (c) pledging to become a member, or (d) soliciting any other person to join, promise to join, or be pledged to become a member.
- Being involved in gangs or gang-related activities, including displaying gang symbols or paraphernalia.
- Violating any criminal law, such as assault and battery, arson, theft, gambling, eavesdropping, and hazing.
- Engaging in any activity, on or off campus, that interferes with, disrupts, or adversely affects the school environment, school operations, or an educational function, including, but not limited to, conduct that may reasonably be considered to: (a) be a threat or an attempted intimidation of a staff member; or (b) endanger the health or safety of student, staff, or school property.

For purposes of this policy, the term "possession" includes having control, custody, or care, currently or in the past, of an object or substance including situations where the item is: (a) on the student's person; (b) contained in another item belonging to, or under the control of, the student, such as in the student's clothing, backpack, or automobile; (c) in a school's student locker, desk, or other school property; or (d) at any location on school property or at a school sponsored event. Efforts, including the use of early intervention and progressive discipline, shall be made to deter students, while at school or a school related event, from engaging in aggressive behavior that may reasonably produce physical or physiological harm to someone else.

The superintendent or designee shall ensure that the parent/guardian of a student who engages in aggressive behavior is notified of the incident. The failure to provide such notification does not limit the school board's authority to impose discipline, including suspension or expulsion, for such behavior.

No disciplinary action shall be taken against any student that is based totally or in part on the refusal of the student's parent/guardian to administer or consent to the administration of psychotropic or psychostimulant medication to the student.

Weapons

A student who is determined to have brought one of the following objects to school, any school-sponsored activity or event, or any activity or event that bears a reasonable relationship to school shall be expelled for a period of at least one calendar year but not more than two calendar years: (1) A firearm, meaning any gun, rifle, shotgun, a weapon as defined by Section 921 of *Title 18, United States Code*, firearm as defined in Section 1.1 of the *Firearm Owners Identification Act*, or firearm as defined in Section 24-1 of the *Criminal Code*; (2) A knife,, brass knuckles, or other knuckle weapon regardless of its composition, a billy club, or any other object if used or attempted to be used to cause bodily harm, including look-alikes of any firearm as defined above.

A school staff member shall immediately notify the office of the Building Principal in the event that he or she: (1) observes any person in possession of a firearm on school grounds, becomes aware of any person in possession of a firearm on school grounds, or becomes aware of any threat of gun violence on school grounds; however, such action may be delayed if immediate notice would endanger students under his or her supervision, (2) observes or has reason to suspect that any person on school grounds is or was involved in a

drug-related incident, or (3) observes a battery committed against any staff member or is subject to a battery. School grounds includes modes of transportation to school activities and any public way within 1000 feet of the school, as well as school property itself.

Upon receiving a report of (1), above, the Building Principal or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. If the report of (1), above, pertains to a threat of firearm violence made by a student, the Building Principal or designee shall attempt to notify the student's parent/guardian as soon as possible and shall further attempt to contact the parent/guardian to ensure that the student does not have access to a firearm.

In addition, upon receiving a report on any of the above (1)-(3), the Building Principal or designee shall notify the Superintendent or designee and any involved student's parent/guardian.

Upon receiving a report on any of the above (1)-(3), the Superintendent or designee shall immediately notify local law enforcement. The Superintendent or designee shall also report these incidents to ISBE through its web-based School Incident Reporting System as they occur during the year and no later than July 31 for the preceding school year.

Gang and Gang-Related Activities

The visibility of gangs and gang-related activities in the school setting could cause a substantial disruption of and/or material interference with school and school activities. Gangs, gang-related activities, or wearing of any garment or insignia reflecting gang affiliation are prohibited on school property or at school related activities. No student may intimidate or harass another student for the purpose of gang recruitment or gang retaliation. It is recognized that gangs or gang-related activity exists in Lake County.

"Gang," as used in this policy, shall mean two or more individuals who associate with each other primarily for criminal and/or other activities prohibited by law and/or by Fremont School District 79 rules and regulations. No student on or about school property or at any school activity shall do the following:

1. Wear, possess, use, distribute, display, or sell clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge, symbol, sign, or other item which is an indication of membership or affiliation with any gang;
2. Communicate, either verbally or nonverbally (gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc.), membership in or affiliation with a gang;
3. Commit any act which furthers gang activity, including but not limited to the following:
    - Soliciting others for membership in any gangs;
    - Requesting any person to pay protection or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person;
    - Inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person;
    - Committing any other illegal act or other violation of school district policies.

Students violating numbers one or two above will be subject to the following:

- Conference with school administration
- Parent contact
- Subsequent related violations of this policy will subject the student to suspension or expulsion.

A student violating number three above shall be subject to suspension or expulsion and referral to the proper law enforcement agency.

Disciplinary Measures (Reference: Board Policy 7:190)
Misbehavior is viewed as a learning experience for which consequences are designed to foster proper student behavior. Consequences are individually designed in collaboration with the classroom teacher and administrator, and then communicated to the parent.

Disciplinary measures may include:

- Notifying parents/guardians.
- Disciplinary conference.
- Withholding of privileges.
- Temporary removal from the classroom.
- Issuance of major or minor detentions.
- Seizure of contraband.
- Suspension from school and all school activities for up to 10 days, provided that appropriate procedures are followed. A suspended student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
- Suspension of bus riding privileges, provided that appropriate procedures are followed.
- Expulsion from school and all school-sponsored activities and events for a definite time period not to exceed two calendar years, provided that the appropriate procedures are followed. An expelled student is prohibited from being on school grounds.
- Notifying juvenile authorities or other law enforcement whenever the conduct involves illegal drugs (controlled substances), "look-alikes," alcohol, or weapons.
- In-school suspension for a period not to exceed five school days. The building principal or designee shall ensure that the student is properly supervised.
- After-school study or Saturday study provided the student's parent/guardian has been notified. If transportation arrangements cannot be agreed upon, an alternative disciplinary measure must be used. The student must be supervised by the detaining teacher or the building principal or designee.
- Community service with local public and non-profit agencies that enhances community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental, or public safety needs. The district will not provide transportation. School administration shall use this option only as an alternative to another disciplinary measure, giving the student and/or parent/guardian the choice.

A student who is subject to suspension or expulsion may be eligible for transfer to an alternative school program.

Student Rights
When determining a disciplinary decision for inappropriate behavior, the student has the right to:

- Know why they are being disciplined. It is the responsibility of the teacher or administrator to make this clear;
- Speak in their own defense

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES AS IT RELATES TO BEHAVIOR.

FSD79 Behavior Matrix

Tier 1 Occurrences Examples are listed, but not limited to:	Tier 2 Occurrences Examples are listed, but not limited to:	Tier 3 Occurrences Examples are listed, but not limited to:
Not following expectations and/or procedures	Repeated Tier 1 occurrences	Repeated Tier 2 occurrences
Lunch/recess/bathroom misbehavior	Inappropriate language/gestures	Verbal or written threats
Disrupting learning	Pushing/shoving/kicking	Exposure of private body parts/inappropriate touching
Rough play/joking around	Defiance/insubordination	Excessive physical aggression and/or fighting
Teasing and/or name-calling	Academic dishonesty	Intentional property damage
Failure to stay on task	Disagreements between students	Harassment and use of slurs
Tardy to class	Disrespect/disregard for authority	Profanity directed at another person
Refusal to complete work	Stealing - Small item	Violation of safety rules (calling 911, fire alarm)
Interrupting the teacher	Mild property damage	Walking out of classroom/building/away from staff member
Not keeping hands/feet to self	Misuse of technology	Bullying
Mild arguments and disagreements		Weapons, Drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vape devices
Lying		Egregious Acceptable Use Policy violation (Gaggle, Securly)
Tier 1 Possible Staff Responses	**Tier 2 Possible Staff Responses**	**Tier 3 Possible Building Administration Responses**
Review and reteach expectations	Withdrawal of classroom and/or team privilege	Restorative Circle/Conference
Nonverbal/verbal redirection	Behavior contract with the teacher	Time in Office
Change in seating	Collaboration with social work/school counselor	Reflection Assignment
Planned ignoring	Teacher/student conference	Behavior Contract
Proximity control - teacher moves in closer proximity to student	Restorative Circle with facilitating staff member	Collaboration with social work/school counselor
Reinforcing desired behavior	Minor/Major Detention (IS & MS only)	Minor/Major Detention (IS & MS only)
Redirecting off-task behavior	Office Discipline Referral	Office Discipline Referral
Provide choices	Teacher/student conference	Parent contact via phone or parent meeting
Teacher/student conference	Parent contact via phone	In School Suspension
Parent contact via email or phone call	If repeated, refer to problem-solving team	Out of School Suspension and/or Bus Suspension

