

Fern Ridge School District Board of Directors

Monday, July 21, 2025 The doors will open at 6:15pm

District Administration Office, 88834 Territorial Road, Elmira, Oregon 97437

1. Call to Order: Public - 6:30 pm

We have a shared vision in the Fern Ridge School District: Provide excellence for every student so that each will reach their greatest potential.

Thank you to the members of the public who have joined us. As a reminder, School Board meetings and work sessions are meetings of the Board held in public, providing an opportunity to observe the Board's discussion and actions.

In an effort to conduct official Board business, we ask that the audience be respectful and refrain from questions, comments, and unnecessary noise while the Board conducts the meeting.

There is an opportunity for citizen comment tonight, and the Board looks forward to hearing from those who signed up. I will share some reminders when we get to that portion of the meeting.

Also, please note that all Board meetings are live-streamed and posted on the School Board area of the website.

2. Flag Salute

3. Oath of Office

3.A. WC Grover: Position 2 for a 4-year term

3.B. Mark Gent: Position 3 for a 4-year term

3.C. Brian Kirkpatrick: Position 4 for a 4-year term

4. Election of Board Chair and Vice Chair - Board Action

5. Public Comment: The Fern Ridge School Board encourages public input. A person wanting to provide public comment will need to complete and submit an Intent to Speak form to the Board secretary by 1:00 pm on the day of the board meeting.

Public comment is limited to this place on the agenda not to exceed a total of 30 minutes for all commenters. A person giving public comment is limited to an established time limit of (3) three minutes. While speakers may, during public meetings, offer objective criticism of school operations and programs, the Board will not hear personal complaints concerning district personnel

nor against any person connected with the school system.

Please state your name and if you are a resident of the district. If speaking for an organization, state the name of the organization. The Board reserves the right to refer the matter to the administration.

6. Monthly Items:

6.A. Approval of Minutes - Board Action

7. Reports:

7.A. Superintendent's Report

7.B. Elmira High School New Curriculum - Board Action

Presenter: Cydney Vandercar

7.B.1. Statistics

7.B.2. Robotics

7.B.3. Computer Science

8. Discussion Items

8.A. Retreat Agenda

8.B. Oregon School Board Association Summer and Fall Conferences

8.C. West Lane Charter Annual Review

8.D. Fern Ridge School District Parent/Student Handbook - Board Action

9. Annual Organization Appointments for School Year 2025-2026 - Resolution #25-26/01 - Board Action

10. Personnel

10.A. Licensed Employees Resignations/New Hires/Transfers/Other

10.A.1. None at this time

10.B. Non-Licensed Personnel Report

11. Late Items/Closing Comments/Board Community Involvement

12. Upcoming Events

Elmira and Veneta Elementary:

August 13: 7am - 7pm Kindergarten and New Student Registration

August 19: 7am - 7pm Registration

August 20: 8am - 3pm Registration

August 21: 8am - 12pm Registration

September 2: First day for 1st-5th Graders

September 8: First day for Kindergartners

Fern Ridge Middle School:

August 11: Office Re-Opens

August 13: 12pm - 8pm New Student and Incoming
6th Graders Registration

August 15 & 18: Office Closed

August 19: 7am - 7pm Student Registration

August 20: 8am - 3pm Student Registration

August 21: 8am - 12pm Student Registration

September 2: First day for 6th Graders Only

September 3: First Day for 7th & 8th Graders Only

September 4: All Students attend

Elmira High School:

August 13: 9am - 7pm NEW to District Pre-
Registration

August 20: 8am - 4pm Seniors/Sophomores
Registration/Picture Day

August 21: 10am - 6pm Junior/Freshman
Registration/Picture Day

September 2: First Day for students

13. Adjournment

Fern Ridge School District 28J

Code: BBBB
Adopted: 6/15/98
Revised/Readopted: 5/23/05; 6/17/19
Orig. Code: 1113

Board Member Oath of Office

I, _____, being first duly sworn, will support the Constitution of the United States, the Constitution of the state of Oregon and the laws thereof, and the policies of the Fern Ridge School District. During my term, I will faithfully and impartially discharge the responsibilities of the Office of School Board Member to the best of my ability and will always strive to consistently put forth first the welfare of the children entrusted to the school district.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

[ORS 332.005](#)



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
School Board Meeting Minutes

REGULAR MEETING of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

June 16, 2025

Zoom Webinar & In-Person Meeting
88834 Territorial Rd.
Elmira, Or 97437

CALL TO ORDER (Agenda Item 1): The regular meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

In attendance were Directors Lisa McCann, Mark Boren, Andrea Larson and Superintendent Gary Carpenter. Director Kathleen Pizzola attended remotely via zoom.

We have a shared vision in the Fern Ridge School District: Provide excellence for every student so that each will reach their greatest potential.

Thank you to the members of the public who have joined us. As a reminder, School Board meetings and work sessions are meetings of the Board held in public, providing an opportunity to observe the Board's discussion and actions.

In an effort to conduct official Board business, we ask that the audience be respectful and refrain from questions, comments, and unnecessary noise while the Board conducts the meeting.

There is an opportunity for citizen comment tonight, and the Board looks forward to hearing from those who signed up. I will share some reminders when we get to that portion of the meeting.

Also, please note that all Board meetings are live streamed and posted on the School Board area of the website.

CITIZENSHIP AWARD (Agenda Item 2): The Citizenship Awards were presented to Elmira Elementary School student, Karol Regina Borbon Arvizu for May and to Elmira High School student, Awbrey Flowers for June.

FLAG SALUTE (Agenda Item 3): Both citizenship award students led the flag salute.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Item 4): The Fern Ridge School Board encourages public input. A person wanting to provide public comment will need to complete and submit an Intent to Speak form to the Board secretary by 1:00 pm on the day of the board meeting.

Public comment is limited to this place on the agenda not to exceed a total of 30 minutes for all commenters. A person giving public comment is limited to an established time limit of (3) three

minutes. While speakers may, during public meetings, offer objective criticism of school operations and programs, the Board will not hear personal complaints concerning district personnel nor against any person connected with the school system.

- Community member Brie Stone submitted a letter to be read in to record requesting the protection of our students during public comments.

MONTHLY ITEMS (Agenda Item 5):

5. A. Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the regular meeting on May 19, 2025, were presented for approval.

Director Boren moved to approve the May 19, 2025 regular session minutes as presented, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 4-0.

BUSINESS OFFICE (Agenda Item 6):

6. A. Enrollment Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the enrollment report as of June 1, 2025. District Enrollment is 1,275, which is 9 below our budgeted numbers. The elementary level is down by 6, the middle school is up by 28, and the high school is down by 31. There are five more out of district placements than what was projected in the budget.

6. B. General Fund Revenue and Expenditure Report: Business Manager Quanah Bennett reviewed the general fund revenue and expenditure report as of May 31, 2025. The district has received 104% of our budgeted revenue. We were at 101% last year. The district's operating expenditures are at 78%, we were at 77% last year. The year-end report will be next month.

There was a time of discussion about interest amounts.

Director Boren moved to accept the accept May 31, 2025 financial report as presented, seconded by Director McCann. There was no more discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 4-0.

REPORTS (Agenda Item 7):

7. A. Chartwell's 2024-2025 Report: Director Bo Gotfried presented the service staff and reflected on the annual special events that occurred. Upgrades and compliances were also presented.

7. B. Student Representatives to the School Board: Student Representative JT Myers expressed thanks for the opportunity to be one of the Student Representatives for the 24-25 school year. JT also clarified, as per policy, what their role and parameters of the position consist of for all incoming board members, directors and student representatives alike. Fern Arvizu also expressed thanks for the opportunity. She read comments and input from the student body regarding their knowledge and concerns of the Fern Ridge School Board, current and moving forward. JT finished with reflecting on the oath of office and what that means for school board members and congratulated all of the new members. Superintendent Carpenter presented Jake

VanDamme and Riley Rice as the new student Representatives. Director Larson expressed thanks to both JT and Fern for their dedication to the position.

7. C. Fern Ridge Education Association: Jennifer Prutzman presented the last Fern Ridge Education Association slides of the year. She recapped the last updates of the Elementary level events. Debra Lloyd presented the Middle School events. Jennifer Prutzman then presented the High School events. Jennifer Prutzman gave thanks to Mark Boren and Andrea Larson and welcomed Brian Kirkpatrick, WC Grover, and Mark Gent.

7. D. Director of K-12 Programs: Director Michelle Marshall gave thanks to all the board members. She then gave an update of the work that will occur over the summer.

7. E. Superintendent's Report: Superintendent Carpenter reported the progress of the website work that is taking place. He discussed the bond projects and how they are still on schedule, and what work is set to begin in the next week. On June 26 at 3:00 the bids for the outdoor work at the Middle School are due to be received. Superintendent Carpenter proposed an option to have a Special Board meeting on June 26 at 5:30pm to award the contract with that being the only item on the agenda. Superintendent Carpenter presented framed and signed plaques to each outgoing board member and thanked them for their time on the school board.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2025-2026 BUDGET (Agenda Item 8):

8. A. Open Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Budget: Chair Larson called the Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Budget to order.

8. B. Public Comment: None at this time.

8. C. Close Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Budget: Chair Larson closed the Public Hearing on the 2025-2026 Budget.

8. D. Resolution #24/25-13 Adopt the 25-26 Budget and Impose the Tax Levies:

Director Boren moved to approve Resolution #24/25-13 adopting the 2025-2026 Budget, making appropriations, imposing and categorizing taxes as outlined in Resolution 24/25-13, seconded by Director McCann. There was no further discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 4-0.

DISCUSSION ITEMS (Agenda Item 9):

9. A. Second Reading of Proposed Policy Updates: The following policies and administrative rules were presented to the board for a second reading and approval: IIA replace Instructional Materials.

Director Boren moved to accept the proposed policy update as presented, seconded by Director Pizzola.

Director McCann moved to discuss this policy next month. Director Boren informed her of the process and the board would move to vote. There was no further discussion.

The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Pizzola, voting yes, and McCann voting no. 3-1.

PERSONNEL (Agenda Item 10):

10. A. Licensed Employees Resignations/New Hires/Transfers/Other:

10. A.1. Hiring of Tessa Slager, 1.0 FTE Health Teacher at Elmira High School, effective August 20, 2025. Hiring of Conrad Davis, 1.0 FTE Mathematics Teacher at Elmira High School, effective August 20, 2025. Hiring of Nikie Brink, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at Veneta Elementary School, effective August 20, 2025. Hiring of Teri Moen, 1.0 FTE One-Year Temporary/Retiree Contract at Elmira High School, effective August 25, 2025. Hiring of Mari Jones, 0.8 FTE One-Year Temporary/Retiree Contract, effective August 25, 2025. Hiring of Jon Guldager, 1.0 FTE One-Year Temporary/Retiree Contract effective August 25, 2025. Hiring of Forrest Cooper, 0.1 FTE One-Year Temporary/Retiree Contract effective August 25, 2025. Resignation of Shahailey Gorrell, 1.0 FTE Elementary Teacher at Veneta Elementary School, effective June 13, 2025.

Director Boren moved to accept the licensed resignations, new hires, transfers, other as proposed, seconded by Director Pizzola. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 4-0.

10. B. Non-Licensed Personnel Report: The non-licensed personnel report was presented for review:

Resignations/Retirements

1. Resignation of Shelby Douberly, 7.0 Instructional Assistant (Title IA) at Elmira Elementary School, effective June 12, 2025.
2. Resignation of Chelsea Swope, 6.0 SPED Instructional Assistant at Veneta Elementary School, effective June 12, 2025.

New Hires/Transfers

1. Hiring of Shelby Douberly, 1.0 FTE Secretary II at Elmira Elementary School, effective August 16, 2025.
2. Hiring of Brody Bothel, Temporary Summer Grounds/Maintenance district wide, effective July 1, 2025.

Other

1. Hiring of Sydney Wagner, KITS Teacher Assistant at Elmira Elementary School, effective June 17, 2025.

Coaches

1. None at this time

LATE ITEMS/CLOSING COMMENTS/BOARD COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (Agenda Item 11):
None at this time.

UPCOMING EVENTS (Agenda Item 12):

12. A. Upcoming Events:

June 20: School Offices CLOSED for the summer
July 7 - August 22: KITS

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 13): Chair Larson adjourned the meeting at 7:16 pm.

Attest: _____
School Board Representative

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent



FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
School Board Meeting Minutes

SPECIAL MEETING of the FERN RIDGE SCHOOL BOARD

June 26, 2025

Zoom Webinar & In-Person Meeting
88834 Territorial Rd.
Elmira, Or 97437

CALL TO ORDER (Agenda Item 1): The special meeting was called to order at 5:31 pm.

In attendance were Directors Lisa McCann, Andrea Larson and Superintendent Gary Carpenter. Director Kathleen Pizzola and Mark Boren attended remotely via zoom.

FLAG SALUTE

BOND MIDDLE SCHOOL OUTSIDE/SITE WORK – CONTRACTOR AWARD (Agenda Item 2): Superintendent Carpenter gave a brief summary of the proposed project. The Contractor award for the outside and site work for Fern Ridge Middle School was presented by Scott Rose. The explanation of bid submittal and acceptance was explained. There was a brief time of discussion on the scope of the overall project budget.

Director Boren moved to award the outdoor work project at Fern Ridge Middle School to Pacific excavation in the amount of \$768,000, seconded by Director McCann. There was no discussion. The motion carried with Directors Boren, Larson, Pizzola, and McCann voting yes. 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT (Agenda Item 3): Chair Larson adjourned the meeting at 5:42 pm.

Attest: _____
School Board Representative

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., Superintendent

FORM 400

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Fern Ridge School District 28J

1. Name of Course or Activity College Now Statistics (LCC MTH 2437)
 School Elmira High School Department Math
2. Check One: Change in old course New Course
3. Implementation Dates: Begin 09/2025 End ongoing
(if short term)
4. Target Group: junior / seniors
5. Course Description: Attach the completed "Planned Course Statement".
6. Rationale: (What problem or need will this proposal resolve? How will this goals be accomplished? Use additional pages if necessary.)

Students applying to colleges reported that both statistics and calculus are respected during the application. However, students entering the medical and business fields reported statistics being the preferred class by college counselors.

7. Budget Estimate:		Amount	Explanation
Personnel	_____		<u>no additional FTE needed</u>
Supplies	_____		
Equipment	_____		
Travel	_____		<u>attend college now training</u>
Other	_____		
Total:		_____	<u>through Lane ESD.</u>

Initiator(s) Cynthia Anderson Position Principal
 School Elmira High School Date 07/14/2025

FORM 401

SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR A PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE CURRICULUM

Fern Ridge School District

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION: Statistics- college Now

INITIATOR: Cydney Vandercar

1. Submitted to: Emmy Erin Date: 7/14/25
(Curriculum Associate)

Signature: [Signature] Date: _____

2. Submitted to: Cydney Vandercar Date: 07/14/2025
(Supervising Administrator)

Signature: Cydney Vandercar Date: 07/14/2025

3. Submitted to: _____ Date: _____
(Curriculum Council Chairperson)

Recommendations of the Curriculum Council: The math department would like to offer this course to support students who want to extend their math knowledge but don't need calculus for their career goals.

Signature: Cydney Vandercar Date: 07/14/2025

4. Submitted to: Gary Carpenter
(Superintendent)

Final action taken: Implementation as submitted is authorized (Assuming Board Approval)

Implementation with specified modification is authorized

Implementation is not authorized

Explanation: _____

Signature: [Signature] Date: 7-15-25

General Education Requirements: Statistics MTH 243Z

Credit: Math 4 college credits if dual enrolled

Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to:

1. Critically read, interpret, report, and communicate the results of a statistical study along with evaluating assumptions, potential for bias, scope, and limitations of statistical inference
 - a. Classify study designs and variable types and identify methods of summary and analysis
2. Produce and interpret summaries of numerical and categorical data as well as appropriate graphical and/or tabular representations
 - a. Identify patterns and striking deviations from patterns in data
 - b. Identify associations between variables for bivariate data
 - c. Apply technology to calculate statistical summaries and produce graphical representations
3. Use the distribution of sample statistics to quantify uncertainty and apply the basic concepts of probability into statistical arguments
 - a. Interpret point and interval estimates
4. Identify, conduct, and interpret appropriate parametric hypothesis tests
 - a. Identify the appropriate test based on variable type
 - b. Identify situations where a one or two tailed test would be appropriate
 - c. Conduct tests of one and two means
 - d. Conduct tests of one and two proportions
 - e. Explain the distinction between statistical and practical significance and the potential for error in hypothesis test conclusions
 - f. Apply technology to perform hypothesis tests calculations
5. Assess relationships in quantitative bivariate data
 - a. Address questions relating correlation as a linear association between variables
 - b. Distinguish between correlation and causation within data
 - c. Apply technology to explore bivariate data
6. Calculate and interpret probabilities
 - a. Demonstrate an understanding of probability experiments, outcomes, and events
 - b. Recognize disjoint and independent events
 - c. Find and interpret empirical probabilities, including compound and conditional probabilities
 - d. Find probabilities and values for a normal distribution
 - e. Calculate probabilities using uniform, binomial, and Poisson distributions

Statistics

Grade 11/12

Prerequisite: Algebra II or Precalculus or Teacher Approval

Type of Credit: Math or Elective

This course provides mathematical techniques that help students critically read, interpret, report and communicate results of statistical studies along with analyzing assumptions, bias and limitations on statistics. We will use the distribution of sample statistics to give uncertainty a numerical representation through hypothesis testing, analysis of bivariate data and finally calculating and interpreting probabilities. This course is designed for student interested in Humanities, Social Studies and Liberal Arts at higher educational institutions. College Now course through LCC, MTH243Z.

FORM 400

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Fern Ridge School District 28J

1. Name of Course or Activity Robotics 1 semester course
 School Elmira High School Department Fine Arts/Elective
CTE
2. Check One: Change in old course New Course
3. Implementation Dates: Begin 09/2025 End ongoing
 (if short term)
4. Target Group: Interested Students
5. Course Description: Attach the completed "Planned Course Statement".
6. Rationale: (What problem or need will this proposal resolve? How will this goals be accomplished? Use additional pages if necessary.)

ETS worked with CTE leaders from Lane ESD to begin the process of creating a Health occupation pathway for CTE. Adding a Robotics class is one step closer to creating a complete CTE plan. The class could also be a stand alone elective for students who want to learn more about it.

7. Budget Estimate:

	Amount	Explanation
Personnel	_____	current
Supplies	_____	already purchased
Equipment	_____	
Travel	_____	
Other	_____	
Total:	_____	

Initiator(s) Cydney Vandercar Position Principal
 School Elmira High School Date 07/14/2025

FORM 401

SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR A PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE CURRICULUM

Fern Ridge School District

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION: Robotics (1 semester course)

INITIATOR: Cyndney Vandercaar

1. Submitted to: Emmy Annin Date: 7-14-25
(Curriculum Associate)

Signature: [Signature] Date: _____

2. Submitted to: Cyndney Vandercaar Date: 07/14/2025
(Supervising Administrator)

Signature: Cyndney Vandercaar Date: _____

3. Submitted to: _____ Date: _____
(Curriculum Council Chairperson)

Recommendations of the Curriculum Council: Start introducing the classes to see if there is interested.