Response to Discipline Situations

Detentions

A system of minor and major detentions may be used for infractions. Minor detentions will be served during the student's lunch period. Major detentions will be served before school at the Intermediate School and after school at the Middle School. The Elementary School detentions will be served during the student's lunch period. Tardiness or failure to attend a detention will result in further disciplinary actions. Detentions are not limited to the examples listed.

Minor Detention

Minor detention will be served during the student's lunch period. Examples of minor detention are listed, but not limited to:

- Disruption of the educational process
- Repeated failure to follow teacher directions
- Misuse of technology in school or on the bus
- Failure to return signed documents as directed by staff
- Any other infraction as deemed appropriate by staff

Major Detention

The following infractions may result in a major detention. Examples of major detentions are listed, but not limited to:

- Using inappropriate physical contact
- Using profanity and/or inappropriate gestures directed toward another person
- Failing to attend class without a valid excuse
- Plagiarism, cheating on tests or other classwork
- Forging or misusing any document or note
- Multiple minor detentions
- Failure to attend minor/major detention

Students serving a major detention may forfeit the privilege of attending any after-school activities (at the building administration's discretion) on the day the major detention is served. Final consequences will be determined based upon the severity of the infraction.

Suspensions (Reference: Board Policy 7:200)

In-School Suspension

An in-school suspension does not have to be preceded by earlier disciplinary alternatives. An in-school suspension consists of the student spending a school day with the principal or his or her designee. The student is responsible for all classroom assignments.

A student assigned to an in-school suspension will receive a loss of all school privileges, including extracurricular activities during those days. At the discretion of the administration, students may be permanently removed from future class trips and any or all extracurricular activities, clubs, etc., of which they are a member.

A phone or in-person conference will be held with the parent to discuss the infraction and outline prevention strategies. Report of the conference will be indicated on the In-School Suspension form. A copy of the form will be given to the parents/guardians.

An in-school suspension may be issued for, but not limited to, the following:

- Disobeying rules of conduct or directives from staff members or school officials. An example of disobeying staff directives is refusing a district staff member's request.
- Being involved in fighting. (Please note: It does not matter who "started" the fight.)
- Demonstrating severe verbal harassment, provocation, or threatening behavior directed toward any member of the Fremont School community
- Using vulgar, abusive, provoking, mean spirited and/or intimidating language towards another member of the Fremont school community
- Exhibiting behavior deemed detrimental to the health and welfare of any member of the school community
- Willful or intentional damage or destruction of school property
- Bullying, as defined as any form of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to someone else and/or the urging of other students to engage in such conduct (i.e., bullying threats, intimidation, inappropriate noises, or coercion)
- Bullying is strictly prohibited (See Bullying section of Student Discipline for further information)

Out-of-School Suspension

An out-of-school suspension does not have to be preceded by any other disciplinary action. During an out-of-school suspension, the student is not permitted on or near school grounds. This includes extracurricular activities during the time of suspension. Students will also be permanently removed from all or any extracurricular activities, clubs, teams, etc. of which they are a member. A student assigned to an out-of-school suspension will not be allowed to attend the next school dance. Students will not be allowed to go on any overnight field trips.

An out-of-school suspension may be issued for, but not limited to, the following:

- Use and possession of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco (including e-cigarettes and vaping devices). See the Prohibited Student Conduct section for further information.
- Possession of dangerous materials (any item that can cause bodily harm to others). See Weapons section under Prohibited Student Conduct for further information.
- Theft or possession of stolen property.
- Vandalism of school property or property of individuals at school.
- Physical and/or verbal attacks toward any member of the school community.
- Sexual harassment, including inappropriate physical contact.
- Gangs and gang related activities are prohibited on school property and/or at school-affiliated events and shall include, but not be limited to the following:
    - Soliciting or intimidating individuals for membership.
    - Requesting payment for protection or otherwise threatening any person.
    - Inciting others to act with physical violence upon any other person.

- Committing any other illegal act or violation of district policy. If deemed appropriate, law enforcement will be notified.
- Bullying, as defined as any form of aggressive behavior that does physical or psychological harm to someone else and/or the urging of other students to engage in such conduct (i.e., bullying threats, intimidation, inappropriate noises, or coercion).

Expulsion (Reference: Board Policy 7:210)
A recommendation for expulsion up to a maximum allotted by the *Illinois School Code*. The student will be afforded the opportunity for a hearing before an appointed hearing officer.

A conference will be held with the parent, the student, and an administrator to discuss the incident. A notice will be mailed to the parents/guardians informing them as to the time and date for their appearance before the appointed hearing officer. An expulsion, may be issued for, but not limited to, the following reasons:

- Continued serious misbehavior.
- Physical attacks on a person or any member of the district staff.
- Threatening an act of firearm violence.
- Committing an act of serious gross disobedience or misconduct, which would endanger the person, property, or academic environment of the school. In addition to school consequences, if an act of gross misconduct or threat of violence is committed, the following steps will be taken:
    - The Lake County Sheriff's Department will be notified, and relevant information will be shared with them. They will follow up with their own investigation, which typically includes a police interview with the student and/or parents or guardians, referral to a juvenile intake officer, and possible referral to the State's Attorney for prosecution through the Juvenile Court System. The Court can and may impose its own consequences for the action, separate from those issued by the district.

School Violence Tip-Line
The Illinois State Police will administer the School Violence Tip-Line that will provide a means for students to report threats of violence and weapon violations on school grounds. The statewide toll-free number, 1-800-477-0024, will be physically answered at the ISP Communication Center in Springfield. State police employees who will forward the information to the local sheriff or police department, and the appropriate ISP district will answer calls. The local law enforcement agency will be responsible for notifying the affected school in the community from which the call originates. In the event that the caller is in crisis, the ISP will transfer the call to the designated mental health worker. The School Violence Tip-Line should not be used for emergency situations. In an emergency situation, call your local police/fire agency (911 if available).

Search And Seizure (Reference: Board Policy 7:140)
In order to maintain order and security in the schools, school authorities are authorized to conduct searches of school property and equipment, as well as of students and their personal effects. "School authorities" includes school liaison police officers.

School Property and Equipment, as well as Personal Effects Left There by Students

School authorities may inspect and search school property and equipment owned or controlled by the school (such as lockers, desks, and parking lots) as well as personal effects left there by a student, without notice to or the consent of the student. Students have no reasonable expectation of privacy in these places or areas or in their personal effects left there. The superintendent may request the assistance of law enforcement officials to conduct inspections and searches of lockers, desks, and parking lots, and other school property and equipment for illegal drugs, weapons, or other illegal or dangerous substances or materials, including searches conducted through the use of specially trained dogs.