Signature: Cyndney Vandercaar Date: 07/14/2025

4. Submitted to: Gary Carpenter
(Superintendent)

Final action taken: Implementation as submitted is authorized (Assuming board approval)
 Implementation with specified modification is authorized
 Implementation is not authorized

Explanation: _____

Signature: [Signature] Date: 7.15-2T

Robotics

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Type of credit: Fine Arts or Elective

Robotics students will learn the basic concepts of design and build a variety of computer-controlled robotic devices, including a fully autonomous mobile robot. Topics will include principles of computer science, mechanical design, sensor fundamentals, feedback control and electromechanical device control. Students may have the opportunity for club and extracurricular robotics activities concurrent with the class.

FORM 400

CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

Fern Ridge School District 28J

- Name of Course or Activity Computer Science (1 semester) ^{course(s)}
School Elmira High School Department CTE ^{Fine Arts/Elective}
- Check One: Change in old course New Course
- Implementation Dates: Begin 09/2025 End Ongoing
(if short term)
- Target Group: Interested Students
- Course Description: Attach the completed "Planned Course Statement".
- Rationale: (What problem or need will this proposal resolve? How will this goals be accomplished? Use additional pages if necessary.)

EHS worked with CTE leaders from Lane ESD to begin to create a CTE pathway for Health Occupations. Adding Computer is one class that could be part of the pathway and a stand alone that students are interested in learning more about.

7. Budget Estimate:

	Amount	Explanation
Personnel	_____	current staffing
Supplies	_____	
Equipment	_____	
Travel	_____	
Other	_____	materials already purchased
Total:	_____	

Initiator(s) Cydney Vandercar Position Principal
School Elmira High School Date 07/14/2025

FORM 401

SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR A PROPOSED CHANGE IN THE CURRICULUM

Fern Ridge School District

PROPOSAL IDENTIFICATION: Computer Science

INITIATOR: Cydney Vanderca

1. Submitted to: Emmy Erwin Date: 7-14-25
(Curriculum Associate)

Signature: [Signature] Date: _____

2. Submitted to: Cydney Vanderca Date: 07/14/2025
(Supervising Administrator)

Signature: Cydney Vanderca Date: 07/14/2025

3. Submitted to: _____ Date: _____
(Curriculum Council Chairperson)

Recommendations of the Curriculum Council: start introducing the possible pathway courses to see if there is interest.

Signature: Cydney Vanderca Date: 07/14/2025

4. Submitted to: Gary Carpenter
(Superintendent)

Final action taken: Implementation as submitted is authorized (Assum 1-6 Barring Approval)
 Implementation with specified modification is authorized
 Implementation is not authorized

Explanation: _____

Signature: [Signature] Date: 7-15-25

Exploring Computer Science

Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Type of credit: Fine Arts or Elective

This course is based upon the strands of Computer Science Principles, presenting students with the conceptual underpinnings of computer science through an exploration of human-computer interaction, web design, computer programming, data modeling and robotics. While this course includes aspects of programming, the focus is on the computational practices associated with computer science rather than coding, syntax or tools. This course includes the computational practices of algorithm design, problem solving and programming within the context relevant to their lives.

West Lane Charter School Annual Report 2024–2025

MISSION STATEMENT

Guiding students to success by focusing on individual goals.

VISION

West Lane Charter School provides high-quality, personalized learning tailored to each student's unique needs. Students benefit from flexible at-home or personalized learning environments while having access to one-on-one support from teachers. Our staff is committed to helping each student achieve their post-graduation college or career goals.

ENROLLMENT AND ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

In the 2024–2025 academic year, West Lane Charter School served **167 students**. Student mobility remained high, with many enrolling mid-year, exiting, and sometimes re-enrolling. Despite these challenges, we remain focused on individualized student support and progress.

Enrollment and On-Track Data by Grade

Grade	Total Enrolled	Year-End Enrolled	On Track at Enrollment	On Track at Year-End
9th	30	26	17 (56%)	7
10th	50	36	16 (32%)	10
11th	41	32	20 (48%)	13
12th+	47	12	15 (25%)	N/A

Student Success Outcomes

- 18 students earned a high school diploma
- 13 students completed their GED
- 6 seniors are continuing coursework over the summer or plan to return in the fall

Of the students who enrolled behind in credits, a total of 13 were able to complete their education via a GED pathway, while others showed various progress levels. Notably, Grade 12 had the highest number of students move from not on track to on track (5 students), and Grade 11 had the highest number of students maintain on-track status (10 students).

KEY CHALLENGES

- **High Student Mobility:** Mid-year enrollments and re-enrollments disrupted continuity and progress tracking.
- **Inconsistent Academic Readiness:** Many students entered significantly behind on credits, especially in grades 10 and 12.
- **Attendance and Engagement:** Irregular attendance hindered progress. We are enhancing outreach, support services, and student engagement to address these barriers.

LOOKING AHEAD

While data reveals areas for growth, it also highlights our students' and staff's resilience and dedication. We remain committed to continuous improvement and increasing on-track rates and graduation outcomes.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board remains active in school operations and oversight.

Board Members:

- JR Davis - Chair, jrdavis@westlanetech.org
- Ric Ingham - Vice Chair, ringham@westlanetech.org
- Robbie McCoy - Treasurer, rmccov@westlanetech.org
- Stacy Cornelius - Secretary, scornelius@westlanetech.org
- Jackie Turle, jturle@westlanetech.org
- Ryan Chambers, rchambers@westlanetech.org

GOALS: 2024–2026

STUDENT IMPROVEMENT DATA

Attendance

- Students are marked present with active participation and two-way communication within a 24-hour period
- Daily tracking and proactive family contact supports our tiered intervention model

Credit Attainment

Year	Fall Completed	Spring Completed	Total	Avg. Enrollment	Avg. Classes/Student	Avg. Credits/Student
2022–2023	200	310	510	80.8	6.31	3.15
2023–2024	270	319	590	88.7	6.65	3.32
2024–2025	302	408	710	100.5	7.06	3.53

Discipline

- With a largely remote model, discipline referrals are minimal:
 - 2 for alcohol
 - 1 for fighting
 - 1 for inappropriate internet use

Dropout Rates

- 2021–2022: 40.74%
- 2022–2023: 48.33%
- 2023–2024: 31.1%
- GED program attributed to significant dropout rate decline

Five-Year Completion Rates

- 2021–2022: 47%
- 2022–2023: 48%
- 2023–2024: 31%

Smarter Balanced Assessments

- 6 students tested in 2024–2025 (an increase from previous year)

- Most families opted out
- Testing was offered both in person and remotely; state guidelines continue to be followed

Surveys and Family Engagement

- Adjusted annual needs assessments over three years to improve response rates:
 - 2021–22: Virtual survey, 4% response
 - 2022–23: Paper survey during conferences, 30% response
 - 2024–25: Open-ended paper survey, 26% response
 - Positive feedback on communication and staff responsiveness
 - Barriers included internet access, though promptly addressed
 - Low awareness of CTE offerings identified as an area for growth
 - Future surveys will return to a hybrid format (Likert + open-ended) to increase participation
-

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

Funding

- Primary funding comes from the Oregon State School Fund Grant, distributed via the Fern Ridge School District on a monthly basis

Audit & Fiscal Oversight

- Internal auditing procedures guide financial controls, ensure transparency, and safeguard assets
- A copy of our most recent audit was submitted to the District in the fall

Supporting Documents

- Cash flow statement and budget-to-actual report included in accompanying documents
-

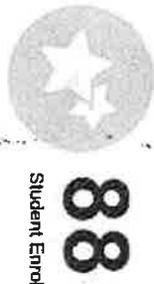
West Lane Charter School is committed to supporting all students in achieving their educational goals through innovation, flexibility, and personalized support. We thank the Fern Ridge School District for its continued partnership.

OREGON AT-A-GLANCE SCHOOL PROFILE

West Lane Charter School

PRINCIPAL: Darci Stuller | GRADES: 9-12 | 24967 Highway 126, Veneta 97487 | 541-935-2101

Students We Serve



DEMOGRAPHICS

American Indian/Alaska Native	Students Teachers	2% 0%
Asian	Students Teachers	1% 0%
Black/African American	Students Teachers	0% 0%
Hispanic/Latino	Students Teachers	10% 0%
Multiracial	Students Teachers	7% 0%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	Students Teachers	0% 0%
White	Students Teachers	80% 100%

Ever English Learners



Languages Spoken

26% Required Childbirth Vaccinations

88% Students Experiencing Poverty

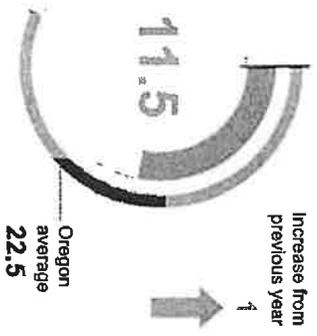
48% Disabilities

* <10 students or data unavailable

School Environment

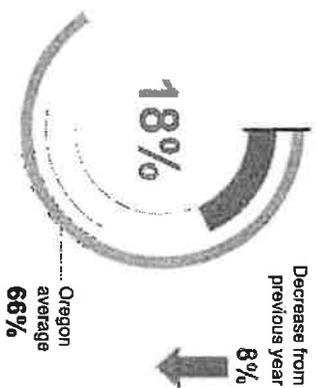
CLASS SIZE

Median size of classes in core subjects.



REGULAR ATTENDERS

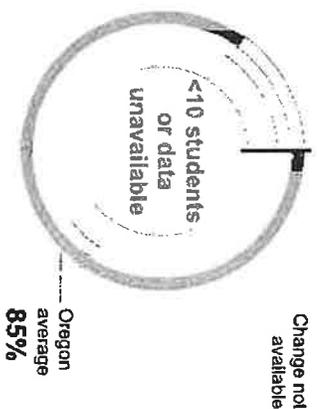
Students who attended more than 90% of their enrolled school days.



Academic Progress

ON-TRACK TO GRADUATE

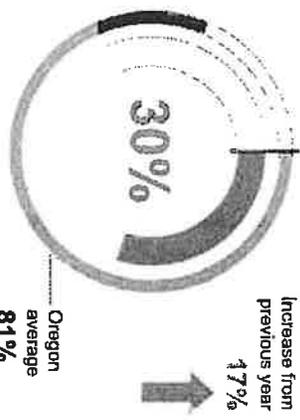
Students earning one-quarter of graduation credits in their 9th grade year.



Academic Success

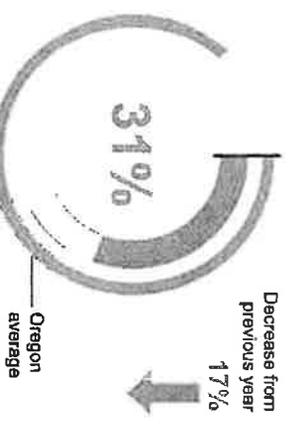
ON-TIME GRADUATION

Students earning a diploma within four years. Cohort includes students who were first-time ninth graders in 2019-20 graduating in 2022-23.



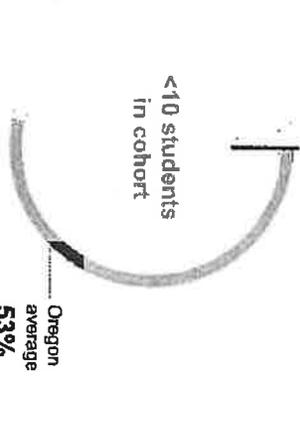
FIVE-YEAR COMPLETION

Students earning a high school diploma or GED within five years. Cohort includes students who were first-time ninth graders in 2018-19 finishing in 2022-23.



COLLEGE GOING

Students enrolling in a two or four year college within 12 months of completing high school in 2021-22. Data from the National Student Clearinghouse.



School Goals

At West Lane Charter School, our mission is to ensure each student receives a tailored educational experience. Our goals are:

- Each student will have an individualized learning plan
- Collect data on student achievement to identify deficits and implement interventions
- Decrease absenteeism by 3% annually
- Engage families, provide support services, and foster a supportive environment
- Increase graduation rates by 2% annually
- Implement incentive programs to increase course completion by 5% annually

State Goals

The Oregon Department of Education is collaborating with school districts and communities across the state to achieve a 90% on-time graduation rate by 2027. Grounded in the pillars of Academic Excellence, Belonging and Wellness, and Reinforced Accountability, ODE prioritizes evidence-based practices to boost early literacy, attendance, and student engagement. We are committed to closing opportunity and achievement gaps for marginalized students and securing long-term success for all of Oregon's learners by investing in culturally responsive practices, fostering inclusive environments and always driving for continuous improvement.

Safe & Welcoming Environment

At West Lane Charter School, we prioritize creating a safe and welcoming environment. Our advanced access control system secures the school 24/7, requiring codes for entry or staff assistance, ensuring safety for students, staff, and parents. Every student is greeted with a smile and conversation upon entering, reinforcing that they are valued. This combination of security and personal connection fosters a positive atmosphere crucial for student success.



Performance Distribution, By Test Group: West Lane Charter School, 2024-2025

Filtered By **Test Reasons:** All Test Reasons | **Sorted By:** Date Last Taken

OSAS Science

Grades Tested: 11

Tests Taken: 5 Date Last Taken: **04/24/2025**



Percent	20%	60%	20%
Count	1	3	1

OSAS Mathematics

Grades Tested: 11

Tests Taken: 5 Date Last Taken: **04/23/2025**



Percent	40%	40%	20%
Count	2	2	1

OSAS ELA

Grades Tested: 11

Tests Taken: 5 Date Last Taken: **04/21/2025**



Percent	20%	40%	40%
Count	1	2	2

WEST LANE CHARTER SCHOOL
GENERAL FUND
REVENUE/EXPENDITURE COMPARISON
2024-2025 FISCAL YEAR

	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTALS	BUDGET	GOOD (BAD)
REVENUES:															
BEGIN FUND BAL	643,268	627,570	653,584	668,178	662,505	682,834	683,340	714,928	839,666	756,570	802,427	890,678	643,268	500,000	143,268
INTEREST	7	7	68	7	6	68	7	7	69	8	0	0	253	500	(247)
MISCELLANEOUS	293	0	5,150	225	451	1,500	0	44	0	300	1,800	0	9,563	7,000	2,563
SSF	63,806	63,806	106,212	84,947	103,325	83,107	82,015	216,445	0	130,489	166,301	0	1,102,453	700,000	402,453
CR. RECOVERY FEES	0	0	500	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	487	0	987	0	987
PERKINS REIMB.	1,835	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,835	1,950	(115)
HIGH SCHOOL SUCC	0	0	0	0	0	0	31,091	0	0	0	0	0	31,091	53,711	(22,620)
SUMMER SCHOOL	3,250	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3,250	0	3,250
DONATIONS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1,000	0	1,000	500	500
TOTAL REVENUES	69,190	63,613	111,930	85,179	103,783	84,874	113,113	218,496	69	130,797	189,387	0	1,150,431	763,661	386,770
CUMULATIVE REV	69,190	133,003	244,933	330,111	433,894	518,568	631,681	850,178	850,246	981,043	1,150,431	1,150,431	1,263,661	1,263,661	386,770

	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	TOTALS	BUDGET	GOOD (BAD)
EXPENDITURES:															
SALARIES	14,844	12,510	47,863	47,863	47,863	47,863	47,863	47,863	47,863	47,863	48,180	0	458,438	522,781	64,343
FRINGE BENEFITS	9,810	8,893	26,057	26,054	26,053	26,049	26,054	26,054	26,054	26,054	25,931	0	253,063	412,729	159,666
PURCHASED SVCS	55,945	16,344	23,352	12,074	9,438	10,081	7,516	17,085	6,773	10,347	6,270	0	175,224	157,050	(18,174)
SUPPLIES/MATLS	0	35	20	4,860	0	175	91	2,672	2,475	677	757	0	11,762	50,000	38,238
CAPITAL OUTLAY	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MISCELLANEOUS	4,289	35	25	0	100	0	0	85	0	0	0	0	4,534	40,000	35,466
TRANSFERS	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL EXPENSES	84,888	37,818	97,317	90,851	83,454	84,168	81,524	93,759	83,184	84,940	81,137	0	903,021	1,182,560	279,539
CONTINGENCY														15,000	0
Prof Ending Fund														66,101	66,101
CUMULATIVE EXP	84,888	122,706	220,023	310,875	394,328	478,497	580,021	653,780	736,944	821,884	903,021	903,021	903,021	1,263,661	360,640
ENDING FUND BAL	627,570	653,564	668,178	662,505	682,834	683,340	714,928	839,666	756,570	802,427	890,678	890,678	890,678	890,678	890,678

FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT/WLTLC ANNUAL CONTRACT/CHARTER REVIEW

Academic Year: 24-25 Review Team: _____

Program/Area	Status C = In compliance NC = Not in compliance NA = Not Applicable NO = Not Observed	Evidence * List proof/artifact used to determine status
Safety / Health		
• Compliance with criminal background checks for staff, volunteers, including volunteer list and volunteer driver's list.	C	ODE - on file
• Driver's insurance on file and meeting limits.	C	on file
• Immunization records are current.	C	eSchool
• Form for mandatory reporting of child abuse, yearly training, parent awareness	C	Board Policy
• Student & staff injury form. District kept informed. OSHA file up to date.	N/A	
• School visitor policy, check in	C	on file
• Medication log, administration document on file, staff training. Epi pin training log. Epi pins current and accessible.	C	Safe Schools
• Staff training on blood borne, harassment, first aid	C	Safe Schools
Facilities		
• Copy of annual fire safety inspection	C	on file
• File on safety committee minutes, copy to District	C	
• Schedule for Fire, Earth Quake, Lock-down and actual drills with comments	C	
• Facilities clean, no clutter, grounds maintained	C	
• Any/all upgrades prior approval from District	N/A	
• Per Contract all use agreements are on file, fees paid	N/A	
• Classroom (s), grounds conducive to safe learning environment	C	

Finances - Per Contract		
• Last year's certified audit on file and to District	C	Sent via email
• Current budget adopted, quarterly budget reconciled with no outstanding debt	C	Sent via email
• Responses to Management Letter on file, timely and copy to District	C	
• Payroll records maintained, state/federal deductions current, unemployment, workers comp. , PERS as applicable, etc.	C	on file
• Charitable annual report filed	C	
• Form 990 filed	C	
• In compliance with all applicable state & federal laws regarding gifts, donations, grants, copy to District	C	
• Policies, procedures for purchase order forms to establish fiscal accountability, compliance with state laws	C	on file
• Current list for enrollment, reconcile with District	N/A	
• Reserve goal(s) as per contract	N/A	
Records		
• Cumulative folders in secure location in a locked , fire proof cabinet	C	
• Special education records organized and in separate file folders.	C	
• Contracts with resident schools for Sped on file	N/A	
• Health files maintained separately	C	
• Attendance procedures established and accurate	C	on file
• Addressing excessive absences	C	
• Records retained for period specified by ODE	C	
• Applicable Div 22 data maintained	N/A	