Search of Students

School authorities may search a student and/or the student's personal effects in the student's possession (such as purses, wallets, knapsacks, backpacks, lunch boxes, etc.) when there is a reasonable ground for suspecting that the search will produce evidence the particular student has violated or is violating either the law or the district's student conduct rules. The search itself must be conducted in a manner that is reasonably related to its objective and not excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction. When feasible, the search should be conducted as follows: (1) Outside the view of others, including students,(2) In the presence of a school administrator or adult witness, and (3) By a certified employee or liaison police officer of the same sex as the student. Immediately following a search, a written report shall be made by the school authority who conducted the search, and given to the superintendent.

Seizure of Property

If a search produces evidence that the student has violated or is violating either the law or the district's policies or rules, such evidence may be seized and impounded by school authorities, and disciplinary action may be taken. When appropriate, such evidence may be transferred to law enforcement authorities.

Agency and Law Enforcement Requests (Reference: Board Policy 7:150)

Before a law enforcement officer, school resource officer, or other school security person detains and questions on school grounds a student under 18 years of age who is suspected of committing a criminal act, the building principal or designee will: a) Notify or attempt to notify the student's parents/guardian and document the time and manner in writing; b) Make reasonable efforts to ensure the student's parent/guardian is present during questioning or, if they are not present, ensure that a school employee (including, but not limited to, a social worker, psychologist, nurse, guidance counselor, or any other mental health professional) is present during the questioning; and c) If practicable, make reasonable efforts to ensure that a law enforcement officer trained in promoting safe interactions and communications with youth is present during the questioning.

Access to Student Social Networking Passwords & Websites

1. School officials may not request a student or their parent/guardian to provide a password or other related account information in order to gain access to the student' account or profile on a social networking website. Examples of social networking websites and platforms include Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, TikTok, and Snapchat.
2. School officials may conduct an investigation or require a student to cooperate in an investigation if there is specific information about activity on the student's account on a social networking website that violates a school disciplinary rule or policy. In the course of an investigation, the student may be

required to share the content that is reported in order to allow school officials to make a factual determination.

INTERNET, TECHNOLOGY AND PUBLICATIONS

Acceptable Use of the District's Electronic Networks (Reference: Board Policy 6:235)

All use of the District's *electronic networks* shall be consistent with the District's goal of promoting educational excellence by facilitating resource sharing, innovation, and communication. All users of the District's Electronic Networks must comply with the District's Acceptable Use Procedures and Board Policy 6:235 Access to Electronic Networks, and any implementing administrative procedures, handbooks, and guidelines, as amended from time to time. These procedures do not attempt to state all required or prohibited behavior by users. However, some specific examples are provided. **The failure of any user to follow these procedures will result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or legal action.**

Terms and Conditions

The term *electronic networks* includes all of the District's technology resources, including, but not limited to:

1. The District's local-area and wide-area networks, including wireless networks (Wi-Fi), District-provided Wi-Fi hotspots, and any District servers or other networking infrastructure;
2. Access to the Internet or other online resources via the District's networking infrastructure or to any District-issued online account from any computer or device, regardless of location;
3. District-owned and District-issued computers, laptops, tablets, phones, or similar devices.

Acceptable Use - Access to the District's electronic networks must be: (a) for the purpose of education or research, and be consistent with the District's educational objectives, or (b) for legitimate business use.

Privileges - Use of the District's electronic networks is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a cancellation of those privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action. The system administrator or Building Principal will make all decisions regarding whether or not a user has violated these procedures and may deny, revoke, or suspend access at any time. His or her decision is final.

Unacceptable Use - The user is responsible for his or her actions and activities involving the electronic networks. Some examples of unacceptable uses are:

A. Using the electronic networks for any illegal activity, including violation of copyright or other intellectual property rights or contracts, or transmitting any material in violation of any State or federal law;
B. Using the electronic networks to engage in conduct prohibited by board policy;
C. Unauthorized downloading of software or other files, regardless of whether it is copyrighted or scanned for malware;
D. Unauthorized use of personal removable media devices (such as flash or thumb drives);
E. Downloading of copyrighted material for other than personal use;
F. Using the electronic networks for private financial or commercial gain;
G. Wastefully using resources, such as file space;

H. Harass, threaten, intimidate, bully or demean an individual or group of individuals because of gender, color, race, religion, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, ancestry, marital status, military status (including unfavorable discharge), gender-related identity or expression, association with a person or group with one or more of the aforementioned actual or perceived characteristics, or any other distinguishing characteristic;
I. Hacking or attempting to hack or gain unauthorized access to files, accounts, resources, or entities by any means;
J. Invading the privacy of individuals, including the unauthorized disclosure, dissemination, and use of information about anyone that is of a personal nature, such as a photograph or video;
K. Using another user's account or password;
L. Disclosing any network or account password (including your own) to any other person, unless requested by the system administrator;
M. Posting or sending material authored or created by another without his/her consent;
N. Posting or sending anonymous messages;
O. Creating or forwarding chain letters, spam, or other unsolicited messages;
P. Using the electronic networks for commercial or private advertising;
Q. Accessing, sending, posting, publishing, or displaying any abusive, obscene, profane, sexual, threatening, harassing, illegal, or knowingly false material;
R. Misrepresenting the user's identity or the identity of others; and
S. Using the electronic networks while access privileges are suspended or revoked.

Network Etiquette - The user is expected to abide by the generally accepted rules of network etiquette. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

A. Be polite. Do not become abusive in messages to others.
B. Use appropriate language. Do not swear, or use vulgarities or any other inappropriate language.
C. Do not disclose personal information, including the addresses or telephone numbers, of students or colleagues.
D. Recognize that the District's electronic networks are not private. People who operate District technology have access to all email and other data. Messages or other evidence relating to or in support of illegal activities may be reported to the authorities.
E. Do not use the networks in any way that would disrupt its use by other users.
F. Consider all communications and information accessible via the electronic networks to be private property.

Created Content - Any website created by a student using the network must be part of a District-sponsored activity or otherwise authorized by the appropriate District administrator. All content, including links to any website created by a student using the network, must receive proper approval from the appropriate District administrator. All content of a website created by a student using the network must be in accordance with these Acceptable Use Procedures and Board policies, and must be ADA compliant.

No Warranties - The District makes no warranties of any kind, whether expressed or implied, for the service it is providing. The District will not be responsible for any damages the user suffers. This includes loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, missed deliveries, or service interruptions caused by its negligence or the user's errors or omissions. Use of any information obtained via the Internet is at the user's own risk. The District specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of information obtained through its services.

Indemnification - By using the District's electronic networks, the user agrees to indemnify the District, including its Board of Education, Board members, officers, agents, volunteers, independent contractors, and employees for any losses, costs, or damages, including reasonable attorney fees, incurred by the District relating to, or arising out of, any violation of these procedures.

Security - Network security is a high priority. If the user can identify or suspects a security problem on the network, the user must promptly notify the system administrator or Building Principal. Do not demonstrate the problem to other users. Keep user account(s) and password(s) confidential. Do not use another individual's account without written permission from that individual. Attempts to log-on to the network as a system administrator will result in cancellation of user privileges. Any user identified as a security risk may be denied access to the networks.

Vandalism - Vandalism will result in cancellation of privileges and other disciplinary action. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, the Internet, or any other network. This includes, but is not limited to, the uploading or creation of malware, such as viruses and spyware.

Telephone Charges - The District assumes no responsibility for any unauthorized charges or fees, including telephone charges, texting or data use charges, long-distance charges, per-minute surcharges, and/or equipment or line costs.

Copyright Web Publishing Rules - Copyright law and District policy prohibit the re-publishing of text or graphics found on the Internet or on District websites or file servers/cloud storage without explicit written permission.