Instruction/Assessment		
• Class enrollment reconcile with ADM	N/A	
• All NCLB core courses taught by HQT	N/A	
• Interventions – Differentiated Instruction	C	
• PDP on file per ODE and data driven as per OAKS and unit/course performance data	C	on file
• Syllabi and Plan Course Statements on File with District	N/A	
• Performance samples on file, analyzed	N/A	
• Instruction time maximized	C	
• Ed. program is nonreligious and nondiscriminatory as per contract	C	on file
• All students participate on State Tests, reported and used for SIP and PDP	C	
• SIP on file, updated and written with SMART goals	C	on file
• Offers instruction in all required content areas, meets academic content standards as per ORS 329.045(3)	C	
• Review any Independent Textbook adoptions or other Curriculum deviations	N/A	
• Teacher interview (2)		
• Students interviewed (3)		
Personnel		
• Personnel files kept in locked file with limited access	C	
• Resumes and applications on file for current staff	C	
• Position Descriptions on file for all staff specify NCLB HQT	N/A	
• Hiring procedures in place as approved by governing board	C	
• Teacher licenses and state registration on file, copy to District	C	
• In compliance with an ODE approved ELL	C	

program		
• All teachers, staff observed and evaluated	C	on file
• Teacher Interview (2)		
• Student Interview (3)		
• Parent Interview (2)		
• Data of annual report to District summarizing academic goals and progress toward meeting, student attendance, discipline data, policy issues per contract	C	by end of June
• Meeting nondiscrimination requirements with school staff person responsible for compliance	C	
• Grievance file/ plan to resolve	C	
• Computer Internet Policy	C	
Governance		
• Review agenda, minutes, open meeting law compliance	C	on website
• Review of articles of incorporation bylaws and org chart as per contract. Any revisions to same made this year.	C	
• List of school board member addresses and telephone numbers available to community ^(emails)	C	on website
• Parents have information regarding how to contact board members or place item on agenda	C	on website
• Board understands core mission, goals in sufficient depth to permit effective oversight	C	
• Process in place for selecting new board members	C	bylaws
• Board has implemented and maintained appropriate policies, systems and processes: * Conflict of Interest Policy * Complaint Process	C	on file
• Board interview (1)		
Discipline		

• Student Code of Conduct is well defined and available to students and parents	C	handbook
• Computer/Internet use policy	C	on website
• Discipline policies reviewed each year and any changes approved by Board	C	
• Low level of misbehavior not tolerated, e.g., students not allowed to opt out of learning or engage in quiet chatter during instruction	N/A	
• Tracking of student non-compliance	C	
• Suspension/Expulsion records on file. Indicate procedures implemented as defined and consistent with District policy/practices.	C	
Food Service		
• Evidence all resident students provided opportunity to complete free/reduce meal application	C	offered at Registration
Follow-up from previous site visit/communication		
* Examples of Evidence of Compliance Current policy(ies) Minutes of charter meetings Contract(s) with school district(s) Written evaluation Inspection reports Correspondence/forms to ODE Audited financial statements Curriculum mapping/alignment documents State Student Performance Data Normed Tests Interviews and focus groups with students, parents, staff, etc. Other indicators as required in Contract . . .		

West Lane Charter School

Annual Site Review

27 June, 2025

Gary E. Carpenter, Jr.

Superintendent, Fern Ridge School District

The annual review process took place with an on-site interview on Tuesday, June 10th at 9:00 AM. In attendance were myself, Gary Carpenter Superintendent FRSD 28, and FRSD Director of K-12 Programs Michelle Marshall representing the district, along with Director Mrs. Stuller and Business Manger Shawna Scroggins from WLC.

On Wednesday, June 25th I received a copy of the 24-25 annual report of WLC.

Included in this report are:

- My summary comments
- FRSD/WLC annual contract/charter review form (completed by WLC staff)
- 2024-2025 WLC Annual Report to FRSD

COMMENTS

STRENGTHS

- The program serves as an alternative option for students, many of whom are down to their last option, in regards to achieving a High School Diploma.
- The organizational survey was done this year and they had a response rate of 26%. Mrs. Stuller identified some barriers as well as positive feedback from the survey in her report to FRSD.
- Director Stuller attended FRSD board meetings when needed, including her annual board presentation. This is appreciated by the FRSD Board.
- In speaking to the FRSD Special Education Director, Mrs. Klingsporn, continued improvements in this area have been noted during the past several years without any major special education or contract violations occurring.
- WLC reports compliant in all areas of the annual contract charter review form.
- The new GED program has been a success, and allowed many students to graduate with this diploma, thus reducing their dropout rate.

- State test scores are hard to extrapolate any meaningful data, as the vast majority opt out. In 2025, WLC only had 6 of their Juniors take the exam. Having said that, the 6 that took the exam did well, and thus WLC OSAS data will NOT bring down overall district state assessment scores as they have done historically. This is appreciated.
- I appreciate the fact that Director Stuller reaches out for support when she needs it, at the same time she is also able and willing to do the work needed that enables those instances of needing significant district support, to be relatively rare.

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT/CONCERN

- I am not noting any areas for improvement. I am confident that Director Stuller and her staff continue to work on improving their program through reflection and the continual adding of supports for student (most notably in recent years, that would include the addition of a counselor, updating their on-line platform, and starting their GED program).
- One question or area I would like you to follow up on with Mrs. Vandercar (or me if you have questions), is in the area of student discipline. It was noted in your annual report that discipline referrals are rare, with only 4 in the last school year. Two of those referrals were for alcohol. In FRSD, any student caught with, or under the influence of drugs or alcohol on campus go through at Due Process/Expulsion Hearing as noted in our student handbook. In general, I can support WLC's decision to handle these instances as they see fit, even though it is clearly different from FRSD. However, I would like to be informed when a student is suspended from WLC for drug or alcohol. When students are suspended from EHS (for example), they are not allowed on the campus of ANY district site. I would like WLC to make sure that when students are suspended for drugs or alcohol, that they are informed they are not to be on ANY FRSD campus. That, combined with sharing the information with the School District, will allow us to ensure that a student that is suspended from WLC for drugs or alcohol is not showing up on the EHS campus attending an event, a football game, basketball game, etc...

- **SUMMARY**

WLC is a program within the Fern Ridge School District that provides students a path to a diploma that is different than the regular public-school system. This year concluded year 1 of the current 5-year charter/contract with FRSD. Graduating students and academic success for a larger percentage of its students continues to be the biggest metric that will be used to assess the success of WLC. The addition of the GED program has assisted in this area. During our site visit we discussed opportunities to partner during August and staff in-service in regards to required trainings. We agreed to keep each other informed on any needs and opportunities in this area.

Throughout Mrs. Stuller's tenure at WLC, communication and follow through has improved, and that is appreciated. Mrs. Stuller has been professional to work with and the District looks forward to continuing to partner in the future.

Fern Ridge School District 28J
2025-2026 PARENT STUDENT HANDBOOKS

<p><i>VENETA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</i></p>	<p><i>ELMIRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL</i></p>
	
<p><i>FERN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL</i></p>	<p><i>ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL</i></p>
	

CONTENT EXPLANATION

This document contains the student handbooks from all four of our buildings as well as a “Student Rights and Responsibilities” handbook that goes into much deeper detail for student conduct expectations. **In addition, page 6 advises parents of several legal issues we need to address and needs to be signed for every child enrolling in Fern Ridge School District. This form will only need to be completed once during your child’s K – 12 career. Please sign and return to the building secretary for your child’s school.** Page 7 describes the district attendance notification procedures, that differ at each level.

Elmira Elementary, Elmira High School and the Students Rights handbooks have their own Table of Contents. The Veneta Elementary and the Middle School’s handbooks do not have Table of Contents. The handbooks are in this order within this document:

Veneta Elementary Handbook – page 8

Elmira Elementary Handbook – page 26

Fern Ridge Middle School Handbook – page 48

Elmira High School – page 68

Fern Ridge School District Student Rights and Responsibilities – page 100

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The purpose of this page is to advise parents and students of legal obligations and to notify parents of the district's responsibilities, as well as serve as a receipt of your student's school's handbook and the Fern Ridge School District Students' Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. Please review the handbook for your child's school as well as the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook. The handbooks will be reviewed with students after the start of school. This sign off sheet will only need to be done once during your child's K – 12 career while attending school in Fern Ridge School District. If you decide to make changes at any point during your child's educational experience at any of our buildings, please contact the building secretary for a new sign off sheet.

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) is a Federal law that protects the privacy of student education records as well as gives parents certain rights to their children's records. Please know that certain information about your student is considered directory information and is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released to the public. Directory information includes but is not limited to: the student's name, address, telephone listing, photograph, date and place of birth, major field of study, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, degrees and awards received and the most recent previous educational agency or institution attended. [I have marked through those types of directory information listed above that I wish the district to withhold.] I understand that unless I object to the release of any or all of this information within fifteen (15) school days of the date this student handbook was issued to my student, directory information may be released by the district for use in local school publications, other media and for such other purposes as deemed appropriate by the principal. More information: <http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/ferpa>

I also understand that certain student information is considered personally identifiable information and may be released only with prior notification by the district of the purpose(s) the information will be used, to whom it will be released and my prior written, dated and signed consent unless otherwise permitted by law. Personally identifiable information includes the student's name as well as, but is not limited to the name of the student's parents or other family member, the address of the student or student's family, and personal identifiers such as the student's social security number, student ID number or a list of personal characteristics or other such information that would make the student's identity easily traceable. However, as students participate in school activities, we have opportunities to provide local newspapers and at times, TV stations with photos / video clips (all types of media) of our students participating in newsworthy events. Photos / video clips may be used in local newspapers, school newsletters or on local broadcast stations. Please mark through any information in this paragraph that you wish to have the district withhold.

Parents objecting to the release of directory or personally identifiable information on their student should notify your student's school within (15) days of receipt of the student handbook. (Fern Ridge Board Policy JOB.)

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) regarding Military Recruitment states that school districts are to allow the same access to students by military recruiters as they do college and job recruiters. This access includes releasing students' names, addresses and telephone numbers to military recruiters. However, secondary school students or their parents can request that the information not be released by indicating your preference below.

Fern Ridge School District uses "Google Apps for Education" in the classroom for educational use. Google Apps is a suite of free, web-based programs that includes email, document creation, shared calendars and collaboration tools. Google may add additional applications as they are developed. Google Apps runs on an Internet domain purchased and owned by the district. Please know that in addition to Google Apps, the district uses multiple online services for the beneficial educational use for students. If you have any questions regarding these programs, please contact your building principal. Your signature below authorizes the district to allow your student to use Google Apps and other online educational programs throughout their K-12 educational experience in Fern Ridge.

Student Name (Please Print) _____ Student ID# _____

Parent/Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

If you leave any box below unchecked, the district will assume you are providing us with permission to proceed

Do Not _____ release information to the military. Parent Initials: _____

Do Not _____ release directory information or personally identifiable information as I have indicated above

Do Not _____ give permission to release my child's photograph in any format (website, etc.)

Do Not _____ give permission for my child's photograph in class pictures/yearbook only

Information regarding policies will be kept updated at <http://www.fernridge.k12.or.us/technology/studentdata>

I have read the district's Internet policy IIBGA and accompanying IIBGA-AR(<http://policy.osba.org/fernridg/IIBGA%20D1.PDF> and <http://policy.osba.org/fernridg/IIBGA%20R%20G1.PDF>) I understand that violation of the district's policy will be handled in accordance with district policy, rules and regulations.

_____ Parent Initials

FRSD ATTENDANCE NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES

The relevant policies around attendance, and specifically parental notification of absences, can be found below in the Policy and Administrative Rule.

Policy:

<https://policy.osba.org/fernridg/search.asp?si=75853865&pid=r&nsb=1&n=0& charset =window s-1252&bcd=%F7&s=fernridg&query=attendance>

Administrative rule (AR):

<https://policy.osba.org/fernridg/search.asp?si=75853865&pid=r&nsb=1&n=0& charset =window s-1252&bcd=%F7&s=fernridg&query=attendance>

While the standards above describe the minimum as required by policy and state law, the FRSD will implement this practice in different ways, at the different levels K-12. Below is that description.

Elementary Schools (EES and VES):

- To start the day, building secretaries enter excused absences for any pre-arranged absence, or as the result of any phone calls/messages left on the school phone.
- Attendance is entered by classroom teachers by 8:30 AM.
- By 8:30, building secretaries will begin calling the parents of students that remain with an unexcused absence.
- The phone dialer will begin calling students that still have an unexcused absence beginning at 9:00 AM.

Middle School and High School (EHS and FRMS)

- To start the day, building secretaries enter excused absences for any pre-arranged absence, or as the result of any phone calls/messages left on the school phone.
- FRMS: Classroom attendance for 1st period is entered by 9:00. Phone dialer at 9:15.
- EHS: Classroom attendance for 1st/2nd period is entered by 9:45. Phone dialer at 10:00
- Classroom attendance is entered for the remaining periods of the day by 3:00.
- The phone dialer pulls attendance data for the remainder of the day, and phone calls are made again, beginning at 3:15.

SPECIAL NOTES:

- To verify or change the phone number our phone dialer will call, regarding an unexcused absence, please contact the school secretary.
- It is **EXTREMELY HELPFUL** to building secretaries to receive a phone call, a message, or have a completed pre-arranged absence form filled out. In particular, this limits the number of individual phone calls needing to be made at the Elementary level!

Veneta Elementary School

Family Handbook 2025-2026

Home of the Cougars



“We are building a community through caring and character that sparks life-long learning”

541-935-8225

<https://www.fernridge.k12.or.us/venetaele/>

Section One: School Procedures

ABSENCES AND TARDIES

- Parents can inform the office of absences by calling the school before 8:25 AM or sending a note when the student returns to school.
- Extended absences planned in advance require a Pre-Arranged Absence Form which is available in the office or on our website. The form should be given to the classroom teacher at least one week in advance.
- School starts sharply at 7:55. Students are tardy if they are not seated in their classroom ready to go at 7:55.
- **Students who arrive later than 8:05 AM must be signed in by their parent.**
- Parents will be notified when a student has excessive absences/tardies. Parents may be cited for truancy if the problem continues.
- Parents can be cited for truancy when attendance falls below 80% whether or not those absences are excused.
- The principal makes the final decision on whether an absence is excused or unexcused.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

- Parents or guardians are contacted when a child is injured and the injury appears serious or appears to require medical attention.
- Emergency contacts will only be called if the parents cannot be reached.
- Minor injuries will be taken care of in the health room and the child returned to class.
- An ill or injured student may be released to the emergency contact if the parent cannot be reached.
- **Please make sure we have your most current contact information and up-to-date emergency contacts.**

AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

- Students go home each day as directed by the parent/guardian on the transportation form.
- Walkers should go straight home or to daycare.
- Bus riders get off at their assigned stop and then go directly home or to daycare.
- All students being picked up need to be picked up by 2:30 Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. On Wednesdays children need to be picked up by 12:50.
- Veneta Elementary does not offer after school supervision or programs.
- **Children going somewhere different after school must bring a note or parents must call before 1:00 pm Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Please call before 11:30 on Wednesdays. Parents must provide the full address and bus number of where their child is going after school when calling for a bus pass. Federal law prohibits the school from giving out that information.**
- Children will go home by their regular method unless we receive a note or hear directly from a parent/guardian.
- Children who normally ride the bus cannot walk home without parents notifying the school.
- We assume that children who ride their bikes to school can ride them home.

PLEASE NOTE: Each day the office writes several notes and bus passes changing after school plans for children. In the past, some parents have changed their children's plans on a daily basis. Please help us keep things simple by keeping your child on a fixed schedule for their afterschool routine.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

In dropping off or picking up your child, please remember that our parking lot is a busy place. Following the rules below helps to ensure the safety of all students:

1. **Do not drop off your child before 7:30. There is no student supervision before 7:30. Students are not allowed in the building before 7:30.**
2. Please use the drop off lane in the morning. In the afternoon, please park and pick up your child.
3. Parents should only park in marked parking spaces.
4. The bus loop is for buses only during the school day, from 7 AM to 5 PM.
5. Students who ride their bicycles to school must wear helmets, park their bikes in the racks provided, and walk their bikes on school property. Students leave their bikes in the racks at their own risks- we recommend bike locks at all times.

7:30AM	School opens. Students may enter through the building through the front door.
7:50 AM	Students dismissed to go to classrooms unless they are eating school breakfast.
7:50 AM	FIRST BELL RINGS - All students need to be in their classrooms.
7:55 AM	Instruction Begins– Students are considered late if they are not in their classroom by 7:55
2:25 PM	Dismissal Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays
12:45 PM	Dismissal Every Wednesday for Early Release

BUS INFORMATION

- Parents are required to know which bus their child rides to and from school.
- Bus routes may change over the summer. Parents should confirm bus routes by contacting the bus barn at 541-935-1969.
- Bus safety is very important. Students must be safe, respectful and responsible while on the bus and while at the bus stop. Bus privileges may be suspended for inappropriate behavior. Please see the bus rules at the back of this handbook for more information.
- If the bus is late or your child is not on the bus when it comes, please contact First Student at 935-1969 first, then the school if needed.

CONFISCATED ITEMS

Please note that items not allowed at school will be confiscated by school staff. This can include, but is not limited to: electronic devices, toys, trading cards, lighters, knives, etc. The school principal will determine when and how confiscated items are returned to the student or the family.

CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK/SB 155 INFORMATION

- All school volunteers must fill out a district “criminal history verification” form and complete “Safe Schools Training”. This form needs to be filled out each year in order to:
 - Volunteer in a classroom
 - Volunteer on a field trip
 - Ride the bus on a field trip
 - Volunteer for a special event in the school
 - Volunteer in any way that puts you in contact with students

FIELD TRIPS

Parents may help chaperone and supervise students during field trips. The guidelines below outline our policies regarding field trips:

1. Volunteers must be on the current approved volunteer list and have a current approved criminal background check on file in the office. **The criminal history background check must be completed every year.**

2. **It can take up to two weeks to process background checks. Please plan ahead if you want to chaperone a field trip. Completing the background check process in September is the best thing to do.**
3. Permission for a child to ride to or home from a field trip in a private car with an adult other than their parent must be given by the parent to the office.
4. **Only the students in the classroom(s) of the participating teacher(s) may attend the field trip.** Under no circumstances are siblings or friends not in the same class permitted to attend.
5. Parents and/or legal guardians without approved criminal background checks are strongly discouraged from attending field trips. They may only do so if:
 - they drive their own personal vehicle (not ride the bus)
 - the field trip is to a completely public location
 - pay any appropriate admissions or fees themselves
 - do not interact with other children without the supervision of staff or approved chaperones

PLEASE NOTE: Field trips are a privilege. To ensure student safety, students must have good behavior to be able to go on a field trip. Individual teachers may also set behavior standards that students must meet to be able to participate on a field trip.