A. For each re-publication (on a website or file server) of a graphic or a text file that was produced externally, there must be a notice at the bottom of the page crediting the original producer and noting how and when permission was granted. If possible, the notice should also include the web address of the original source.
B. Students and staff engaged in producing web pages must provide library media specialists with email or hard copy permissions before the web pages are published. Printed evidence of the status of *public domain* documents must be provided.
C. The absence of a copyright notice may not be interpreted as permission to copy the materials. Only the copyright owner may provide the permission. The manager of the website displaying the material may not be considered a source of permission.

D. The *fair use* rules governing student reports in classrooms are less stringent and permit limited use of graphics and text.
E. Student work may only be published if there is written permission from both the parent/guardian and student.

Use of Email - The District's email system, and its constituent software, hardware, and data files, are owned and controlled by the District. The District provides email to aid students and staff members in fulfilling their duties and responsibilities, and as an education tool.

A. The District reserves the right to access and disclose the contents of any account on its system, without prior notice or permission from the account's user. Unauthorized access by any student or staff member to an email account is strictly prohibited.
B. Each person should use the same degree of care in drafting an email message as would be put into a written memorandum or document. Nothing should be transmitted in an email message that would be inappropriate in a letter or memorandum.
C. Electronic messages transmitted via the District's Internet gateway carry with them an identification of the user's Internet *domain*. This domain is a registered name and identifies the author as being with the District. Great care should be taken, therefore, in the composition of such messages and how such messages might reflect on the name and reputation of the District. Users will be held personally responsible for the content of any and all email messages transmitted to external recipients.
D. Any message received from an unknown sender via the Internet, such as spam or potential phishing emails, should either be immediately deleted or forwarded to the system administrator. Downloading any file attached to any Internet-based message is prohibited unless the user is certain of that message's authenticity and the nature of the file so transmitted.
E. Use of the District's email system constitutes consent to these regulations.

Internet Safety - Internet access is limited to only those *acceptable uses* as detailed in these procedures.

Staff members shall supervise students while students are using District Internet access to ensure that the students abide by the *Terms and Conditions* for Internet access contained in these procedures. Each District computer with Internet access has a filtering device that blocks entry to visual depictions that are: (1) obscene, (2) pornographic, or (3) harmful or inappropriate for students, as defined by the Children's Internet Protection Act and as determined by the Superintendent or designee. The system administrator and Building Principals shall monitor student Internet access.

AI Guidelines - The guidelines provide a clear purpose, which aligns with our FSD79 Strategic Plan Vision: "empowering the next generation of resilient lifelong learners, responsible citizens and courageous leaders." This includes a focus on embracing AI as a partner in learning, while remaining mindful of maintaining a "human-in-the-loop" approach. Our goal is to empower students and staff to use AI as a springboard for creativity and problem-solving while applying the critical thinking skills necessary to ensure accuracy, safety, and academic integrity.

Summary of Acceptable Use for Parents to Use with Their School-aged Children

Our District school uses computers, the internet, and other technology to help students learn and share ideas. Here are the main rules you need to follow to use school technology:

1. **Use Technology for Learning:** Only use the internet and school devices for schoolwork or other approved activities.
2. **Be Responsible:** Follow the rules, be kind to others online, and don't use bad words or share personal information like your address or phone number.
3. **No Misuse:** Don't use technology to break the law, download things without permission, or try to get into files or accounts that aren't yours.
4. **Respect Privacy:** Don't share other people's pictures or information without their permission.
5. **Keep Passwords Safe:** Don't share your passwords with others, and don't use someone else's account.
6. **No Bullying:** Don't send mean, hurtful, or inappropriate messages.
7. **Follow Copyright Rules:** You can't copy or share things from the internet unless you have permission.
8. **Stay Safe Online:** The school has filters to block inappropriate websites, and teachers will supervise you when you're online.

If you break these rules, you might lose your technology privileges, face discipline, or even legal consequences. Always ask a teacher or the tech team if you have questions about what's okay to do. Technology is here to help us learn—let's use it wisely!

ATHLETIC & EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Fremont School District 79 activities, clubs, and sports provide an opportunity for students to explore interests, develop skills, and experience teamwork, camaraderie, and commitment.

Extracurricular Expectations (Reference: Board Policy 6:190, 7:240, 7:300)
Compliance with school expectations is always expected. Disciplinary consequences that are in effect during the regular school day will be issued. In addition, the following rules will apply:

- Students report directly to the athletic study hall.
- Coats, books, and other materials that will be taken home must be brought to the activity. Students are not permitted in classrooms or locker areas after activities.
- Students are expected to be courteous and polite at all times. Any rude action (i.e., booing, stamping feet, gesturing) will not be tolerated.
- A student may not leave an event before the activity has ended unless a parent is available to pick-up the student.
- Participation in after-school activities following an absence from school is not permitted without approval from the building administration.

Supervisors at the games or activities have the authority and responsibility to remove disrespectful or misbehaving spectators/participants. Disciplinary action may include, but is not limited to, suspension from other after-school activities.

Parents/guardians are expected to promptly pick-up their child after extracurricular events.

Intramurals

Fremont Intermediate School

The purpose of the intramural program is to expose students to being involved in extracurricular activities that promote coordination, fitness, healthy lifestyles, and positive social interactions with other students. These activities are available to both boys and girls in 4th & 5th grade before school and a small fee may apply. Students may ride the early bus if they are participating in intramural sports. The fee will be invoiced through TeacherEase once you have registered. We also require all athletic forms to be electronically completed and can be found on the Fremont Intermediate School website under Extracurriculars. STUDENTS DO NOT NEED AN IESA PHYSICAL TO PARTICIPATE IN INTRAMURALS.

Grade	Sport	Season
5th grade	Volleyball	September - October
4th grade	Basketball	October - January
5th grade	Basketball	January - April
4th & 5th grade	Cross Country	April - May

Fremont Middle School

Intramurals consist of teaching students about cooperation, effort, physical fitness and sportsmanship. Students demonstrate hard work and commitment to the activity, while dedicating themselves to self-improvement. These activities are available to both boys and girls after school and a small fee may apply. All students should take the late school bus to their home. The fee will be invoiced through TeacherEase once you have registered. We also require all athletic forms to be electronically completed and can be found on the Fremont Middle School website under Athletics. STUDENTS DO NOT NEED AN IESA PHYSICAL TO PARTICIPATE IN INTRAMURALS.

Grade	Sport	Season
6th grade	Basketball	September - December
6th, 7th, & 8th grade	Badminton	January - May

Athletics: Fremont Middle School (Reference: Board Policy 6:190, 7:240, 7:300)

Fremont Middle School offers a variety of after-school athletic activities for all students to participate in. Registration is done online and open prior to each season.

Athletic Eligibility (Reference: Fremont Middle School Athletic Handbook)

- Each student-athlete must have a sports physical on file with the nurse each year to try out, practice, or participate in athletics.
- On the day of an athletic contest, each student-athlete must attend school for a full day to participate. Exceptions may be made for medical appointments or a family emergency by contacting the building administration.
- Disciplinary procedures for student-athletes receiving the following:
    - Major Detention = No after-school activities on the day the detention is being served; ineligible for one game.
    - In-School Suspension = Ineligibility for a minimum of three games.
    - Two or more In-School Suspensions or one Out-of-School Suspension = Participation will be prohibited for the remainder of the season.
- Student-athletes are expected to attend all games and practices. Each individual coach will address unexcused absences. Consequences may result in loss of playing time and game suspensions, with numerous absences leading to suspension from the team.
- To be considered for extracurricular eligibility, students must maintain above a 2 average in Academic and Habits of Success in each course.

  If a student has a 1 in Academic and/or Habits of Success, the following steps will take place, per the Family Handbook:
    - Step 1: Warning and signed parent notification
    - Step 2: Removal from the team for 1 week (Thursday to Wednesday)
    - Step 3: Removal from the team for the remainder of the season and signed parent notification

- The use of weapons, drugs, alcohol, or tobacco by any student-athlete will result in immediate removal from the team/squad.
- Fremont student-athletes represent their school and their community on and off the playing field, at home and away. They are expected to display good sportsmanship and exemplary citizenship.
- Student-athletes are responsible for any equipment issued to them while participating in athletics. Failure to return the equipment in acceptable condition will result in the students replacing damaged or lost articles.
- Failure to comply with the above-stated rules may result in athletic ineligibility or dismissal from the squad/team.
- At any time deemed necessary, the coach may remove a student-athlete from the squad/team for disciplinary reasons within the team setting. The coach must inform the administration of any situation that may be detrimental to the school or athletic program.

Information regarding Middle School athletics is made available via the Middle School website. Parents/guardians and students are encouraged to check the website for tryout dates, coaches, and season details.

Season	Sport	Grades	Members
Fall: August - October	Basketball	7th & 8th	Girls
Fall: August - October	Cross Country	6th, 7th, 8th	Girls & Boys
Fall: August - October	Soccer	6th, 7th, 8th	Girls & Boys
Winter: November - January	Basketball	7th & 8th	Boys
Winter: November - February	Cheerleading	6th, 7th, 8th	Girls & Boys
Winter: November - February	Poms	6th, 7th, 8th	Girls & Boys
Winter: November - February	Wrestling	**5th,** 6th, 7th, 8th	Girls & Boys
Winter: January - March	Volleyball	7th & 8th	Girls
Spring: February - May	Scholastic Bowl	6th, 7th, 8th	Girls & Boys
Spring: March - May	Volleyball	7th & 8th	Boys
Spring: March - May	Track and Field	6th, 7th, 8th	Girls & Boys

Please Note: A physical is not required to participate in the Scholastic Bowl.

Student-Athlete Concussions and Head Injuries (Reference: Board Policy 7:305)

Student-athletes participating in interscholastic sports must comply with the Illinois Youth Sports Concussion Safety Act and all protocols, policies, and bylaws of the Illinois High School Association (IHSA) before participating in any athletic activity, including practice or competition.

A student removed from practice or competition because of a suspected concussion shall be allowed to return only after all statutory prerequisites are completed, including, without limitation, the School District's return-to-play and return-to-learn protocols.

Students and parents/guardians review the Student-Athlete Concussion Information Sheet and sign the acknowledgement within the Google Form registration prior to participating in athletic activities within FSD79 and are required to comply with FSD79 procedures to maintain participation in athletic activities.

Additional Resources:
CDC: Heads Up Student-Athlete & Parent Information Sheets
IHSA Video about Concussions
Illinois Department of Public Health: Concussions
Concussion Awareness for Ages 11-14

Student Council

Fremont Intermediate School

- Individual classrooms elect students in third, fourth, and fifth grades and will serve as their classroom representatives for the entire school year.
- Student Council meetings will be held before school. Students will participate in approximately seven meetings during the school year. Students may get a ride to school or take the early (Middle School) bus.
- Students may be asked to participate in one activity per trimester outside school hours.
- Student Council representatives are expected to attend each meeting or event. Any representative who misses two meetings or has multiple behavior incidents will be subject to membership review.

Fremont Middle School

- All students interested in serving on the Student Council at Fremont Middle School must complete a resume. The student council advisor will provide the resume form and the due date.
- Elections within the council will select the Student Council Executive Board once all homeroom representatives have been selected. Students within the council will elect a president (eighth grader), vice president (seventh grader), secretary (seventh or eighth grader), treasurer (seventh or eighth grader), and sergeant of arms (seventh or eighth grader).
- All student council members will be expected to attend all student council meetings and functions or notify the advisor in writing ahead of time if they cannot participate in a meeting or function. Two unexcused absences from meetings or functions may result in removal from the student council. An absence from school on the day of the meeting or function is an excused absence from all student council-related events.
- Any out-of-school suspension will result in immediate removal from the student council.
- Failure to abide by the guidelines mentioned above may result in removal from the Student Council, as determined by the advisor and administration.

National Junior Honor Society

Fremont Middle School

Membership in the Fremont Middle School chapter of the National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is open to incoming eighth-grade students who are selected at the end of their seventh-grade year. To be eligible for an invitation, students must have earned both Academic and Habits of Success Honor Rolls during the third trimester of sixth grade and the first two trimesters of seventh grade. While an invitation to apply is based on

academic performance and conduct, final selection is determined by an appointed panel that evaluates applicants on the criteria of character, citizenship, leadership, and service. Please note that an invitation does not guarantee membership; however, transferring NJHS members will be automatically accepted upon providing a letter of verification from their previous principal or chapter sponsor.

Dismissal from the National Junior Honor Society

National Junior Honor Society members must maintain the Academic and Habits of Success Honor Rolls in 8th grade. A member whose trimester grades fall below the requirements shall be warned in writing by the chapter sponsor and given the opportunity to correct the deficiency. The second time the student does not meet the Academic and/or Habits of Success Honor Roll, the member will face dismissal. In the case of misconduct, membership will be revoked. If a student receives a major detention, a warning letter will be given to the student. The second major detention will result in dismissal. In case of a suspension, a student will be automatically dismissed.

Performing Arts

Band

This program is available to all students in fourth through eighth grade. Students participate in full band rehearsals and group lessons. The programs are regular band (grades 4 through 8) and jazz band (grades 5 through 8). Students must be members of the regular band to be eligible for the jazz band. There is a fee to participate in the band.

Vocal Music Program

Fremont Intermediate School

This program is available to all fifth-grade students. It is a beginning choir experience designed to teach students the basics of choral singing. Rehearsals take place only during non-instructional time.

Fremont Middle School

This program is available to all students in sixth through eighth grades. The Fremont Middle School Vocal Music Program comprises three choirs separated by grade levels 6, 7, and 8. Students will learn vocal and performance techniques and how to read and write music notation while exploring a variety of musical genres. Rehearsals take place during the school day. There is a fee to participate in the Fremont Middle School Vocal Music Program.

Dances: Fremont Middle School

The Student Council or other groups organize several dances each year. Students must bring their school ID to all dances. Students must attend school for a full day in order to attend the dance. Exceptions may be made for medical appointments or a family emergency by contacting the school administration. Only students from Fremont Middle School may attend. All school rules are in effect, and students who do not comply with these expectations will not be allowed to attend future dances. Students are expected to stay for the duration of the dance and may only leave the dance with their parents/guardians or by prior written arrangement. Once a student leaves the dance, they may not return. Students must be picked up promptly when the dance is over.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) (Reference: Board Policy 6:120, 5:100)

The Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) is the nation's special education law. IDEA requires states and public schools to provide a Free and Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to all students in the least restrictive environment. IDEA recognizes that, to the extent possile, children with disabilities are entitled to the same educational experience as their non-disabled peers and that the expenses associated with providing for the special needs of children with disabilities are a public responsibility.

The general goal is to allow children with disabilities to be educated with their peers in the general education classroom to the maximum extent appropriate. IDEA recognizes that there is an array of placements that meet the general requirements of providing FAPE in the least restrictive environment, which may change from child to child, school to school, and district to district. In developing the Individualized Education Plan (IEP), parents/guardians and the District are empowered to reach appropriate decisions about what constitutes the least restrictive environment for the individual child, including placements that may be more or less restrictive in order to maximize the child's benefit from special education and related services.

The district provides a free appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment and necessary related services to all children with disabilities enrolled in the district. The term "children with disabilities" means children between ages 3 and 15 for whom it is determined that special education services are needed. It is the intent of the school to ensure that students with disabilities are identified, evaluated, and provided with appropriate educational services.