Homework

Beginning with the 2017-18 school year, Veneta Elementary implemented the following homework policy for grades K-3 and 4th/5th.

Kindergarten thru 3rd grade:

No Assigned Homework/ No Grade for Homework

- A.) Optional Activities: At Teacher's Discretion, some things can be optional for extra practice. This could include sending spelling words home on Monday for parents who want to practice during the week, or other materials from the current reading curriculum. None of these optional activities will be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.

Families will be encouraged to read with their children a minimum of 20 minutes per a night at the Kindergarten thru 2nd grade level and 30 minutes a night at the 3rd grade level.

- A.) No reading logs or reading tracking sheets will be required. Reading logs or tracking sheets will not be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.
- B.) Teachers can motivate students to read through "Book Talks" or "Book Recommendations." Teachers can use optional reading sheets as an incentive i.e. all students who return a book log go into a weekly drawing or by participating in reading incentive programs like those offered by Pizza Hut. However any optional reading tracking sheets should not require parent signature.

4th and 5th grade

Students are encouraged to read 30 minutes EACH night

- A.) No reading logs or reading tracking sheets will be required. Reading logs or tracking sheets will not be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.
- B.) Teachers can motivate students to read through "Book Talks" or "Book Recommendations." Teachers can use optional reading sheets as an incentive i.e. all students who return a book log go into a weekly drawing or by participating in reading incentive programs like those offered by Pizza Hut. However any optional reading tracking sheets should not require parent signature.

- C.) One short homework activity sheet can be required homework. For example at the 4th grade level, they require a math fact fluency practice page where students practice their math fact fluency for 10 minutes total over the course of the week.
- D.) Optional Activities: At Teacher's Discretion, some things can be optional for extra practice. This could include sending spelling words home on Monday for parents who want to practice during the week or a Weekly Reader as an optional assignment. None of these optional activities will be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.

Unfinished Work can be Taken Home as Homework

Larger projects (like a report) may have elements that students work on at home. For example, students who are asked to do a presentation on a Native American tribe, may do the research and written work at school, but build the diorama at home.

ILLNESS

- Students with temperatures above 100.4 degrees, who are vomiting, have diarrhea or who have an infectious condition will be sent home.
- Children should stay home for 24 hours after having vomited. Children should also be kept home from school when suffering from a severe cold, high temperature, infection, diarrhea, etc.
- Children experiencing difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, or a serious and sustained cough should be kept home.
- Children with conditions such as scabies, impetigo, or head lice, must be accompanied to school by their parents and checked in the health room to ensure that they are free of the condition before going to class.
- Please make sure that contact information is kept current and the school knows where to reach you if needed.
- Our guidelines come from ODE and the Department of Health and Human Services as well as district policy.
- Our secretaries are **not** licensed health care professionals. Please contact your family doctor if you have medical concerns or questions.

INSURANCE

- The school offers school insurance through an outside company not associated with Fern Ridge School District. Applications are available in the office and during registration.
- **Veneta Elementary DOES NOT carry insurance that covers your child if they are hurt at school.**

LEGAL ISSUES

- Children must be registered in their full, legal name. Your child can go by a different name, but all school records must be kept under their legal name.
- While all parents care about their children, sometimes conflicts arise regarding child custody, visitation, etc. The school is a neutral party focused on the educational needs of the student. To protect the right of parents and/or guardians, state law requires that if one parent wants to limit the rights of another, they must provide the school with current legal documentation pertaining to visitation, custody, etc.
- The school cannot deny a non-custodial parent access to a child unless there is a court order on file in the school office. The school must follow the most recent official legal documentation that we have on file.

LICE

- A student with a suspected case of head lice will be referred to the school office for assessment. A student found with live lice may be excluded from school. A parent of the

student will be notified and treatment will be requested. A student excluded from school that has been treated will be readmitted after an assessment by designated personnel. The student may be subject to periodic checks.

More information on lice can be found at www.cdc.gov/parasites/lice/head/

MEDICATIONS

At times, your child may need to take medication at school. We are happy to help when medication **must** be taken during school or there are recurring medical issues such as asthma, headaches, etc. Many medications that need to be taken 3 times daily can be taken at breakfast, when your child returns home, and before bedtime. This eliminates the need for medications at school. For those medications that **must** be administered or available during school hours, the following guidelines will be strictly followed:

1. All medication **must** be turned into the office by the parent. Parents must complete the appropriate paperwork and sign a release.
2. Over the counter medication must be unopened in the original container.
3. Prescription medication must be in the original container with the prescription label on it.
4. Over the counter drugs can only be administered as directed on the packaging. Prescription drugs can only be administered according to the doctor's instructions.
5. Instructions from the doctor that include the student's name, name of drug, dosage, and time to be taken must accompany prescription medication.
6. Medication should never be sent to school with the students.
7. At the end of the school year, medications must be picked up by the parent. They cannot be returned to the student. Any medication not picked up by the time the office closes for the summer will be destroyed.
8. Cough drops should be given to the classroom teacher to distribute to the student when needed.

PARENT CONCERNS

When you have a concern about your child's academic progress, attendance, grades, assignments, or behavior, please contact their teacher first. If the problem is not resolved with the teacher, then please feel free to contact the building principal.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

There are many opportunities for families to become involved at Veneta Elementary.

- Parents can learn about these opportunities through:
 - a) Attending PALS meetings monthly
 - b) Classroom newsletters
 - c) School newsletters
 - d) Reader board
 - e) School website (www.fernridge.k12.or.us/venetae/)
 - f) Facebook (Search for Veneta Elementary PALS)
 - g) Autodialer phone system
 - h) ParentSquare
- VES has parent teacher conferences twice a year. All parents are invited to the fall conferences and the spring conferences are by request. Report cards are given during conferences.
- Students of parents not attending conferences will bring their report card home.
- End of the year report cards are mailed home after school is out.
- Parents have many opportunities to volunteer at Veneta Elementary.
- All volunteers must pass a background check each year.
- **Parents are encouraged to join our Parent Action League for Students (PALS) and become involved in our school community. PALS meets monthly.**

- Veneta also hosts several fun and informative family nights during the school year.

PARTIES

- Classrooms have parties for different occasions.
- Only store bought and individually wrapped food items can be given to students.
- Individual teachers have different practices regarding birthday parties. **Parents must contact their child's teacher before bringing treats to the classroom.**
- Please do not send party invitations to school, unless all the students in the classroom are invited.
- **Balloons, stuffed animals, or flowers delivered to your child cannot be taken home on the bus.** They will be delivered to the student during the last 10 minutes of school in order to avoid disrupting class.

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

- The time your child spends in the classroom is important. Please try to avoid making appointments or plans that take your child out of school.
- All students leaving during the school day must be signed out by a parent or guardian through the office.
- We will not release students to individuals other than their parents/guardians without a note or a phone call from the custodial parent, even if they are the child's emergency contact list.
- Parents should not remove students from the school building or the playground without notifying the office first and signing their student out.

RETENTION

- Veneta Elementary follows district guidelines when deciding whether a child should be retained.
- If your child might be retained, you will be notified early in the process. Final retention decisions will be made by June 1st.
- Parents who disagree with the decision may appeal to the superintendent.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION: A MODEL TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

- Response to Intervention or RTI is an instructional model that helps us monitor student progress in reading and intervene when they are struggling.
- All students are given assessments three times a year (September, January, and May).
- Teachers review student progress and performance on a regular basis.
- Students who need extra help are identified and provided additional support.
- Students who receive additional support and continue to struggle may be referred for a special education evaluation. Parents will be informed if an evaluation is being considered.

SCHOOL CLOSURES AND DELAYS

In case of a school delay or school closure:

1. Notice of school closure will be broadcast over participating radio and TV stations. VES will also send a text message to all parents who subscribe to our text messaging system.
2. Decisions on school delays or closures will be made by 6:00 a.m. and should be broadcast by 6:30 a.m.
3. Parents can also check online at Flashalert.net
4. When school is closed due to inclement weather, all after school and evening activities will be canceled.
5. The decision to close or delay school can change so please stay tuned for updates.

In case of a school closure ***after students have arrived at school:***

- Every attempt will be made to contact a parent/guardian. No child will be released or put on a bus unless contact has been made with a parent/guardian or an emergency contact. If possible, parents will be alerted through our text message system.
- If parents/emergency contacts cannot be reached, students will be kept at school until contact is made. Students will need to be picked up if contact is not made before the buses leave.
- Parents are encouraged to pick their child up once a closure has been announced. Parents must sign their child out.
- **Please ensure that we have current contact information including where you can be reached during the school day.**
- School closure information is also available via radio, television, the District's website, and the District's auto-dialer.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

The School District is covering the cost of school supplies. This eliminates the need for parents/students to shop for any school supplies other than a backpack, water bottle, and appropriate shoes for PE

STUDENT PLACEMENT POLICY

- Teachers place students in classrooms after careful consideration and extensive discussion.
- Parents may request a specific teacher (we will try to honor these).
- That request must be in made in writing, signed by parents and delivered to our office by May 31st for the following school year.
- ***These requests will be considered, but cannot always be accommodated.***

VISITORS

- **All visitors, including parents, must report to the office, sign in, and wear identification badges.**
- No student expected to be in attendance at another school will be allowed to visit Veneta Elementary.
- ***We welcome parents as visitors in their child's classroom. However, we ask that you call ahead and make arrangements to ensure that you don't come at a time that is disruptive for the classroom.***

VOLUNTEERS

- **To volunteer at VES, a criminal history form must be approved each school year.**
- It takes 7 to 14 days to process a criminal history background check form.
- Volunteers must sign in at the office and wear a volunteer badge while in the building.
- We welcome volunteers in our classrooms and throughout our school.
- Veneta Elementary also hosts a SMART (Start Making A Reader Today) program where community members read to younger children. If you are interested in volunteering for SMART, contact the school office for more information. SMART volunteers donate just one hour a week and make a huge difference in the life of the child they work with.

Section Two: Student Information

CELL PHONES

Due to a new cell phone requirement from ODE that came out in July of 2024, the FRSD administrators and school board will be discussing cell phone policies in July-September. Once updated, the new language will be inserted into the online version of the FRSD Handbook.

DRESS CODE

In addition to the standards included in the student's rights and responsibilities handbook, please be aware of the following dress code standards for VES:

1. Clothing must be school appropriate and not distract from student learning.
2. Students have outdoor recess all year long. Please dress children in layers that can be adjusted for the weather.
3. Students must be able to run and play in their shoes. Shoes that allow students to participate at recess and during P.E. without restriction are encouraged. **Shoes such as flip flops or high heels are not recommended.**

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- a. Students may not bring or play with personal electronic devices at school.
- b. Electronic devices will be confiscated if used or played with at school.
- c. Neither the school nor the district is responsible for the potential theft, loss, or damage of items brought to school or on the bus.

GUM

Chewing gum at school or on school grounds is not allowed except in the computer labs during state testing.

LOST AND FOUND

- Our lost and found is in the main hallway.
- Smaller items are in the office.
- Please put names on outer clothing and lunch boxes.
- Unclaimed lost and found items are donated to charity at the end of each school quarter or sooner.
- Parents can contact the bus barn at 935-1969 for items lost on the bus.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

- We are not responsible for items that are lost, misplaced, stolen, or broken at school or on the bus.
- Students should not bring large sums of money to school. The school is not responsible if students bring money that gets lost or stolen.
- Please do not let your child bring toys to school unless permission is given by their teacher. Children cannot bring soccer balls, basketballs, footballs, or other types of playground equipment to school.
- **Toys of any kind** are not allowed at school without the permission of the classroom teacher. If you are not sure if something is a toy, please contact your child's teacher.
- **At no time should students bring toy guns to school. Bringing a toy gun to school will result in immediate consequences up to and including suspension.**
- Students cannot deface property while at school. This includes tearing, cutting or damaging things that belong to them or to the school.

RECESS

- All children play outside during recess.
- Recess is generally outdoors regardless of the weather.
- There is a covered play area and children should stay as dry as possible.
- Students are not allowed in the rain without a hat, a coat, or an umbrella.
- Students cannot reenter the building during recess without staff permission.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

- Students will treat school property (desks, textbooks, classroom items, school fixtures, playground equipment, etc.) in a respectful and responsible manner.
- Students who damage school property will pay for damaged property to be repaired or replaced.

SPIRIT DAYS

- Spirit Days are special theme days where students can dress up.
- Dress guidelines still apply for spirit day unless exceptions are noted.

Section Three: Lunch, Breakfast, and Food Guidelines

WELLNESS POLICY

- Veneta Elementary promotes healthy children by supporting good nutrition, physical activity and healthy habits.
- There are specific guidelines regarding what snacks can be provided at school.
- A copy of the approved list is at the end of this section.

BREAKFAST INFORMATION

- Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. in the cafeteria. Students who get free/reduced lunch also qualify for a free/reduced breakfast.
- Money placed in a child's lunch account can be used to purchase breakfast as well.

LUNCH INFORMATION

- Lunch is served each day in the cafeteria. **(BEGINNING IN 24-25, SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL)**
- Parents put money into their children's account that is "withdrawn" when their child eats breakfast or lunch.
- Notice will be sent home when your child's account is overdrawn.
- **Parents can check how much money is in their child's account and add money to that account online by going to www.myschoolbucks.com a student ID number is needed. Most students know their ID number, but if they don't parents can call the school office for the number.**
- Money can be added to your child's account in the morning when the kitchen is open.
- Checks should be made out to Fern Ridge Lunch Fund.
- Children with food allergies should have a doctor's note on file in the office indicating which items and the degree of severity.
- Please do not send soda pop or candy with your child's lunch. Do not send glass bottles.
- Lunch Menus are sent home monthly and can also be found online at <http://www.fernridge.k12.or.us/food-services/>
- FRSD contracts with Chartwells to provide food services.

HEALTHY/PARTY/SNACK GUIDELINES

- Childhood obesity can be preventable through diet and regular physical activity.
- Healthy eating patterns and increased physical activity are essential for all children. In 2004 Congress passed a law requiring that schools establish local wellness policies.
- Healthy foods are generally defined as having low fat, low sugar, low salt, and small portion. Healthy foods incorporate whole grains, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and low fat dairy products. They limit highly processed, refined foods, and foods with artificial colors, flavors, etc.

Please adhere to the following list when sending snacks for your child’s classroom:

Suggested Food Ideas:	Foods To Avoid:
<p>Beverages: Low fat or nonfat plain milk 100% fruit juice Water Flavored/sparkling water without added sugars or sweeteners Sparkling punch (seltzer and 100% fruit juice)</p> <p>Fruit smoothies Fresh fruit Cheese (non processed) Fruit salad Dried fruit or fruit leather with no added sugar Vegetables Low fat dips Salsa Low fat tortilla chips Pretzels Air-popped popcorn Rice cakes Whole grain breads Bread sticks Whole grain crackers Graham crackers Animal crackers Angel food cake Fig bars Whole grain cookies with nuts or raisins Waffles or pancakes Low fat or nonfat yogurt Trail Mix Nuts and Seeds Peanut Butter</p>	<p>Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value are defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A complete definition is available on the USDA website: http://www.fns.gov/end/menu/fmnv.htm</p> <p>Foods of minimal nutritional value include: Soda water (regular or diet soda) Water ices Chewing gum Certain candies made predominantly from sweeteners or artificial sweeteners Hard candy such as sour balls, fruit balls, candy sticks, lollipops, mints, sugar wafers, rock candy, cinnamon candies, breath mints, jaw breakers, and cough drops. Jellies and gums, such as gum drops, jelly beans, jellies, and fruit-flavored slices. Marshmallow candies Fondant such as candy corn Licorice Spun candy (cotton candy) Candy coated popcorn</p> <p>This does not include all types of candy. Milk chocolate and other candy with more nutrients, for example, would be allowed.</p>

Section Four: Student Behavior and Conduct

BEHAVIOR PROGRAM/STUDENT INCENTIVES

- All students have the right to a positive and safe learning environment.
- Veneta Elementary School is a “Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports” or PBIS school.
- PBIS teaches students clear expectations and reinforces positive behavior.
- **Veneta Elementary students are expected to be safe, respectful, and responsible at all times. This includes while attending district sponsored events in other buildings such as football games, high school plays, etc.**
- Consequences for misbehavior range from a conference with the principal to a multiple day suspension.
- Students receive “Kudos” for good behavior that can be redeemed regularly for prizes and rewards.
- Students also earn “Recess Reward Tickets” for good behavior during recess or “Bus Reward Tickets” for good behavior on the bus. Students can win prizes if their names are drawn.
- “Class Act” tickets are given when the whole class is safe, responsible, or respectful. When a class earns enough “Class Act” tickets they get a reward.

BUS RULES

Students are expected to maintain positive and safe behavior at all times on the school bus. **State law** (OAR 581-53-010) requires the following rules for student behavior on school buses:

1. Students must obey the driver.
2. Fighting, wrestling, or playing around is not allowed on the bus.
3. The emergency door is only for emergency use.

4. Students must be on time for the bus.
5. No animals, weapons, or hazardous items are allowed on the bus.
6. Students must stay in their seats.
7. The bus driver may assign seats.
8. Students must cross the road in front of the bus.
9. Students must keep their hands, feet, and heads inside the bus.
10. Students cannot open windows without permission.
11. Students must talk in quiet voices and use appropriate language.
12. Students may not damage the bus.
13. Students must be respectful towards others.
14. Students that don't follow directions may be suspended from the bus.

BULLYING

Students are not allowed to bully, intimidate, or harass other students. Harassment is when a student abuses another because of their race, religion, color, disability, etc. Harassment can be nonverbal, verbal, written, or physical. Bullying is ongoing behavior that physically harms a student or damages their property, places them in reasonable fear of physical harm, and creates a hostile educational environment.

At the elementary level, harassment and bullying can range from name calling to acts of physical intimidation. If your child feels like they are being bullied, they need to talk to their classroom teacher or to the building principal so we can help put an end to the problem. Children who engage in bullying or harassment will face serious disciplinary consequences.

Additional information can be found in the nondiscrimination and harassment section of the Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

WEAPONS/THREATS OF VIOLENCE

- Veneta has a zero-tolerance policy towards all weapons and/or violent threats.
- Students cannot bring any weapons to school, including toys that look like weapons.
- Knives, including pocket knives, are considered weapons.
- Students bringing weapons, including toy weapons, or making violent threats at school face serious disciplinary consequences

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

- Classroom teachers have behavior management systems that encourage positive behavior and redirect negative behavior.
- Students who fail to follow classroom or school rules may receive a problem solver, or a minor or major referral.
- If their behavior continues, they receive a minor referral. Minor referrals may result in in-school suspension, principal conferences or phone calls home.
- Problem solvers and minor referrals are sent home with the student and should be signed and returned to school.
- Major referrals are for severe, dangerous, or repeated misbehavior. This includes fighting, cheating, harassment/bullying, violent threats or vandalism. In those cases, students are sent directly to the office.

Veneta Elementary School Rules

	Safe	Respectful	Be Responsible
ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use sidewalks and crosswalks • Step off bus carefully • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Enter through the front doors before 7:50 • Walk bikes on school property • Bike riders must wear helmets • Walk to and from the buses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions given by staff • Follow bus driver's directions • Remove hats before entering school • Treat others with respect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be on time • Get permission before bringing notes to the office • Ask permission to use the phone in the classroom if needed • Put money on your lunch account before the bell rings
HALLWAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk facing forward • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Stay to the right • Keep shoelaces tied • Do not run or walk too fast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices • Give others space • Hold the door for others • Keep body parts and objects away from walls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait for an entire class to pass before proceeding
RESTROOMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the bathroom clean and dry • Keep feet on floor • Wash hands with soap and water • Do not waste soap • Do not climb on stalls or fixtures • Do not play in the bathroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices • Give others privacy • Wait patiently for your turn • Keep hands, feet, objects to self • Do not vandalize walls or surfaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always flush • Always wash hands • Return to room promptly • Report problems • Put paper towels in the trash can
CAFETERIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to the table • Hold the tray with both hands • Sit with feet on floor, bottom on seat, and face forward • Tell an adult if something spills • Keep all food to yourself • Food stays in cafeteria • Ask permission to use the bathroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use good manners • Be aware of your voice level • Allow anyone to sit next to you • Do not save seats or wait for your friends • Please clean up after yourself (including under the table). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit in next available seat • Raise hand and wait patiently to be excused • Raise hand if you need adult help • Take personal belongings with you when you leave
ASSEMBLIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to self • Use chairs safely • Allow space between one row and the next • Follow directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applaud appropriately • Listen with full attention- eyes, ears, and body • Sit so others can see • Do not talk while the speaker is talking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive promptly • Follow signal • Leave in an orderly fashion as instructed by your teacher
P.E./GYM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep control of your body • Use equipment correctly • Be aware of activities around you • Be aware of other students around you • Follow the teacher's directions at all times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a good sport • Encourage others • Be a team player • Play fairly • Follow the rules of the game 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return equipment to the proper place • Take personal belongings with you when you leave • Use equipment only as directed

LIBRARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Push in chairs when leaving • Put pencils/shelf markers back where they belong • Use shelf markers appropriately so that you can put books back 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices only • Listen carefully and with respect • Respect books and other school property • Walk • Follow adult directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use materials • Put items where they belong • Take personal belongings with you when you leave
COMPUTER LAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push in chairs and stools when leaving • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Use chairs and stools safely • Only visit sites you are directed to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices • Respect property • Follow directions • Hands to your own computer • Do not touch another student's computer or headphone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use computers correctly • Clean your space • Take personal belongings with you when you leave • Stay on task
OFFICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Get adults attention appropriately and respectfully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait quietly for help • Use quiet voices • Do not enter the office without permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know why you are in the office • Know who you need to speak to
PLAYGROUND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to and from the playground • Use equipment appropriately • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Stay within boundaries • Follow playground rules • Walk on the blacktop at all times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow instructions • Play fairly • Include everyone • Listen for whistle, freeze, wait for instructions • No put downs or insults of any kind 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask permission before leaving area • Treat equipment with respect • Wait quietly in line until excused
RAINY DAY AND INDOOR RECESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to and from the playground • Use equipment appropriately • Keep hands, feet and objects to self • Stay within boundaries • Be aware of what's going on around you • Follow wet playground rules 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow all duty's instructions • Include everyone • Treat others kindly • Listen for whistle, freeze, wait for instructions (rainy day recess) • Help with cleanup (indoor recess) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay as dry as possible • Treat equipment with respect • Wait quietly in line until excused
FIELD TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay with group • Follow bus rules • Walk safely • Report problems to an adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions of adult leaders • Be polite to others • Listen with full attention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set a good example • Take care of your belongings • Clean up after yourself
CLASSROOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use chairs safely • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Follow your individual classroom rules and procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respect rights and property of others • Treat your teacher with respect • Be respectful to classmates and adults • Use positive and appropriate language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions • Be prepared • Stay on task • Take responsibility for your own learning • Do your work

FIRE DRILL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exit quickly and quietly • Walk with your class to your assigned spot • Line up facing away from building • Listen for the teacher to call your name • Rejoin your class when told to by staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions • Be polite • Stay in your place in line and remain quiet • Face away from the building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait for all clear signal then return to class • Return to class quietly and follow your teacher's directions
EARTHQUAKE DRILL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drop and cover • Remain in your area until told to evacuate by an adult • Walk quietly to assigned spot, exiting through nearest appropriate door • Rejoin your class when told 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions • Be polite • Stay calm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quietly "drop and hold" until told to evacuate • Follow your teacher's directions to leave your classroom in an orderly manner.
POWER OUTAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow the directions of the adult supervising you. • Stay calm. • Do not yell, scream, or otherwise act out • Stay in your classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do not talk while the teacher is talking • Stay calm • Talk in a quiet voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions • Help others to follow directions

BUS	Be Safe	Be Responsible	Be Respectful
Waiting for the bus 	Remain at a safe distance from where the bus stops (4 giant steps from the bus).	Arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time.	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Keep your bus stop area neat and clean	Report Bullying
Entering the bus 	Listen and watch for driver directions	Be seated quickly and stay seated	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to self		
Riding the Bus 	Stay seated facing forward	Follow driver directions at all times	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Keep aisles and emergency exits clear	Keep your area on the bus clean-No Littering	Report Bullying
	Keep self and objects inside the bus	Stay seated unless driver gives permission.	Keep personal electronic devices to yourself
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to self		
Exiting the bus 	Listen and watch for driver directions	Take all personal items when exiting buses	Take turns exiting seats
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Report vandalism	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Walk down steps one at a time holding the handrail.	Report to the driver if you see a student sleeping or hiding on the bus.	Report Bullying
Evacuation 	Listen and watch for directions	Follow driver directions	Exit quickly and safely
	Stay quiet	Help others when appropriate	
	Leave belongings on bus		

Veneta Elementary School Contact Information

Phone: 541-935-8225

Physical Address: 88131 Territorial Road, Veneta, Oregon 97487

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 370, Veneta, Oregon 97487

Fern Ridge School District Office: 541-935-2253

First Student (Bus Barn): 541-935-1969

Below is a list of extensions and email addresses for Veneta Staff for the 2025-2026 school year. Please be aware that teachers are with students from 7:30 to 2:25 and are not available by phone during that time. You are welcome to leave a message at their extension.

EXT.	NAME	ASSIGNMENT	ROOM	EMAIL ADDRESS
Ext.	Name	Assignment	Room	Email
5300	Bonnie McLaws	Media Assistant	Library	bmclaws@fernridge.k12.or.us
5220	Jennifer Gent	Assistant Secretary	Office	jgent@fernridge.k12.or.us
5201	Dawn Dean	Principal	Office	ddean@fernridge.k12.or.us
5200	Becky Walton	Secretary	Office	bwalton@fernridge.k12.or.us
5123	Estin Warren	Behavior Specialist	23	ewarren@fernridge.k12.or.us
5103	Lauren Midwood	SLC Classroom	3	lmidwood@fernridge.k12.or.us
5124	Brittani Maddoux	ELD Teacher	24	bmaddoux@fernridge.k12.or.us
5101	Reine Peirce	Kindergarten	1	rpeirce@fernridge.k12.or.us
5102	Ashley Foltz	Second Grade	14	afoltz@fernridge.k12.or.us
5115	Kasey Cutsforth	First Grade	15	kcutsforth@fernridge.k12.or.us
5118	Nikie Brink	TBD	18	nbrink@fernridge.k12.or.us
5121	Testing Room			
5120	Deanna Greene	Second Grade	20	dgreene@fernridge.k12.or.us
5105	Mike Guill	Third Grade	5	mguill@fernridge.k12.or.us
5119	Angie Pebworth	First Grade	19	apebworth@fernridge.k12.or.us
5109	Kyle Moeller	Third Grade	9	kmoeller@fernridge.k12.or.us
5110	Mirka Chen	Fourth Grade	10	mchen@fernridge.k12.or.us
5111	Taylor Carey	Fourth Grade	11	tcarey@fernridge.k12.or.us
5107	Erika McGuire	Fifth Grade	7	emcguire@fernridge.k12.or.us
5108	Michelle Markham	Fifth Grade	8	mmarkham@fernridge.k12.or.us
5112	Rebecca Moeller	SpEd Teacher	12	rhauge@fernridge.k12.or.us
5122	Donna Jones	Speech/Lang. Specialist	25	djones@fernridge.k12.or.us
5121	Gretta Connelly	Kindergarten	2	gconnolly@fernridge.k12.or.us
	Jeff Greene	Physical Education	Gym	jgreene@fernridge.k12.or.us
5113	Ruth Lewis	Title I	13	rlewis@fernridge.k12.or.us

Elmira Elementary School

PARENT AND STUDENT HANDBOOK
2025-2026



Home of the Eagles

541-935-8214

<http://www.fernridge.k12.or.us>

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Section One: School Procedures

ABSENCES AND TARDIES

- Parents can inform the office of absences or tardies by calling the school or sending a note when the student returns to school.
- Extended absences planned in advance require teacher notification at least 1 week prior.
- School starts sharply at 7:55 a.m. Students are tardy if they are not seated in their classroom ready to go at 7:55 a.m.
- School runs from 7:55 a.m. until 2:25 p.m. on Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri.
- Early release day is Wednesday and students are released at 12:45 p.m.
- Parents will be notified when a student has excessive absences/tardies and maybe cited for truancy if the problem continues.
- Parents can be cited for truancy when attendance falls below 80% whether or not those absences are excused.

Students who miss school or are always late fall behind their peers. Please help your child to succeed by getting them to school on time each day.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES

- Parents or guardians are contacted when a child is injured and the injury appears serious or appears to require medical attention.
- Emergency contacts will be called if the parents cannot be reached.
- Minor injuries will be taken care of in the health room and the child returned to class.
- An ill or injured student may be released to the emergency contact if the parent cannot be reached.

Please make sure we have your most current contact information and up-to-date emergency contacts.

AFTER SCHOOL ARRANGEMENTS

- Students go home each day as directed by the parent/guardian on the transportation form.
- Walkers should go straight to their after-school location.
- Bus riders get off at their assigned stop and then go directly home or to daycare.
- All students being picked up need to be picked up by 2:30 p.m on M/W/Th/F and by 12:50 on Wed.
- Elmira Elementary does not offer after school supervision or programs. However, a private childcare program does offer an afterschool program at EES. There is a cost involved. For more information contact 541-935-9756
- Children going somewhere different after school must bring a note or parents must call before 1:00 p.m. **Parents must provide the full address and bus number of where their child is going after school when calling for a bus pass.** Federal law prohibits the school from giving out that information.
- Children will go home by their regular method unless we receive a note or hear directly from a parent/guardian.

Please help us keep things simple by keeping your child on a fixed schedule for their after-school routine.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

In dropping off or picking up your child, please remember that our parking lot is a busy place. Following the rules below helps to ensure the safety of all students:

1. Do not drop off your child before 7:30 a.m. There is no student supervision before 7:30 a.m.
2. Please use the drop off lane in the morning, and in the afternoon.
3. Parents must only park in marked parking spaces.
4. **DO NOT** use the north parking lot (near the gym) for dropping off or picking up students. This is a bus-only area.
5. Please use caution in the parking lot when entering, pulling through, and exiting.
6. Students who ride their bicycles to school must wear helmets, park their bikes in the racks provided, and walk their bikes on school property.

7:30 a.m.	School opens. Students may enter through designated entrances.
7:55 a.m.	All students need to be in their classrooms.
2:25 p.m.	Dismissal (12:45 on Wednesdays)

BUS INFORMATION

- Parents are required to know which bus their child rides to and from school.
- Bus routes may change over the summer. Parents should confirm bus routes by contacting the bus barn at 541-935-1969.
- Bus safety is very important. Students must be safe, respectful and responsible while on the bus and while at the bus stop. Bus privileges may be suspended for inappropriate behavior. Please see bus rules at the end of this handbook for more information.
- If the bus is late or your child is not on the bus when it comes, please contact First Student at 541-935-1969 first, then the school if needed.

CONFISCATED ITEMS

Please note that items not allowed at school will be confiscated by school staff. This can include, but is not limited to: electronic devices, toys, trading cards, lighters, knives, etc. The school principal will determine when and how confiscated items are returned to the student or the family.

CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECK

All school volunteers must fill out a district “criminal history verification” form.

FIELD TRIPS

Parents may help chaperone and supervise students during field trips. The guidelines below outline our policies regarding field trips:

1. Volunteers must have a current approved criminal background check on file in the office. **These need to be completed every year.**
2. Permission for a child to ride to or home from a field trip in a private car with an adult other than their parent must be given by the parent to the office in advance.
3. Parents and/or legal guardians without approved criminal background checks cannot attend field trips.
4. **PLEASE NOTE: Field trips are a privilege. To ensure student safety, students must have good behavior to be able to go on a field trip.** Individual teachers may also set behavior standards that students must meet to be able to participate on a field trip.
5. Parents and/or legal guardian *without* approved criminal background checks are strongly discouraged from attending field trips. They may only do so if:
 - They drive their own personal vehicle (not ride the bus).
 - The field trip is to a completely public location.
 - Pay any appropriate admissions or fees themselves.
 - Do not interact with other students.

Homework

Beginning with the 2024-2025 school year, Elmira Elementary implemented the following homework policy for grades K-3 and 4th/5th.

Kindergarten thru 3rd grade:

No Assigned Homework/ No Grade for Homework

- B.) Optional Activities: At Teacher's Discretion, some things can be optional for extra practice. This could include sending spelling words home on Monday for parents who want to practice during the week, or other materials from the current reading curriculum. None of these optional activities will be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.

Families will be encouraged to read with their children a minimum of 20 minutes per a night at the Kindergarten thru 2nd grade level and 30 minutes a night at the 3rd grade level.

- C.) No reading logs or reading tracking sheets will be required. Reading logs or tracking sheets will not be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.
- D.) Teachers can motivate students to read through "Book Talks" or "Book Recommendations." Teachers can use optional reading sheets as an incentive i.e. all students who return a book log go into a weekly drawing or by participating in reading incentive programs like those offered by Pizza Hut. However any optional reading tracking sheets should not require parent signature.

4th and 5th grade

Students are encouraged to read 30 minutes EACH night

- E.) No reading logs or reading tracking sheets will be required. Reading logs or tracking sheets will not be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.
- F.) Teachers can motivate students to read through "Book Talks" or "Book Recommendations." Teachers can use optional reading sheets as an incentive i.e. all students who return a book log go into a weekly drawing or by participating in reading incentive programs like those

offered by Pizza Hut. However, any optional reading tracking sheets should not require parent signature.

- G.) One short homework activity sheet can be required homework. For example, at the 4th grade level, they require a math fact fluency practice page where students practice their math fact fluency for 10 minutes total over the course of the week.
- H.) Optional Activities: At Teacher's Discretion, some things can be optional for extra practice. This could include sending spelling words home on Monday for parents who want to practice during the week or a Weekly Reader as an optional assignment. None of these optional activities will be included in a student's grade or reflected on their report card.

Unfinished Work can be Taken Home as Homework. Larger projects (like a report) may have elements that students work on at home. For example, students who are asked to do a presentation on a Native American tribe, may do the research and written work at school, but build the diorama at home.

HOMEWORK REQUESTS

- Homework may only be requested when a child is absent for **2** or more days.
- When requesting homework, please call before 7:30 a.m. and plan to pick up homework between 2:15 p.m. & 3:00 p.m., otherwise it can be picked up the next school day.
- If your child has a brother or sister in another classroom, the homework can be sent home with them if the request is made before 7:30 a.m.
- Students should ask their teacher for any missing work when they return to class if the absence is less than two days.

ILLNESS

- Students with temperatures above 100.4 degrees, who are vomiting, have diarrhea or who have an infectious condition will be sent home.
- Children must stay home for 24 hours after having vomited or having a fever.
- Children experiencing difficulty breathing or shortness of breath, or a serious and sustained cough should be kept home.
- Children with conditions such as scabies, impetigo, or head lice, must be accompanied to school by their parents and checked in the health room to ensure that they are free of the condition before going to class.
- Please make sure that contact information is kept current and the school knows where to reach you if needed.
- Our guidelines come from ODE and the Department of Health and Human Services, as well as district policy.
- Our secretarial staffs are **not** licensed health care professionals. Please contact your family doctor if you have medical concerns or questions.

INSURANCE

- The school offers school insurance through an outside company not associated with Fern Ridge School District. Applications are available in the office.
- **Elmira Elementary DOES NOT carry insurance that covers your child if they are hurt at school.**

LEGAL ISSUES

- Children must be registered in their full, legal name. Your child can go by a different name, but all school records must be kept under their legal name.
- While all parents care about their children, sometimes conflicts arise regarding child custody, visitation, etc. The school is a neutral party focused on the educational needs of the student. To protect the right of parents and/or guardians, state law requires that if one parent wants to limit the rights of another, they must provide the school with current legal documentation pertaining to visitation, custody, etc.
- The school cannot deny a non-custodial parent access to a child unless there is a court order on file in the school office. The school must follow the most recent official legal documentation we have on file.

LICE

A student with a suspected case of head lice will be referred to the front office for assessment. A student found with live lice may be excluded from school. A parent of the student will be notified and treatment will be requested. A student excluded from school that has been treated will be readmitted after an assessment by designated personnel. The student may be subject to periodic checks.

The successful treatment of head lice requires a coordinated approach and may involve the use of anti-lice products, combing and implementation of preventative measures recommended by health authorities. Treatment information will be provided by the district to the parents of students found to have contracted head lice. More information on lice can be found at www.cde.gov/parasites/lice/head.

MEDICATIONS

At times, your child may need to take medication at school. We are happy to help when medication **must** be taken during school or there are recurring medical issues such as asthma, headaches, etc. Many medications that need to be taken 3 times daily can be taken at breakfast, when your child returns home, and before bedtime. This eliminates the need for medications at school. For those medications that **must** be administered or available during school hours, the following guidelines will be strictly followed:

1. All medication **must** be turned into the office by a parent. Parents must complete the appropriate paperwork and sign a release.
2. Do not send medication to school with your child.
3. Over the counter medication must be unopened in the original container.
4. Prescription medication must be in the **original container** with the **prescription label** on it.
5. Over the counter drugs can only be administered as directed on the packaging. Prescription drugs can only be administered according to the doctor's instructions.
6. Instructions from the doctor that include the student's name, name of drug, dosage, and time to be taken must accompany prescription medication.
7. At the end of the school year, medications must be picked up by the parent. They cannot be returned to the student. Any medication not picked up by the time the office closes for the summer will be destroyed.