The IEP is a written plan of the educational program designed to meet a child's individual needs, specifying how the child receives a free and appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. The plan is developed by the IEP team, which includes special education teachers, related service staff, general education teachers, parents, and other staff who have knowledge of the child's educational strengths and needs. Among other components, the IEP summarizes the child's academic achievement and functional performance, describes how the child will be included in the general education curriculum, establishes annual goals for the child and describes how those goals will be measured, states what special education and related services are needed by the child, describes how the child will be appropriately assessed and determines which accommodations may be appropriate for the child's instruction and assessments.

Students with disabilities who do not qualify for an individualized education program, as required by the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and implementing provisions of this Illinois law, may qualify for services under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 if the student (i) has a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities, (ii) has a record of a physical or mental impairment, or (iii) is regarded as having a physical or mental impairment.

PUNS is a statewide database that records information about individuals with developmental disabilities who are planning for or seeking services. The State uses the data to select individuals for services as funding becomes available, to develop proposals and materials for budgeting, and to plan for future needs. Contact Assistant Director of Student Services Dr. Tegan Dittmer (tdittmer@fsd79.org), if you have questions.

Medicaid Notice to Parents

Medicaid reimbursement is a source of Federal funding approved by Congress to help school districts maintain and improve special education services. Therapy and diagnostic services provided to children who are Medicaid eligible are partially reimbursable, and Fremont School District 79 will claim Medicaid reimbursement for any eligible services provided. These claims will have no impact on a family's ability to receive Medicaid funding either now or at any time in the future. Anyone objecting to this release of information related to Medicaid claims must contact the Student Services department.

Qualified Interpreters At IEP Meetings

All parents/guardians of children eligible for an Individualized Education Plan (IEP) have the availability of an interpretation service at IEP team meetings.

- Parents/guardians can request an interpreter by contacting their child's case manager or school principal.
- Parents/guardians have the right to request that the interpreter provided by the school district serve no role in the IEP meeting other than as an interpreter. The school district will make reasonable efforts to fulfill the request.
- Questions or complaints about interpretation services should be directed to the Student Services department.

Discipline of Students with Disabilities (Reference: Board Policy 7:230)

Behavioral Intervention

The following paragraphs have been developed based on information outlined in *Behavioral Interventions in Schools - Guidelines for Development of District Policies for Students with Disabilities*. This document was prepared by the Illinois State Board of Education and is available by writing to the Illinois State Board of Education, 100 North First Street, Springfield, IL 62777-00011.

It is the intent of Fremont School District 79 that interventions used with students will incorporate procedures and methods consistent with professionally accepted educational practice. Non-restrictive interventions are preferred, because of the low risk of negative side effects and the high priority placed on behavior change rather than on behavior control. These interventions may be used without the development of a written behavioral management plan or inclusion in an IEP. All of the procedural protections available to students with disabilities and their parents under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), including notice and consent, opportunity for participation in meetings, and right to appeal, shall be observed when implementing and/or developing Behavioral Intervention Plans.

Students whose behavior negatively impacts their learning will be referred to the Problem-Solving Team for intervention planning. Data collection and analysis will be conducted to identify target behaviors and their antecedents and consequences. Interventions and progress monitoring will be implemented with periodic evaluation. Students referred for a full case study evaluation whose behavior is negatively impacting their learning will have a Functional Behavioral Analysis and formal Behavior Intervention Plan as part of their IEP.

When confronted with an emergency situation in which immediate intervention is needed to protect students, other individuals, or the physical site from harm, school personnel may use an intervention that has not been delineated in the student's Behavior Management Plan or IEP. The emergency intervention selected shall be the least intrusive to reasonably respond to the situation. When an emergency intervention has been used with a student, the parents or guardians of the student will be notified as soon as possible. In addition, details related to the use of the emergency intervention will be documented and given to parents.

Discipline of Special Education Students

The District shall comply with the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act of 2004 and the Illinois State Board of Education's Special Education rules when disciplining special education students. No special education student shall be expelled if the student's particular act of gross disobedience or misconduct is a manifestation of his or her disability.

With respect to disciplinary action concerning children with disabilities, school districts shall conform to the requirements of 34 CFR 300.530 through 300.536, as well as Section 10-22.6 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-22.6]. In addition, upon the occurrence of any act that may subject the student either to expulsion from school or suspension resulting in more than ten cumulative days of suspension during any one school year, the district shall be required to convene a meeting of the IEP Team to review the student's behavioral intervention plan or, if a behavioral intervention plan has not yet been developed, to develop one.

Time Out and Physical Restraint

Isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint shall only be used if the student's behavior presents an imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others and other less restrictive and intrusive measures were tried and proven ineffective in stopping it. The school may not use isolated time out, time out, and physical restraint as discipline or punishment, convenience for staff, retaliation, a substitute for appropriate educational or behavioral support, a routine safety matter, or to prevent property damage in the absence of imminent danger of serious physical harm to the student or others.

Annual Notifications/Rights & Records (Reference: Board Policy 6:120, 7:340)

Each year parents/guardians of children with disabilities are to be notified of their rights guaranteed under law. Annually, the school district also notifies parents/guardians of information concerning student records. The information below is provided to you for that purpose.

Related Service Logs

For a child with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP), the school district must create related service logs that record the type of related services administered under the child's IEP and the minutes of each type of related

service that has been administered. The school will provide a child's parent/guardian a copy of the related service log at the annual review of the child's IEP and at any other time upon request.

Parent Resources

The following website from the Illinois State Board of Education provides parents/guardians with information about special education and their rights related to special education services. Educational Rights and Responsibilities: Understanding Special Education in Illinois

STUDENT RECORDS & PRIVACY

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

Local, state, and federal laws including, but not limited to, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), allow parents or guardians the right to: inspect and review education records, seek to amend education records, and consent to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from education records except as specified by law. When a student turns 18 years of age or enters a postsecondary educational institution at any age, these rights transfer to the student.

Records (Reference: Board Policy 7:340)

Records of students are to be maintained in the school from the time a child enters the school. There are two types of records: permanent and temporary. Requests to review records must be made in writing to the principal. Local, state, and federal laws require that information in student records is held confidential. This same law requires that rules and procedures be established to maintain this privacy as well as a record of any persons who have had access to the child's records.

Please notify the school promptly, in writing, of any change in address, telephone, health conditions, custody, or other matters that might be pertinent to school records. Parents/guardians are requested to contact the office for a transfer of records when withdrawing students from school. If the student has unpaid fines or fees and is transferring to a public school, an unofficial record of the student's grades will be sent in lieu of the student's official transcript of scholastic records.

Permanent Records

Permanent student educational records are kept on file for a minimum of 60 years by the school district. These records include:

- Basic identifying information - student and parent names and addresses, student's birthdate and birthplace, and gender.
- Academic transcript - grades, class rank, graduation date, grade level achieved, and scores on college entrance tests.
- Attendance record.
- Accident reports and health records.
- Record of release of permanent record information.

No other information shall be placed in the student permanent record.

Temporary Records

Temporary records are normally retained for five years after the graduation, transfer, or permanent withdrawal of the student from the district. The temporary records may also include the following:

- Family background information.
- Information regarding a student's status or experiences as a parent, expectant parent, or victim of domestic or sexual violence.
- Formal assessment results.

- Reports of psychological evaluations - information on intelligence, personality and academic information obtained through tests, observations and interviews.
- Elementary and secondary achievement level test results.
- Copies of the student's work.
- Participation in extracurricular activities, including offices held, honors, and awards received.
- Teacher anecdotal records.
- Disciplinary information.
- Special education files - reports of the individual education program meetings that determine whether placement is made, all records, and tape recordings relating to special education placement hearings and appeals.
- Gifted/Enrichment, English as a Second Language, and Intervention qualification scores and progress reports.
- Any verified reports or information from non-educational persons, agencies, or organizations;
- Other verified information of clear relevance to the student's education;
- The completed home language survey form.
- Honors and awards received.
- Information about participation in school sponsored activities or offices held in school sponsored organizations.