PARENT CONCERNS

When you have a concern about your child's academic progress, attendance, grades, assignments, or behavior, please contact their teacher first. If the problem is not resolved with the teacher, then please feel free to contact the principal.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

There are many opportunities for families to become involved at Elmira Elementary.

- Parents can learn about these opportunities through:
 - a) Attending PTA meetings every third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
 - b) Classroom newsletters
 - c) School newsletters
 - d) Reader board
 - e) District website (www.fernridge.k12.or.us/elmiraele/)
 - f) Facebook
 - g) ParentSquare
- EES has parent teacher conferences twice a year. All parents are invited to the fall conferences and the spring conferences are by request.
- End of the year report cards are mailed home after school is out.
- Parents have many opportunities to volunteer at Elmira Elementary. See volunteer section for guidelines.
- **Parents are encouraged to join our PTA and become involved in our school community.**
- Elmira also hosts several fun and informative family nights during the school year.

PARTIES

- Classrooms have parties for different occasions.
- Only store bought and individually wrapped food items can be given to students.
- Individual teachers have different practices regarding birthday parties. Parents must contact their child's teacher before bringing treats to the classroom.
- Please do not send party invitations to school, unless all the students in the classroom are invited.
- **Balloons, stuffed animals, or flowers delivered to your child cannot be taken home on the bus.** They will be delivered to the student during the last 10 minutes of school in order to avoid disrupting class.

PICKING UP YOUR CHILD DURING THE SCHOOL DAY

- The time your child spends in the classroom is important. Please try to avoid making appointments or plans that take your child out of school.
- Students leaving during the day must **be signed out by a parent/guardian through the office.** Parents cannot remove students from the school building or the playground.
- We will not release students to individuals other than their parents/guardians without a note or a phone call from the custodial parent, even if they are on your emergency contact list.

RETENTION

- Sometimes children need to repeat a grade.
- Elmira Elementary follows district guidelines when deciding whether a child should be retained.
- If your child might be retained, you will be notified early in the process. Final retention decisions will be made by June 1st.
- Parents who disagree with the decision may appeal to the superintendent.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION: A MODEL TO HELP STUDENTS SUCCEED IN SCHOOL

- Response to Intervention or RTI is an instructional model that helps us monitor student progress and intervene when they are struggling.
- All students are given assessments three times a year (September, January, and May).
- Teachers review student progress and performance on a regular basis.
- Students who need extra help are identified and provided additional support.
- Students who receive additional support and continue to struggle may be referred for a special education evaluation. Parents will be informed if an evaluation is being considered.

SCHOOL CLOSURES AND DELAYS

In case of a school delay or school closure:

1. Notice of school closure will be broadcast over participating radio and TV stations, Flashalert.net, social media, the website, and ParentSquare.
2. Decisions on school delays or closures should be made by 6:00 a.m. and should be broadcast by 6:30 a.m.
3. When school is closed due to inclement weather, all after school and evening activities will be canceled.
4. The decision to close or delay school can change so please stay tuned for updates.

In case of a school closure ***after students have arrived at school:***

- Every attempt will be made to contact a parent/guardian. No child will be released or put on a bus unless contact has been made with a parent/guardian or an emergency contact.
- If parents/emergency contacts cannot be reached, students will be kept at school until contact is made. Students will need to be picked up if contact is not made before the buses leave.
- Parents are encouraged to pick their child up once a closure has been announced. Parents must sign their child out.
- Please ensure that we have current contact information including where you can be reached during the school day.
- School closure information is also available via radio, television, the District's website, and the District's auto-dialer.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- The School District is covering the cost of school supplies. This eliminates the need for parents/students to shop for any school supplies other than a backpack, water bottle, and appropriate shoes for PE.

STUDENT PLACEMENT POLICY

- Teachers place students in classrooms after careful consideration and extensive discussion.
- Parents may request a specific teacher (we will try to honor these).
- That request must be in made in writing, signed by parents and delivered to our office by May 31st for the following school year.
- ***These requests will be considered, but cannot always be accommodated.***

VISITORS

- **All visitors, including parents, must report to the office, sign in, and wear identification badges.**
- No student expected to be in attendance at another school will be allowed to visit Elmira Elementary.

- *We welcome parents as visitors in their child's classroom. However, you will need to make arrangements with the teacher in advance, to ensure that you don't come at a time that is disruptive for the classroom.*

VOLUNTEERS

- **To volunteer at EES, a criminal history background check must be approved each school year.**
- This form needs to be filled out each year in order to:
 - Volunteer in a classroom
 - Volunteer on a field trip
 - Ride the bus on a field trip
 - Volunteer for a special event in the school
 - Volunteer in any way that puts you in contact with students.
- **Volunteers must read and agree to the Volunteer Guidelines Handbook**
- It takes up to 14 days to process a criminal history background check form.
- Volunteers must sign in at the office and wear a volunteer badge while in the building.

Section Two: Student Information

CELL PHONES

Due to a new cell phone requirement from ODE that came out in July of 2024, the FRSD administrators and school board will be discussing cell phone policies in July-September. Once updated, the new language will be inserted into the online version of the FRSD Handbook.

DRESS CODE

*Please refer to the FRSD Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook for more information regarding the FRSD Dress code

Students should dress appropriately for school and meet the following requirements:

1. Clothing must be school appropriate and not distract from student learning.
2. Students have outdoor recess all year long. Please dress children in layers that can be adjusted for the weather.
3. Students must be able to run and play in their shoes. Shoes that allow students to participate at recess and during P.E. without restriction are encouraged. Shoes such as flip flops, open toed sandals or high heels are not recommended.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Students may not bring or play with Nintendo DS, Gameboys, I-PODs, MP3 players or other hand held electronic devices at school.
- Electronic devices will be confiscated if used or played with at school.
- Neither the school nor the district is responsible for the potential theft, loss, or damage of items brought to school or on the bus.

LOST AND FOUND

- Our lost and found is located in the hall outside of the cafeteria.
- Smaller items are in the office (jewelry, glasses, etc.).
- Please put names on outer clothing and lunch boxes to assist in returning them to your child.
- Unclaimed lost and found items are donated to charity at the end of each school quarter or sooner.
- Parents can contact the bus barn at 541-935-1969 for items lost on the bus.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

- We are not responsible for items that are lost, misplaced, stolen, or broken at school or on the bus.
- Students should not bring large sums of money to school. The school is not responsible if students bring money that gets lost or stolen.
- Please do not let your child bring toys to school unless permission is given by their teacher for a specific activity. Children cannot bring soccer balls, basketballs, footballs, or other types of playground equipment to school.
- **At no time should students bring toy guns/weapons to school. Bringing a toy weapon to school will result in immediate consequences up to and including expulsion.**
- Students may not deface property while at school. This includes tearing, cutting or damaging things that belong to them or to the school.

RECESS

1. Recess is generally outdoors regardless of the weather.
2. There is a covered play area and children should stay as dry as possible.
3. Students are not allowed in the rain without proper clothing.
4. Students cannot reenter the building during recess without staff permission.
5. Parents are not permitted on the playground.

SCHOOL PROPERTY

1. Students will treat school property (desks, textbooks, classroom items, school fixtures, playground equipment, etc.) in a respectful and responsible manner.
2. Students who damage school property will pay for damaged property to be repaired or replaced.

SPIRIT DAYS

1. Spirit Days are special theme days where students can dress up.
2. Dress guidelines still apply for spirit day, unless exceptions are noted.

Section Three: Lunch, Breakfast, and Food Guidelines

WELLNESS POLICY

1. Elmira Elementary promotes healthy children by supporting good nutrition, physical activity and healthy habits.
2. There are specific guidelines regarding what snacks can be provided at school.
3. A copy of the approved list is at the end of this section.

FEDERAL FREE AND REDUCED FOOD PROGRAM

1. Free or reduced lunches and breakfast are available to children whose families qualify financially.
2. Applications are available in the office.
3. Applications are accepted throughout the year.
4. All information is kept confidential.

BREAKFAST INFORMATION

1. Breakfast is served from 7:30 a.m. to 7:50 a.m. in the cafeteria.
2. Money placed in a child's lunch account can be used to purchase breakfast as well.
3. Students should be at school by 7:40 a.m. in order to get breakfast.

LUNCH INFORMATION

1. Lunch is served each day in the cafeteria. **BEGINNING IN 24-25, MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS!**
2. Notices will be sent home when your child's account is overdrawn.
3. Money can be added to your child's account in the morning when the kitchen is open.
4. Checks should be made out to Fern Ridge Lunch Fund.
5. Children with food allergies should have a doctor's note on file in the office indicating which items and the degree of severity.
6. Please do not send soda pop or candy with your child's lunch. Do not send glass bottles.
7. FRSD contracts with Chartwells to provide food services.
8. Lunch menus are sent home monthly and are also available online at www.fernridge.k12.or.us

Healthy/Party/Snack/Incentive Guidelines

1. Childhood obesity can be preventable through diet and regular physical activity.
2. Healthy eating patterns and increased physical activity are essential for all children. In 2004, Congress passed a law requiring that schools establish local wellness policies.
3. Healthy foods are generally defined as having low fat, low sugar, low salt, and small portions. Healthy foods incorporate whole grains, fresh fruits, fresh vegetables, and low fat dairy products. They limit highly processed, refined foods, and foods with artificial colors, flavors, etc.

Please adhere to the following list when sending snacks for your child's classroom:

Suggested Food Ideas:	Foods to Avoid:
<p>Beverages:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Low fat or nonfat plain milk 100% fruit juice Water Flavored/sparkling water without added sugars or sweeteners Sparkling punch (seltzer and 100% fruit juice) <p>Fruit smoothies</p> <p>Fresh fruit</p> <p>Cheese (non processed)</p> <p>Fruit salad</p> <p>Dried fruit or fruit leather with no added sugar</p> <p>Vegetables</p> <p>Low fat dips</p> <p>Salsa</p> <p>Low fat tortilla chips</p> <p>Pretzels</p> <p>Air-popped popcorn</p> <p>Rice cakes</p> <p>Whole grain breads</p> <p>Bread sticks</p> <p>Whole grain crackers</p> <p>Graham crackers</p> <p>Animal crackers</p> <p>Angel food cake</p> <p>Fig bars</p> <p>Whole grain cookies with nuts or raisins</p> <p>Waffles or pancakes</p> <p>Low fat or nonfat yogurt</p> <p>Trail Mix</p> <p>Nuts and Seeds</p> <p>Peanut Butter</p>	<p>Foods of Minimal Nutritional Value are defined by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. A complete definition is available on the USDA website: http://www.fns.gov/end/menu/fmnv.htm</p> <p>Foods of minimal nutritional value include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soda water (regular or diet soda) Water ices Chewing gum Certain candies made predominantly from sweeteners or artificial sweeteners Hard candy such as sour balls, fruit balls, candy sticks, lollipops, mints, sugar wafers, rock candy, cinnamon candies, breath mints, jaw breakers, and cough drops. Jellies and gums, such as gum drops, jelly beans, jellies, and fruit-flavored slices. Marshmallow candies Fondant such as candy corn Licorice Spun candy (cotton candy) Candy coated popcorn <p>This does not include all types of candy. Milk chocolate and other candy with more nutrients, for example, would be allowed.</p>

Section Four: Student Behavior and Conduct

BEHAVIOR PROGRAM/STUDENT INCENTIVES

1. All students have the right to a positive and safe learning environment.
2. Elmira Elementary School is a “Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports” or PBIS school.
3. PBIS teaches students clear expectations and reinforces positive behavior.
4. **Elmira Elementary students are expected to be safe, respectful, and responsible at all times. This includes district-sponsored events in other buildings such as football games, high school plays, etc.**
5. Consequences for misbehavior range from a conference with the principal to a multiple day suspension.
6. Students receive “Eagle Slips” for good behavior that can be redeemed regularly for prizes and rewards.
7. “Class Act” tickets are given when the whole class is safe, responsible, or respectful. When a class earns enough “Class Act” tickets they get a reward.

BUS RULES

Students are expected to maintain positive and safe behavior at all times on the school bus. **State law** (OAR 581-53-010) requires the following rules for student behavior on school buses:

- a. Students must obey the driver.
- b. Fighting, wrestling, or playing around is not allowed on the bus.
- c. The emergency door is only for emergency use.
- d. Students must be on time for the bus.
- e. No animals, weapons, or hazardous items are allowed on the bus.
- f. Students must stay in their seats.
- g. The bus driver may assign seats.
- h. Students must cross the road in front of the bus.
- i. Students must keep their hands, feet, and heads inside the bus.
- j. Students cannot open windows without permission.
- k. Students must talk in quiet voices and use appropriate language.
- l. Students may not damage the bus.
- m. Students must be respectful towards others.
- n. Students that don't follow directions may be suspended from the bus.

DISCIPLINE PROCEDURES

- Classroom teachers have behavior management systems that encourage positive behavior and redirect negative behavior.
- Students who fail to follow classroom or school rules may receive a problem solver, or major referral.
- Problem solvers may result in detention, in-school suspension, principal conferences or phone calls home.
- Major referrals are for severe, dangerous, or repeated misbehavior. This includes fighting, cheating, harassment/bullying, violent threats, or vandalism. In those cases, students are sent directly to the office.

HARASSMENT/BULLYING

- Students are not allowed to bully, intimidate, or harass other students.
- Harassment is when a student abuses another because of their race, religion, color, disability, etc. Harassment can be nonverbal, verbal, written, or physical.
- Bullying is ongoing behavior that physically harms a student or damages their property, places them in reasonable fear of physical harm, and creates a hostile educational environment.
- At the elementary level, harassment and bullying can range from name calling to acts of physical intimidation. If your child feels like they are being bullied, he/she needs to talk to their classroom teacher or to the building principal so we can help put an end to the problem.
- Children who engage in bullying or harassment will face serious disciplinary consequences.

WEAPONS/THREATS OF VIOLENCE

- Elmira has a zero tolerance policy towards all weapons and/or violent threats.
- *****Please refer to the FRSD Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for more information**

Elmira Elementary School Rules

	Safe	Respectful	Be Responsible
ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use sidewalks and crosswalks • Step off bus carefully • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Enter before 7:50 • Walk bikes on school property • Bike riders must wear helmets • Walk to and from the buses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow directions given by staff • Follow bus driver's directions • Treat others with respect 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be on time • Get permission before bringing notes to the office • Ask permission to use the phone in the classroom if needed • Put money on your lunch account before the bell rings
HALLWAYS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk facing forward • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Stay to the right • Keep shoelaces tied • Do not run or walk too fast 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices • Give others space • Hold the door for others • Keep body away from walls 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait for an entire class to pass before proceeding
RESTROOMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the bathroom clean and dry • Keep feet on floor • Wash hands with soap and water • Do not waste soap • Do not climb on stalls or fixtures • Do not play in the bathroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices • Give others privacy • Wait patiently for your turn • Keep hands, feet, objects to self • Do not vandalize school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Always flush • Always wash hands • Return to room promptly • Report problems • Put paper towels in the trash can

CAFETERIA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to the table • Hold the tray with both hands • Sit with feet on floor, bottom on seat, and face forward • Tell an adult if something spills • Keep all food to yourself • Food stays in cafeteria • Ask permission to use the bathroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use good manners • Be aware of your voice level • Allow anyone to sit next to you • Do not save seats or wait for your friends • Clean up after yourself (including under the table). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sit in next available seat • Raise hand and wait patiently to be excused • Raise hand if you need adult help • Take personal belongings with you when you leave
ASSEMBLIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to self • Use chairs safely • Allow space between one row and the next • Follow directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applaud appropriately • Listen with full attention-eyes, ears, and body • Sit so others can see • Do not talk while the speaker is talking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive promptly • Follow signal • Leave in an orderly fashion as instructed by your teacher
P.E./GYM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep control of your body • Use equipment correctly • Be aware of activities around you • Be aware of other students around you • Follow the teacher's directions at all times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be a good sport • Encourage others • Be a team player • Play fairly • Follow the rules of the game 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return equipment to the proper place • Take personal belongings with you when you leave • Use equipment only as directed
LIBRARY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Push in chairs when leaving • Put shelf markers back where they belong • Use shelf markers appropriately so that you can put books back in the right space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices only • Listen carefully and with respect • Respect books and other school property • Walk • Follow adult directions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use materials • Put items where they belong • Take personal belongings with you when you leave
COMPUTER LAB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Push in chairs and stools when leaving • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Use chairs and stools safely • Only visit sites you are directed to 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use quiet voices • Respect property • Follow directions • Hands to your own computer • Do not touch another student's computer or headphone 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use computers correctly • Clean your space • Take personal belongings with you when you leave • Stay on task
OFFICE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Get adults attention appropriately and respectfully 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wait quietly for help • Use quiet voices • Do not enter the office without permission 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Know why you are in the office • Know who you need to speak to
PLAYGROUND	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk to and from the playground • Use equipment appropriately • Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself • Stay within boundaries • Follow playground rules • Walk on the blacktop at all times 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow instructions • Play fairly • Include everyone • Listen for whistle, freeze, wait for instructions • No put downs or insults of any kind 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask permission before leaving area • Treat equipment with respect • Wait quietly in line until excused

RAINY DAY AND INDOOR RECESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Walk to and from the playground Use equipment appropriately Keep hands, feet and objects to self Stay within boundaries Be aware of what's going on around you Follow wet playground rules Play quietly (indoor recess) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow all duty's instructions Include everyone Treat others kindly Listen for whistle, freeze, wait for instructions (rainy day recess) Help with cleanup (indoor recess) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay as dry as possible Treat equipment with respect Wait quietly in line until excused
FIELD TRIPS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stay with group Follow bus rules Walk safely Report problems to an adult 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow directions of adult leaders Be polite to others Listen with full attention 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Set a good example Take care of your belongings Clean up after yourself
CLASSROOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Use chairs safely Keep hands, feet and objects to yourself Follow your individual classroom rules and procedures 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect rights and property of others Treat your teacher with respect Be respectful to classmates and adults Use positive and appropriate language 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow directions Be prepared Stay on task Take responsibility for your own learning Do your work
FIRE DRILL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Exit quickly and quietly Walk with your class to your assigned spot Line up facing away from building Listen for the teacher to call your name Rejoin your class when told to by staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow directions Be polite Stay in your place in line and remain quiet Face away from the building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wait for all clear signal then return to class Return to class quietly and follow your teacher's directions
EARTHQUAKE DRILL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drop and cover Remain in your area until told to evacuate by an adult Walk quietly to assigned spot, exiting through nearest appropriate door Rejoin your class when told to by staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow directions Be polite Stay calm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quietly "drop and hold" until told to evacuate Follow your teacher's directions to leave your classroom in an orderly manner.
POWER OUTAGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow the directions of the adult supervising you. Stay calm. Do not yell, scream, or otherwise act out Stay in your classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do not talk while the teacher is talking Stay calm Talk in a quiet voice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow directions Help others to follow directions

Play Structures:

- Students must keep one hand on the bar at all times.
- Students must swing straight. There is no jumping from the swing or "twirlies."
- Rocks and bark stay on the ground.
- One student at a time on the slide. Students must slide feet first.