The right to inspect and copy student educational records, both permanent and temporary, is allowed to parents or guardians of students under age 18. Any student age 14 or older also has the right to read and review his or her temporary and permanent educational records. Parent or student requests for review of records must be made in writing to the building administration. A building administrator will then arrange an appointment within two weeks for the review.

Destruction of School Student Records Notice

This notice contains the destruction schedule for your or your student's school records as required by rule of the Illinois State Board of Education, Section 375.40(c). As you or your student is permanently withdrawing, transferring, or graduating from Fremont School District 79, you are notified of the schedule below for destruction of the school records. This schedule complies with the Illinois School Student Records Act, 105 ILCS 10/4(e) and (f), requirements that (1) temporary records be retained for at least 5 years after a student's transfer, withdrawal, or graduation, and (2) permanent records be retained for at least 60 years after a student's transfer, withdrawal, or graduation. The parent(s)/guardian(s), or the student if he or she is at least 18 years of age at the time of the request, may request a copy of a record at any time prior to the date of destruction listed below.

- Class of 2027: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2032 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2087
- Class of 2028: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2033 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2088
- Class of 2029: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2034 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2089

- Class of 2030: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2035 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2090
- Class of 2031: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2036 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2091
- Class of 2032: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2037 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2092
- Class of 2033: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2038 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2093
- Class of 2034: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2039 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2094
- Class of 2035: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2040 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2095
- Class of 2036: Temporary records will be destroyed no earlier than: July 1, 2041 Permanent records will be destroyed no earlier than: 2096

Release of Records

In general, no personally identifiable records or files (or personal information for either) may be made available to individuals, agencies, or organizations without the written consent of parents, guardians, or students over 18 years of age. However, limited exceptions are made. The records are available to the following individuals or groups:

- Other school officials, including teachers within the educational institution or local agency who may have legitimate educational interests.
- Officials of other schools or school systems where the student intends to enroll, provided the student's parents/guardians are notified of the transfer of records and receive a copy of the record if desired, and have an opportunity for a hearing to challenge the content of the record if they desire.
- Authorized representatives of the Controller General of the United States, the secretary and administrative head of an educational agency.
- Organizations or agencies in connection with a student's application for or receipt of financial aid.

Information may be released in connection with an emergency to appropriate persons if such information is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other persons.

Each school keeps a log of all agencies or persons who request or obtain access to information from a student's records. Parents, guardians or eligible students have the right to request a copy of information released. The records custodian of a school shall transfer the records of a student to the school in which the student has enrolled or intends to enroll upon request of the records custodian of the other school or the student. The parent shall have the opportunity to inspect, copy, and challenge such information.

Release of the information other than to those specified above requires the prior, specific, dated, written consent of the parent designating the person to whom such records may be released, reason for release, and specific records to be released.

Student Privacy Protections (Reference: Board Policy 7:15)

Surveys

All surveys requesting personal information from students, as well as any other instrument used to collect personal information from students, must advance or relate to the District's educational objectives, or assist students' career choices. This applies to all surveys, regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified or who created the survey.

Surveys by Third Parties

Before a school official or staff member administers or distributes a survey or evaluation created by a third party to a student, the student's parent/guardian may inspect the survey or evaluation, upon their request and within a reasonable time of their request. This applies to every survey: (1) that is created by a person or entity other than a district official, staff member, or student, (2) regardless of whether the student answering the questions can be identified, and (3) regardless of the subject matter of the questions.

Surveys Requesting Personal Information

School officials and staff members will not request, nor disclose, the identity of any student who completes any survey or evaluation containing one or more of the following items:

- Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian
- Mental or psychological problems of the student or the student's family
- Behavior or attitudes about sex
- Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior
- Critical appraisals of other individuals with whom students have close family relationships
- Legally recognized privileged or analogous relationships, such as those with lawyers, physicians, and ministers.
- Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or the student's parent/guardian
- Income other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such a program.

The student's parent/guardian may: (1)inspect the survey or evaluation upon, and within a reasonable time of, their request, and/or (2) refuse to allow their child to participate in the survey. The school will not penalize any student whose parent/guardian exercised this option.

Instructional Material

A student's parent/guardian may inspect, upon their request, any instructional material used as part of their child's educational curriculum within a reasonable time of their request.

The term "instructional material" means instructional content that is provided to a student, regardless of its format, printed or representational materials, audio-visual materials, and materials in electronic or digital formats. The term does not include academic tests or assessments.

Prohibition on Selling or Marketing Students' Personal Information
No school official or staff member may market or sell personal information concerning students. The term personal information means individually identifiable information including: (1) a student's or parent/guardian's first and last name, (2) a home or other physical address (including street name and the name of the city or town), (3) a telephone number, (4) a Social Security identification number, or (5) driver's license number or State identification card.

Unless otherwise prohibited by law, the above paragraph does not apply: (1) if the student's parent/guardian has consented, or (2) to the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information collected from students for the exclusive purpose of developing, evaluating, or providing educational products or services for, or to, students or educational institutions, such as the following:

1. Book clubs, magazines, and programs provide access to low-cost literary products.
2. Curriculum and instructional materials used by elementary and secondary schools.
3. Tests and assessments to provide cognitive, evaluative, diagnostic, clinical, aptitude, or achievement information about students (or to generate statistically useful data for the purpose of securing such tests and assessments) and the subsequent analysis and public release of the aggregate data from such tests and assessments.
4. The sale by students of products or services to raise funds for school-related or education-related activities.
5. Student recognition programs.

Under no circumstances may a school official or staff member provide a student's personal information to a business organization or financial institution that issues credit or debit cards.

A parent/guardian who desires to opt their child out of participation in activities provided herein or who desires a copy or access to a survey or any other material described herein may contact the building administration.

Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA)

FSD79 is committed to protecting the information security of its students in accordance with the latest version of the Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA). Information pertaining to operators (i.e., educational technology vendors and other entities that operate internet websites, online services, online applications, or mobile applications that are designed, marketed, and primarily used for K-12 school purposes), what student data is collected, and breach notifications can be found on the District website.

Student Directory Information (Reference: Board Policy 7:340)

The District may release directory information as permitted by law, but a parent/guardian shall have the right to opt-out of the release of directory information regarding his or her child. The District will comply with state or federal laws with regard to the release of a student's school records, including, where applicable, without notice to, or the consent of, the student's parent/guardian or eligible student. Upon request, the District discloses school student records without parent consent to the official records custodian of another school in which a student has enrolled or intends to enroll, as well as to any other person as specifically required or permitted by State or federal law.

Pictures and Yearbook

Each year, the district hires a photo company to take pictures of all children. Several purchase plans are available. The pictures are taken so we may use them in the composite picture, for permanent school records, and for the yearbook.

The Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) publishes and sells a yearbook annually. At the end of each school year, the yearbooks are distributed to students whose parents/guardians purchased them.

Publication of Student Names, Photographs, Videos or Works

To share positive news with our Fremont School District 79 community, your child may be photographed or videotaped during classroom or extracurricular activities on school grounds, or at school-sponsored events for instructional, educational, informational, or publicity purposes. The identifiable names, voices, images, works, photographs and/or videos of students may be used in various Fremont School District 79 or district-related publications, including and without limitation -- the FSD79 website, FSD79 social media sites, FSD79 YouTube or Vimeo site, news releases, television productions, newsletters, school yearbooks, school newsletters and public newspapers, as well as presentations at professional conferences and Board of Education meetings. As would be the case in print publications, the district may publish full student names on its website or social media sites. Pictures of students published on these Internet sites would not identify students by name. Students' names associated with photos may appear in electronic newsletters emailed to parents/guardians and staff and posted on the district website. This information shall not be used for paid commercial purposes. Release or publication of such student information will also be consistent with the Illinois School Student Records Act and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

Please note that it may not be possible for FSD79 staff to always identify all students in the background of photographs or videos. FSD79 has no ability to restrict the use of student images where it is obtained at an event open to the public and placed on a medium that is not sponsored by FSD79 (e.g., a photograph taken by a journalist and published in the local newspaper). Furthermore, media companies may also post pictures, videos, and stories featuring our students on their websites.

Non-Consent Publicity Release and Waiver Form

Please fill out the Non-Consent Photo form if you do not wish to include your child in any or all publications through the Fremont School District 79. The form can be found on the District's website under Public Relations.

PARENTAL RIGHTS NOTIFICATION

Teacher Qualifications (Reference: Board Policy 5:190)

Parents/guardians may request information about the qualifications of their child's teachers and paraprofessionals, including:

- Whether the teacher has met State certification requirements
- Whether the teacher is teaching under an emergency permit or other provisional status by which State licensing criteria have been waived
- The teacher's college major
- Whether the teacher has any advanced degrees and, if so, the subject of the degrees
- Whether any instructional aides or paraprofessionals provide services to your child and, if so, their qualifications.

Please contact the school office to receive any of this information.

Faith's Law Notification (Reference: Board Policy 4:165, 5:120)

Employee Conduct Standards

The District's Employee Code of Professional Conduct can be found by clicking on this link, Board Policy 5:120. These standards, in part, define appropriate conduct between school employees and students. A copy of these standards can be found on the district website.

McKinney-Vento Services (Reference: Board Policy 6:140)

The McKinney-Vento Program assists families who have lost housing and find themselves living in a shelter or motel, sharing housing with others because of lost housing or economic hardship, living in a campground, car, abandoned building, or other temporary shelter, without a permanent address. Families in this situation have the right to:

- Enroll in school immediately without school or medical records
- Receive assistance from the district liaison with immunizations and/or medical records
- Choose to attend the child's previous school based on the previous address or the school closest to where the family currently reside
- Receive transportation to and from school
- Participate in your child's education

District 79 McKinney-Vento Liaison: Krista Winkelman at kwinkelman@fsd79.org.

School Visitation Rights

The School Visitation Rights Act permits employed parents/guardians who are unable to meet with educators because of a work conflict the right to time off from work under certain conditions to attend necessary school functions such as parent-teacher conferences. Letters verifying participation in this program are available from the school office upon request.

Non-Custodial Parents' Rights

Non-custodial parents have a right to see student records and reports and pick up a child from school unless a court order to the contrary is in the student's file at the school office. Both parents will be assumed to have equal authority and custody of any child until the school has been provided evidence of a court order specifying custody or authority to only one. Examples of acceptable documentation may include a divorce decree, a notarized copy of the decree, or a court order by a judge with the court seal. A letter from an attorney is not an acceptable form of documentation of a court order.

Mandated Reporter (Reference: Board Policy 5:90)

All school personnel, including teachers and administrators, are required by law to immediately report any and all suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

Sex Offender Notification to School Law (Reference: Board Policy 4:175)

State law prohibits a convicted child sex offender from being present on school property when children under the age of 18 are present, except for in the following circumstances as they relate to the individual's child(ren):

1. To attend a conference at the school with school personnel to discuss the progress of their child.
2. To participate in a conference in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to their child's special education services.
3. To attend conferences to discuss issues concerning their child, such as retention or promotion.

In all other cases, convicted child sex offenders are prohibited from being present on school property unless they obtain written permission from the superintendent or school board.

Anytime that a convicted child sex offender is present on school property for any reason - including the three reasons above - they are responsible for notifying the principal's office upon arrival on school property and upon departure from school property. It is the responsibility of the convicted child sex offender to remain under the direct supervision of a school official at all times they are in the presence or vicinity of children.

A violation of this law is a Class 4 felony.

Sex Offender and Violent Offender Community Notification (Reference: Board Policy 4:175)

As required by the Sex Offender Community Notification Law, school districts are required to notify parents/guardians during school registration or parent/guardian conferences that information about sex offenders is available to the public on the Illinois Department of State Police website's home page.

State law requires that all school districts provide parents/guardians with information about violent offenders against youths. You may find the Illinois Statewide Child Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Registry on the Illinois Department of State Police website.

Undesignated Medications Program Notification (Reference: Board Policy 7:270)

FSD79 is participating in the Undesignated Medications Program in collaboration with the Lake County Health Department (LCHD). In this Program, the Medical Epidemiologist at LCHD has issued a standing order

protocol for trained school personnel to use epinephrine injection, asthma medication, and naloxone in the setting of medical emergencies wherein a student, visitor, or staff member is experiencing a severe allergic or anaphylactic reaction, respiratory distress, or opioid overdose. The medications will be administered in appropriate circumstances.

As described in 105 ILCS 5/22-30, the school district and its employees and agents, including the Lake County Health Department Medical Epidemiologist, are to incur no liability or professional discipline, except for willful and wanton conduct, as a result of any injury arising from the administration of epinephrine, asthma medication, and opioid antagonists regardless of whether authorization was given by the students parents or guardians or by a student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse. Parents or guardians must indemnify and hold harmless the school district and its employees and agents, including the Lake County Health Department Medical Epidemiologist, against any claims, except a claim based on willful and wanton conduct, arising out of the administration of epinephrine injection, asthma medication, and opioid antagonist regardless of whether authorization was given by the student's parents or guardians or by the student's physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse.

By signing the Family Handbook Acknowledgment form, you acknowledge that you have received and read this notice.

District Complaint Procedure (Reference: Board Policy 2:260, 2:265)

Students have both the right and responsibility to express school-related concerns and grievances to the staff. These concerns must be expressed in a manner that is not slanderous, obscene, likely to disrupt class work or cause substantial disorder to the learning environment of the school.

If you or your student wishes to file a complaint, you may do so by filing the complaint with the District Complaint Manager or building administration. You may be requested to provide a written statement regarding the nature of the complaint.

Title IX and Nondiscrimination Coordinator:

Allison Stempien
28855 N Fremont Center Rd, Mundelein, IL 60060
astempien@fsd79.org
(847) 566-0169

Complaint Managers:

Dr. Brian Bullis
28855 N Fremont Center Rd, Mundelein, IL 60060
bbullis@fsd79.org
(847) 566-0169

Krista Winkelman
28855 N Fremont Center Rd, Mundelein, IL 60060
kwinkelman@fsd79.org
(847) 566-0169

Resolution of Concerns

Fremont SD79 staff and administration are committed to open communication with parents/guardians and students. Should a concern arise regarding a student or a situation, parents/guardians are asked to address the concern first with the student's teacher or the involved staff member. If a satisfactory resolution cannot be reached, the building administrators are available to work together with the parent and staff member to find a mutually acceptable solution. If parents/guardians feel that the recommendations of the building administration are not acceptable, parents/guardians may then seek a review of the situation with the superintendent. If parents/guardians want further review, they may request a hearing with the Board of Education.

Pest Management (Reference: Board Policy 4:160)

The State of Illinois requires school districts to make notifications prior to the application of specific types of pest control agents if parents/guardians desire to be notified. The district maintains a registry of parents/guardians of students who have registered to receive written or telephone notification prior to the application of pesticides to school grounds. To be added to the list, please contact the district office. Applications of pest control products are made only when necessary to address a problem. Notification will be given before the pesticide is applied. Prior notice is not required if there is an imminent threat to health or property.