Field Rules:

- Students are to stay on the grass field at all times; games played on the field cannot be near parking lot or road.



**FIRST STUDENT AND
FERN RIDGE
SCHOOL DISTRICT
SCHOOL BUS EXPECTATIONS**



BUS	Be Safe	Be Responsible	Be Respectful
Waiting for the bus 	Remain at a safe distance from where the bus stops (4 giant steps from the bus).	Arrive at the bus stop 5 minutes before your scheduled pick up time.	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Keep your bus stop area neat and clean	Report Bullying
Entering the bus 	Listen and watch for driver directions	Be seated quickly and stay seated	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to self		
Riding the Bus 	Stay seated facing forward	Follow driver directions at all times	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Keep aisles and emergency exits clear	Keep your area on the bus clean-No Littering	Report Bullying
	Keep self and objects inside the bus	Stay seated unless driver gives permission.	Keep personal electronic devices to yourself
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to self		
Exiting the bus 	Listen and watch for driver directions	Take all personal items when exiting buses	Take turns exiting seats
	Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Report vandalism	Use appropriate language, topics, tone, and volume.
	Walk down steps one at a time holding the handrail.	Report to the driver if you see a student sleeping or hiding on the bus.	Report Bullying
Evacuation 	Listen and watch for directions	Follow driver directions	Exit quickly and safely
	Stay quiet	Help others when appropriate	
	Leave belongings on bus		

Below is a list of extensions and email addresses for Elmira Elementary Staff for the current school year. Please be aware that teachers are with students from 7:45 a.m. to 2:25 p.m. and are not available by phone during that time. You are welcome to leave a message on their voice mail or with the office.

EXT.	NAME	ASSIGNMENT	ROOM	EMAIL ADDRESS
3200	Shelby Douberly	Secretary	Office	sdouberly@fernridge.k12.or.us
3201	Billie Perrier	Principal	Office	bperrier@fernridge.k12.or.us
3111	Ann Oxenford	2 nd Grade	11	aoxenford@fernridge.k12.or.us
3112	Paris Hood	Kindergarten Teacher	12	phood@fernridge.k12.or.us
3101	Aaron Franklin	5 th Grade	01	afranklin@fernridge.k12.or.us
3103	Keeley Green	4 th Grade	03	kgreen@fernridge.k12.or.us
3110	Elizabeth Skenzick 1/2	1 st /2 nd Grade Teacher	10	eskenzick@fernridge.k12.or.us
3109	Alisa Johnson	1 st Grade Teacher	09	ajohnson@fernridge.k12.or.us
3108	Sara Varozza 3/4	3 rd /4 th Grade Teacher	08	svarozza@fernridge.k12.or.us
3107	Rose Godfrey	3 rd Grade Teacher	07	rgodfrey@fernridge.k12.or.us
3104	Chloe Thom	4 th Grade Teacher	04	cthom@fernridge.k12.or.us
3102	Kailee Nienhaus	5 th Grade	02	knienhaus@fernridge.k12.or.us
3113	Tami Lux	Bridges 3-5	13	tlux@fernridge.k12.or.us
3114	Wendy Kenyon	Bridges K-2	14	wkenyon@fernridge.k12.or.us
3107	Jennie Herbert	Physical Education	Gym	jherbert@fernridge.k12.or.us
3106	Rachel Sinniger	Resource Room	06	rsinniger@fernridge.k12.or.us
3116	Courtney Roberts	Counselor	16	croberts@fernridge.k12.or.us
3332	Erin White	Behavior Specialist	C. room	ewhite@lesd.k12.or.us
3105	Mari Jones	Title/Early Literacy K-3	05	mjones@fernridge.k12.or.us

Thank you for attending and taking an interest in our school community. If you have any questions please call our office at 541-935-8214. We appreciate your feedback, comments, and input.

FERN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

Home of the "ROYALS"



"We Teach Respect and Responsibility"

Student-Parent Handbook 2025-2026

FERN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

88831 Territorial Road

Elmira, OR 97437

PH: (541) 935-8230

Olivia Johnson, Principal

Eric Carman, Assistant Principal

www.fernridge.k12.or.us

(Click on "Fern Ridge Middle School")

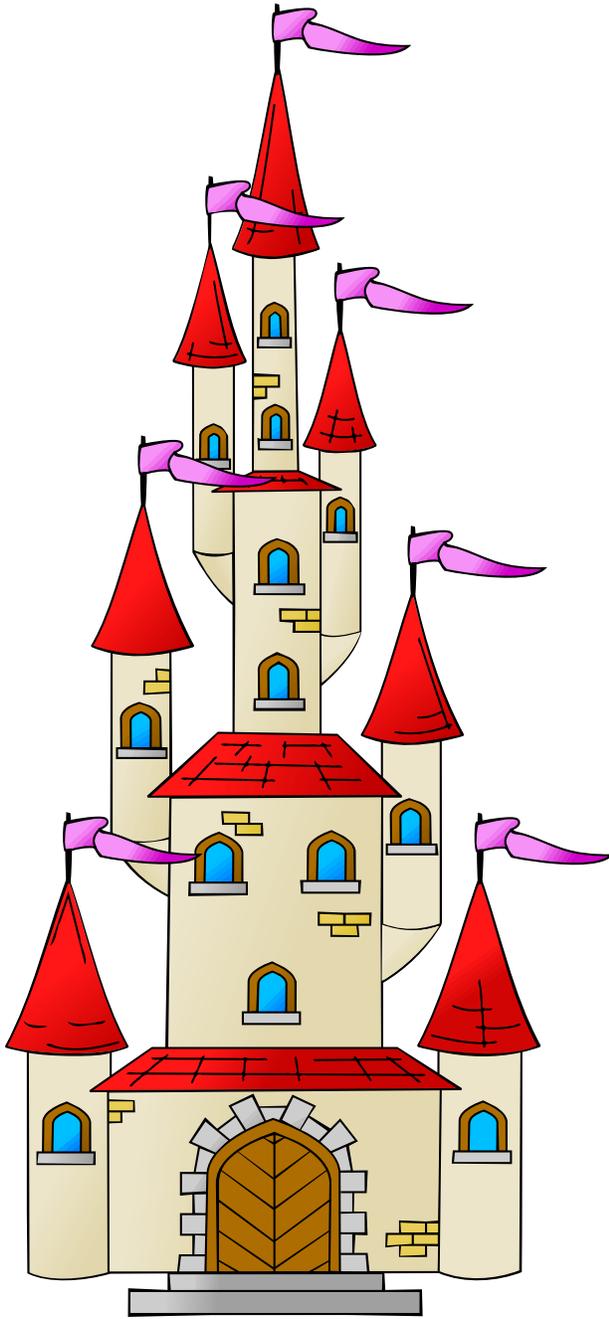
Fern Ridge Middle School Mission Statement

Fern Ridge Middle School is dedicated to creating a respectful environment where individuals grow, learn, and succeed.

- We proudly teach and support school-wide positive behavior: Our High 5's are Be Respectful, Be Responsible, Be There Be Ready, Follow Directions, and Hands and Feet to Self
- We value diversity; we support one another, respect our differences, and honor the unique qualities of each individual
- We emphasize preparing FRMS students for success in high school and beyond
- We have high behavior and academic expectations for students and staff
- We work to foster a collaborative relationship between students, parents, staff, and our community

Please Note:

The material covered within this student handbook is intended as a method of communicating to students and parents regarding general district information, rules and procedures and is not intended to either enlarge or diminish any Board policy, administrative regulation or negotiated agreement. Material contained herein may therefore be superseded by such Board policy, administrative regulation or negotiated agreement. Any information contained in this student handbook is subject to unilateral revision or elimination from time to time without notice. While this handbook covers many common issues, it is not inclusive. These are issues that may not be covered and in some individual cases there may even be exceptions to procedures listed herein. These situations will be addressed as they arise and decided on an individual basis.



Principal's Message:

Welcome to Fern Ridge Middle School, home of the Royals! On behalf of the entire staff, I want to welcome you and your child to FRMS. We are excited to have you as part of our school community. I am looking forward to getting to know you and work with you to support your child's learning and growth during these very important middle school years.

As the principal, it is important to me that we communicate with parents and that parents feel comfortable communicating with us. We encourage you to call or email classroom teachers when you have a concern or a question. A list of teacher extensions and email addresses is included in this handbook. You can stay informed about school events by registering for our text message service or checking our school website for updates. You are also invited to volunteer at FRMS- whether as a chaperone for a school dance, as an active member of our FRMS Parent Group, or as a classroom volunteer.

Our goal at FRMS is to help prepare your child for high school and beyond. We want them to improve academically and at the same time give them the skills they need to make good decisions and be good global citizens. The middle school years are filled with change and we want to help your child begin their transformation into the amazing young adults we know they will be.

If at any time during the school year I can be of

help to you or your child, please don't hesitate to call me at 541-935-8230 or email me at ojohnson@fernridge.k12.or.us

Once again, welcome to Fern Ridge Middle School and the start of a great school year!

Sincerely,
Olivia Johnson
FRMS Principal

2025-2026 Fern Ridge Middle School Student Supply List

2 highlighters
24 #2 pencils (Ticonderoga preferred)
Protractor (7th and 8th Grade Only)
Pens (Blue or Black Ink)
2 Red ink pens
1 pack of colored pencils
College Ruled notebook paper*
Erasers
2 folders
Index cards
(\$10-\$15) Scientific 10-digit display Calculator (7th and 8th Grade Only)
Student Scissors
2-inch Three Ring Binder
2 Spiral Notebooks
Pencil Pouch for 3 ring binder
6 Index Dividers for 3 Ring Binder
Composition Notebook

All Students for P.E.

Athletic Wear (No sleeveless shirts, tank tops, or crop tops)
Gym Shoes- Students must either wear sneakers each day or keep a spare pair of sneakers in their gym locker to change into. (No sandals, crocs, or boots for P.E.)
Wear shorts, sweats, or leggings each day for P.E. or keep in gym locker.
Extra pair of socks to keep in gym locker
Deodorant to keep in gym locker
Water bottle with student name written on it
Hair ties for longer hair

Classrooms are always in need of Kleenex boxes and pencils for classroom community use.

Students who ride their bikes or scooters to school are expected to keep them locked up outside on the bike rack. Please provide your child with a lock. FRSD is not responsible for lost or stolen bikes or scooters.

Optional Items (Not Required. Limited supplies available to purchase during Registration)

- 1. FRMS P.E. T-Shirt for students to use during P.E. if they choose. \$7**
- 2. Spirit Shirt: We are selling Spirit Shirts as a school fundraiser. \$10**
- 3. Yearbook: Students may purchase yearbooks that will be distributed at the end of the 25-26 school year for \$17. Students are not required to buy a yearbook.**

FERN RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL--Fern Ridge School District 28J
88831 Territorial Road Elmira, Oregon 97437
Phone (541) 935-8230

Olivia Johnson, Principal

ojohnson@fernridge.k12.or.us

Eric Carman, Assistant Principal

ecarman@fernridge.k12.or.us

Name:	Subject	Phone Ext #:	Room #:	Email Address
Anderson, Casey	Office Secretary	4220	Office	canderson@fernridge.k12.or.us
Babcock, Cassie	Math	4104	4	cpurkeybabcock@fernridge.k12.or.us
Brummett, Ryan	Special Education	4124	24	rbrummett@fernridge.k12.or.us
Canon, Mikey	Music	4120	20	mcanon@fernridge.k12.or.us
Carman, Eric	Asst. Principal	4203	Office	ecarman@fernridge.k12.or.us
Davis, Brad	Social Studies	4118	18	bdavis@fernridge.k12.or.us
Franklin, Corky	P.E.	4129	29/gym	cfranklin@fernridge.k12.or.us
Fraze, Pete	Social Studies,	4107	7	pfraze@fernridge.k12.or.us
Fuentez, Marti	Science	4128	28	mfuentez@fernridge.k12.or.us
Hohnstein, Heather	Language Arts	4102	2	hhohnstein@fernridge.k12.or.us
Humphrey, Kyle	Math	4127	27	khumphrey@fernridge.k12.or.us
Humphrey, Shelby	Main Secretary	4200	Office	shumphrey@fernridge.k12.or.us
James, Nicholas	Science/Math	4114	14	njames@fernridge.k12.or.us
Johnson, Olivia	Principal	4201	Office	ojohnson@fernridge.k12.or.us
Jones, Kori	Special Education	4123	23	kjones@fernridge.k12.or.us
Kaneft, Jack	P.E.	4129	Gym	jkaneft@fernridge.k12.or.us
Kashuba, Davey	Special Education	4126	26	dkashuba@fernridge.k12.or.us
Light, Jesse	Math	4105	5	jlight@fernridge.k12.or.us
Lloyd, Debra	Language Arts	4101	1	dlloyd@fernridge.k12.or.us
Maddoux, Brittani	ELD Teacher			bmaddoux@fernridge.k12.or.us
Metzger, Joshua	Social Studies	4106	6	jmetzger@fernridge.k12.or.us
Piccolo, Garron	Science	4113	13	gpiccolo@fernridge.k12.or.us
Tracer, Katelyn	Counselor	4103	3	ktracer@fernridge.k12.or.us
Wondra, Pat	Language Arts	4109	9	pwondra@fernridge.k12.or.us

FRMS Kitchen 541-935-8230 ext. 4400



FRMS is committed to teaching students to respect others and value diversity. To that end, FRMS will not tolerate our students using words or actions, deliberately or not, towards other students that are demeaning or derogatory to that student because of race, color, ethnicity, socioeconomic status, physical appearance, physical or cognitive disability, religion, gender, or sexual orientation. Students who engage in hate-based language or acts will face disciplinary action up to and including possible suspension from school.

Our High Five Program

We expect all students to follow these **High Five** guidelines at all times:

1. **Be Responsible**- Students who are responsible are on task at school, complete assignments, and turn those assignments in on time. They listen attentively and ask questions to better understand what they are being taught. Students who are responsible are also good FRMS citizens- they clean up after themselves at lunch and throughout the school day.
2. **Be Respectful**- Students who are respectful use good manners and appropriate language when talking students or adults. Students also demonstrate respect for their school by not damaging school property.



3. **Hands and Feet to Self**- Students follow this rule by being safe at school and having a calm, controlled, and quiet body at all times. They do not kick, hit, grab, or otherwise physically engage with other students.
4. **Follow Directions**- Students who follow directions the first time are meeting this very important expectation. Students are expected to follow adult directions at FRMS in order to make sure everyone is safe and learning.
5. **Be There and Be Ready**- Students who are **on time** and bring all of their materials to class meet this guideline. There is a four minute passing time, so there is time for students to use the bathroom or get a drink of water, but not time to stop and socialize or walk friends to their classrooms. The time to connect with friends is before school, after school, or during lunch.

Students who attend school every day; arrive on time with their materials; contribute in class; and show respect toward themselves and others will be successful at FRMS.

High Five Rewards

We offer lots of incentives and rewards for those who meet our High Five goals

1. FRMS Staff give students demonstrating High Five behavior, High Five Tickets. These can be used to receive rewards and for incentives. High Five tickets are used in the High Five Student Store to purchase items like pencils, erasers, or small toys like yo-yos. The student store is open each week. We also have High Five Assemblies at the end of each quarter where students can cash in their High Five tickets for the chance to play games and win prizes. FRMS also does High Five drawings throughout the school year where we will have prizes drawings that students can put their High Five tickets towards. The more tickets that students put into the drawing, the better their chances of winning. High Five Prize Drawings occur approximately once a month.
2. **Gold Star Awards**- Students with no D's or F's, no referrals, and 90% or higher attendance each semester. Gold Star students earn prizes and special activities.
3. **Attendance**- Students with excellent attendance will participate in a variety of incentives throughout the school year including individual prize drawings and grade level awards.

Student Information: Rules and Restrictions

Please Read Carefully

Cell Phones:

Due to a new cell phone requirement from ODE that came out in July of 2024, the FRSD administrators and school board will be discussing cell phone policies in July-September. Once updated, the new language will be inserted into the online version of the FRSD Handbook.

No Backpacks or String Bags: FRMS students are not allowed to have backpacks or string bags in the classroom. They can bring backpacks to school and keep them in their locker. Backpacks should not be left in the hallways or the common areas of the school.

Bicycles: Bikes are to be walked on campus. Bikes should be locked up. The school is not responsible in the event that a bike is damaged or stolen.

Skateboards/Scooters: Students are not allowed to ride a skateboard or scooters at school or on school grounds. They are to be stored in lockers or locked up outside. The school is not responsible in the event that a skateboard is damaged or stolen.

Squirt guns: The possession and/or use of squirt guns, water balloons, and syringes is prohibited. Students who use a water bottle to squirt water at other students, or inside the building, will receive a referral. Multiple incident of squirting water will result in losing the privilege of having a water bottle at school.

Food/Beverages: Students can only have water in the gym – No gum, food, or other beverages are allowed. Classroom rules around food and drinks must be followed at all times.

Gang related items: The school will determine appropriateness and disciplinary consequences using reasonable forecast of potential disruption.

Toys/Games: Whether it's an electronic hand-held video game or a yo-yo, all toys and games should not be brought into the classroom, in the gym locker room, into the library, or into the gym. Students are welcome to have them in the commons before school or at lunch. The school will not be responsible for theft or loss of such items.

Personal electronic devices including, but not limited to, walkie talkies, long or short-range portable radios, portable scanning devices, personal digital assistants (PDAs), laptop computers, blue tooth speakers should not be brought to school. The school is not responsible for the theft or loss or damage to any personal electronic device brought to school.

Vandalism: Destruction of school property or facilities will result in disciplinary action. In addition, students may be charged for the cost of replacing or repairing what was damaged. This includes but is not limited to computers, chromebooks, classroom equipment, furniture, etc.

Prohibited Items: These items are not allowed at school. Possession of these items will result in disciplinary action up to and including a possible expulsion. The items will be confiscated and parents will have to pick them up. Items not picked up will be discarded at the end of the school year.

Gambling materials or devices such as cards and dice are not allowed in school.

Firearms- All firearms are prohibited including objects that look like a gun.

Knives/cutting instruments- All cutting edges of any size are prohibited.

Studded clothing- Studded clothing and accessories (including chains) are prohibited for safety reasons.

Combustible items: matches, lighters, firecrackers/fireworks, cap guns, shotgun shells, bullets, dynamite, etc.

Drugs, alcohol or related paraphernalia.

Cigarettes, electronic cigarettes, vaping devices, vaping oils, other tobacco related products, or look-alikes.

Inappropriate reading or viewing materials.

Weapons: Any kind of weapon including any object used as a weapon or in a dangerous manner

Confiscated Items: FRMS retains the right to confiscate any item being used outside of the guidelines noted above or any item that is creating disruption or is being used by the student in an unsafe, disruptive, and/or inappropriate

manner. Generally speaking the first time the item will be held for the student till the end of the day. The second time the item will need to be picked up by a parent.

INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR DEFINITIONS

Hate Based Speech/Language/Actions: Speech/language/actions that attack a person or a group on the basis of race, religion, color, ethnicity, national origin, sex, physical appearance, physical or cognitive disability, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

Harassment: Implies systematic persecution by unrelentingly pursuing or intimidating in order to gain a desired end. It includes pestering, hounding, baiting, tormenting, name calling, cyberbullying, teasing, etc.

Racial Harassment: Unwelcome comments about one's ethnic background. Treating someone differently or with disrespect due to their race or ethnicity.

Sexual Harassment: Unwelcome comments or gestures; touching of a sexual nature; putting down one's sexual orientation; making sexual comments or jokes; writing sexual messages or graffiti; spreading sexual rumors about another student; touching, grabbing or pinching in a sexual way; spying on a student who was dressing or showering; pulling another student's clothing off; forcing a kiss; "mooning" another student; and forcing another student to "do something sexual, including kissing."

Intimidation: Any act of intimidation (by threats) or coercion (to compel by pressure or threats.)

Insubordination: Refusal to follow adult directions.

Cheating: Those that share or take answers, information, or data, from other individuals without the consent of the instructor.

Inappropriate display of affection: Beyond holding hands, i.e. kissing, arm locks, draping, touching private body parts, etc.

Defacing property: Any harm to property owned and operated by the FRSD (writing on walls, desks, etc.)

Occasional disruption: Occasional is a personal interpretation, (no definition) but no more than two or three times a year.

Tardiness: Students should be in their seat prior to the final bell ringing.

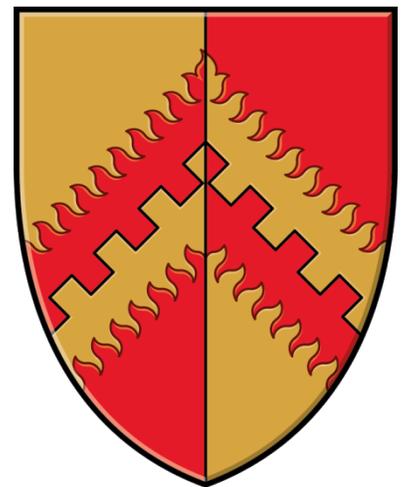
Littering: Purposely dropping paper or other items on the property of the school (including fields.)

Possession of tobacco, vaping device, or material used in vaping: On the individual, in their purse, coat, locker, etc. at school or on the bus. Coming to school with drugs, tobacco, or alcohol in your system is considered being in possession. This includes look-alikes.

Skipping or leaving campus: Leaving the school grounds without permission, or without properly signing in and out at the school office. Being in an area of the school without permission of a staff member instead of being in a class is also considered skipping.

Violation of classroom rules: All teachers expect students to follow our High Fives.

Willful disobedience: (Insubordination, i.e. won't bring materials to class again)



Forgery: Signing someone else's name, (i.e. a pass by a teacher, or bus pass, note from home.)

Vandalism: Damaging school property including lockers, desks, tables, bathrooms, classroom equipment, etc.-Deliberately creating a mess that has to be cleaned up by others can be considered vandalism.

Fighting: Any attempt to physically injure or harm another student.

Habitual class disruption: (i.e. occurring in a classroom at a unacceptable rate several in a few week period)

Abusive profanity: Using vulgar language toward another student or staff member (using profane words expressed in a heated argument.)

Firecracker possession/use: Use or possession of firecrackers, stink bombs, bottle rockets, etc.

Defiance/disrespect: Not following directions, talking back to an adult, using a disrespectful tone or disrespectful words, etc.

Theft: Taking possession of item(s) that do not belong to you.

Drug possession: Possession or use of any drug or drug paraphernalia is prohibited.

Weapons: Weapons of any kind are prohibited on campus.

Alcohol use or possession: On the individual, in their coat, purse, locker, etc. at any time on school grounds or at a school event.

Distribution of tobacco, alcohol, drugs: providing any of these items to another student.

Lunchroom/Commons: Students should demonstrate good manners at lunch and breakfast. This includes using a reasonable voice level, not throwing food, not playing around with their food, and cleaning up their area when they are finished eating.

Disciplinary Actions

Students may be assigned a minor or major referral by any staff member or substitute for failure to follow class/school rules or for inappropriate behavior.

Minor referrals usually result in a lunch detention of up to 3 days and/or a conference with the principal.

Students may also be assigned community service such as cleaning up the commons or picking up trash.

Minor referrals can become a major referral if the problematic behavior does not improve.

Major referrals usually result in more severe consequences such as an in school or out of school suspension or an afterschool detention.

Students who have received five or more minor referrals may be subject to additional disciplinary actions, up to and including suspension, even if the offense is a level one offense. Minor referrals are documented on "Minor Incident Reports" and Major Referrals are documented on "Major Incident Reports".

The list below provides general guidelines- it is not meant to be comprehensive

Level One Offenses	Level One Consequences
Cheating (includes copying assignments and plagiarism) Inappropriate display of affection Disruption Food/drink in hallway, classroom Littering Violation of classroom rules Profanity Tardies Dress code Disrespect	Problem solving forms Contact parents (possible conference) Keep student before or after school Contract with student Community Service Assign to a detention (1-3 days) Conference with Principal Time Out
Level Two Offenses	Level Two Consequences
Abusive profanity Dishonesty Excessive Tardies Fighting, physical aggression, threats of violence Forgery Habitual classroom/educational disruption Harassment (including intimidation/cyberbullying) Hate Based Speech/Language/Actions Insubordination, disrespectful Sexual harassment Skipping/truancy Ten or More Detentions Theft Use/possession of tobacco or combustible items Vandalism Willful disobedience, disrespectful	Conference Detention (Multiple Days) In-house suspension Community service (Pick Up Trash, Clean the Commons, Organize Lost and Found, etc.) 1- 10 day suspension Chronic Offenses: Reduced schedule Alternative education program Recommendation of expulsion
Level Three Offenses	Level Three Consequences
Under the influence of, possession of, or distribution of alcohol, drugs, cigarettes, E-cigarettes, vaping devices, vaping oil, tobacco products or drug/smoking related paraphernalia (Includes look-alikes and items claiming to be drugs or alcohol) Arson Assault Destruction of property Safety/serious bodily injury Endangering lives Bomb threat/false alarm Weapons possession/use (includes replicas) Dangerous objects Habitual disruption of educational environment	1 - 10 day suspension Possible recommendation for expulsion Possible notification of law enforcement Possible education program placement Possible reduced schedule Parent contact Not allowed to attend extra-curricular events including dances, high school games, etc.

BE THERE - BE READY: Being on Time

UNEXCUSED TARDIES

- Most tardies are acquired when students use passing time to gather and socialize. Students are expected to be moving to and from classes and lockers in a swift, meaningful manner. Loitering is strongly discouraged.
- Students receiving three or more tardies in the same class will be subject to disciplinary procedures.
- Classroom teachers may enact classroom consequences for repeated tardies

- If a student shows a willful disobedience to being in class on time, a referral and possible suspension could occur. This is at the discretion of the administration.
- To make the start of each class period go smoother, students will not be allowed to leave class to get a drink or use the bathroom for the first five minutes of each class period.

UNPREPARED FOR CLASS

1. Students who fail to bring their supplies with them to class will be marked unprepared.
2. After their third time not bringing their supplies to class, students may receive a minor referral.

Good Attendance Incentives: FRMS provides incentives/rewards for students with no tardies and/or no absences and who come to each class prepared.

EXCESSIVE ABSENCES

A letter of notification will be sent each quarter to the parents of those students whose absences (excused or unexcused) result in their attendance falling below 90%. If absences continue to be excessive and disruptive to the student's education, the school will take the initiative to file a truancy report with Lane Education District. Final determination on whether an absence excused or unexcused is made by school staff. 90% attendance means missing no more than 17 days of school or approximately 2 days a month. If the student misses ten (10) consecutive days, that student will be dropped from school.

Advanced telephone notification of an absence would be appreciated.

FRMS uses an autodialer to contact families when students are absent. Please call the school before 8:45 AM to avoid having the autodialer call you,

In addition to a truancy citation, excessive absences may result in a student not being promoted to the next grade level.

Please note: At the middle school level attendance is taken by the period. Students who are checked out of school for one or two periods are considered absent for those periods- a total of seven periods missed equals a day missed. Repeatedly missing one or two periods of school can quickly add up to missing days of school.

LATE ARRIVALS

Students who arrive late should report to the office for a pass to class. Please note: the office will determine if the reason a student is late to school is excused. Acceptable excused absences include being ill, have a doctor/dentist appointment, or other scheduled unavailable appointments. Simply running late, alarm didn't go off, or other reasons are not valid excuses.

General Student Information

Bathroom Usage

1. **Students must have permission from their teacher and a hall pass to use the bathroom during class.**
2. **Please keep the bathroom clean, and equipment in working order.**
3. **Violating these guidelines can/will result in disciplinary action.**

Be in Class on Time with Materials

We want every student prepared and ready to learn. It is the responsibility of each student to get to class on time with their materials. Students who arrive in class without materials may be sent to the office for the entire period at teacher's discretion. This will be recorded as unprepared.

Bus Information

Bus transportation is available to most of our students. Keep in mind that it is possible you would not ride the same bus to and from school, so check the bus numbers carefully. Students with questions about busing should contact First Student at 935-1969.

Bus Citations are given by bus drivers for inappropriate behavior. Students should take them home, get their parent's signature and then return them to their bus driver. Excessive citations may result in a suspension of bus riding privileges.

Bus Passes: Students, who plan to ride home on a different bus, will need to bring a note from their parent and come to the office window **before school or during lunch** for a bus pass. **Bus Passes will not be given out after school.** The note should include name of person you are going home with, their address and phone number, and the bus number you will be riding. This pass is given to the driver as you get on the bus. **Due to Federal privacy laws, we cannot look up a student's address to put on a bus pass. Parents must provide that information.**

Dances:

There will be periodic dances throughout the year. **Dances are for FRMS students only.** No guests are allowed to attend our dances. Students cannot have any referrals or detentions for the two weeks prior to the dance in order to be eligible to attend the dance. Students who are absent the day of a dance due to an unavoidable absence can ask the office for an exception to the required attendance policy. An unavoidable absence could be a medical appointment, a legal appointment, a funeral, etc. Students out on an in school suspension cannot attend the dance.

Dress Code for FRMS and EHS

Grooming & Dress: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for District Guidelines.

Responsibility for dress and grooming rests primarily with students and their parents; however, the district expects student dress and grooming to meet standards which ensure that the following conditions do not exist:

1. Disruption or interference with the classroom learning environment;
2. Threat to the health and/or safety of the student concerned or of other students.

Students who represent the school in a voluntary activity may be required to conform to dress and grooming standards and may be denied the opportunity to participate if those standards are not met. Students may, in general, dress as they please, but there are some restrictions in keeping with basic health and safety standards, as well as minimizing disruptions to the learning environment. Provisions for dress and grooming for performance, activity-based, career or special activities will arise directly from the needs of the course or activity. Courses in science, career-technical education, music, fine arts, and alike, will outline the specific dress needs for safety, performance or venue in the respective course syllabi and/or safety contracts. Special activities or field trips will have specific dress needs outlined prior to departure so that both students and parents are prepared for both the activity and site location. When student hygiene impacts the ability of others in the classroom environment to learn, they may be asked by teaching or administrative staff to make use of the bathing facilities or pantry supplies.

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES TO BE OBSERVED

1. Students must wear clothing that includes both a shirt with pants, skirt, or shorts, or the equivalent, and shoes.
2. Undergarments should be worn and should not be visible to others, with the exception of straps associated with sports bras or bralettes. Clothes designed primarily as undergarments may not be worn as exterior, visible clothing. Clothes that are see-through and/or worn in a way that reveal undergarments are not appropriate and may not be worn.
3. Hats and other headwear must allow the face to be visible and not interfere with the line of sight to any student or staff. Hoodies must be kept down while inside the building.
4. Clothing should provide appropriate body coverage.
5. Student religious apparel and head or hair coverings (yarmulke, kippah, kufi, hijab, dupatta, turban, pagri, bonnets, etc.) are allowed.
6. Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities.
7. Hoods, scarves, bandanas, facemasks, etc. that obscure a person's face or identity pose a safety hazard/threat and are not permitted on school grounds or during school activities (exceptions may be made for special activities such as Spirit Week).
8. Clothing with illicit drug, alcohol or tobacco messages are prohibited as these substances are illegal for minors or are illegal by law.
9. Clothing with vulgar, plainly offensive, profane, obscene or sexually explicit references, graphics or

comments are prohibited.

10. Clothing may not advocate prejudice, violence, or depict violence.

11. Clothing that depicts gang affiliation or other hostile messages that could be interpreted as harassment in their message (implied or not) may not be worn.

FRSD staff will make the final decision as to whether a student's dress is appropriate for a school setting. Students who do not follow the above guidelines will be asked to change their clothes and/or will be provided with alternative clothing from the student pantry/school office if the student has nothing readily available on campus. Clothes provided by the office are for temporary use. Hygiene products provided by the office do not need to be returned. Flagrant deliberate or repeated violations will result in disciplinary action.

Hall Passes

If it is necessary for a student to leave the classroom during class time, teachers will issue a hall pass. Students are to go directly to and from their designated destination. Students should come to class prepared with books and materials and should not need to go to lockers during class periods. We reserve the right to deny hall passes to students who violate the hall pass policy, or abuse and overuse passes.

Harassment and Bullying

Any student who is being harassed or bullied should report it to an adult immediately. Be Responsible- avoid bullying and report bullying to an adult.

What is bullying?

From stopbullying.gov: Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior among school aged children that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. The behavior is repeated, or has the potential to be repeated, over time.

In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

- An Imbalance of Power: Kids who bully use their power—such as physical strength, access to embarrassing information, or popularity—to control or harm others. Power imbalances can change over time and in different situations, even if they involve the same people.
- Repetition: Bullying behaviors happen more than once or have the potential to happen more than once.

Bullying is against school rules and the law.

Examples of Bullying Behaviors: name calling, teasing, hitting, spreading rumors, excluding, tripping, put-downs, threats, note writing, fighting, pushing, secrets, drawings, getting money from someone, slamming lockers, pushing books out of hands, snapping rubber bands, taking items, destroying property.

Tattling vs. Reporting

- Tattling is when a student tries to get someone in trouble.
- Reporting is when a student tries to keep someone from getting hurt.

EHS Sporting Events

At Elmira High School athletic events, including football games, all Fern Ridge Middle School rules apply. Students are responsible for their behavior and may receive a school consequence, referral or suspension for behavior at Elmira High School.

Internet Use

At times students will have access to computers for assignments. **Computers are to be used responsibly and for educational purposes only.** Misuse of the computers may result in a student losing their use privileges. At no time are students to access social media sites using district equipment, while on district property or at district-sponsored activities.

Lockers:

Lockers are assigned to students. From time-to-time staff will conduct locker checks and inspections. It is important that lockers are kept clean with no food or open beverage containers. Students who write on or otherwise damage their locker may be fined. School administrators have a right to open and inspect your locker without the student present if there is cause. Lockers are to be used during passing time. Students need to use lockers responsibly. ***Do not give your combination out to other students and do not share***

your locker with anyone. Students who have trouble with their lockers should report it to the office. Lockers will be inspected at the end of the year for damage. Fines may be assessed if a student is found responsible for damage to his/her locker. Students should not place stickers or stamps on their lockers. **DAMAGE OR VANDALISM** to lockers will result in a \$25 fine. This includes marking, writing, and stickers. It is the student who is assigned to the locker who is responsible to keep that locker in good condition. **PE LOCKERS:** Small lockers with combination locks are available to you so you can put your belongings in them during your PE class. These lockers are located in the dressing rooms.

LOSS OF PRIVILEGES FOR SPECIAL EVENTS Students may lose the privilege to attend special events including field trips, dances, promotion, or other events. Behavior is always a factor in being permitted to attend special events.

PASSING TIME

There is a 4 minute passing time between periods. Passing time is for students to go to their next class. Students are expected to keep moving to their next period, unless using their locker. Restroom use should be before school and lunch. Students standing and talking will be asked to keep moving toward their classroom.

PUBLIC DISPLAY OF AFFECTION

Public display of affection is an inappropriate school behavior and is often a cause of embarrassment to the observer. Anything other than holding hands is considered inappropriate. If public display of affection is observed by staff and/or students, the individuals involved should be reminded of the policy and they are expected to adjust their behavior accordingly. If the behavior is not corrected, the individuals should be reported to an administrator for appropriate discipline.

SCHOOL COUNSELOR

Offers support for students and families in the areas of academic success, social growth, and emotional issues. If you need to see the counselor, please put a note in the box on their door. The counselor will then call you out of class when they are ready to talk to you.

STUDENT MEDICATION: Please see the Parent Information section for medication procedures. When you need to take your medicine, come to the office and we will give it to you.

TEXTBOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS

Students may be given textbooks in some classes. Some teachers use a classroom set of books and the student won't be allowed to take them out of class. If students need a copy for homework, books are available in the library or some books may be online. The links, logins and passwords to online textbooks will be provided to you by your individual teachers.

Treat all library books or textbooks with respect. Never write in books. If a library book or textbook is lost, check with the library to see if it has been found. Fines will be assessed for lost or damaged textbooks or library books at the end of the year. Students who have not paid their fines are not able to participate in sports or attend after school events at the high school.

Parent Information

Absences

Please call in your child's absences as soon as possible.

Homework can be requested after 3rd consecutive day of absence. Homework can be picked up after 3:20 and before 3:40. Homework can also be sent home with a sibling if requested,

Planned Absence: We believe that attendance is very important and is a major factor in student success. Because of the nature of classroom instruction, no absence can be entirely "made-up." However, students who MUST be absent from school for reasons other than those which are regularly excused must complete a Planned Absence Form one week in advance. Again, any absence can and does affect school performance. We encourage students to attend school every day and encourage families to arrange their schedules around the school calendar.

Excessive Absences/Truancy: Students whose attendance rate drops below 80% can and will be cited for truancy under Oregon law. 80% generally translates to no more than 4 days missed in one month, regardless of whether the absence is excused or unexcused.

Athletics

Fern Ridge Middle School does not offer an after school athletic program. For now, community groups like Territorial Sports or Kid Sports provide these opportunities for students.

Closed Campus

Fern Ridge Middle School is a closed campus. Once students have arrived at school, a student must sign out at the office in order to leave the campus before the end of the school day. This includes before the school day starts. When students arrive, no matter how early, they are to remain on campus.

- In order for a student to check out from school, the student's legal parent/guardian must check the student out at the office. **Emergency contacts can only check out students if the parent has contacted the school giving them permission to do so.**
- A student who leaves campus without following the correct check out procedure will be given an "unexcused" absence (e.g., a student who leaves the campus without checking out with written notification or a telephone call from the parent/guardian will receive an "unexcused" absence and may receive an in-school suspension.)

DAILY REPORT FORMS

The Academic Daily Report form and the Behavior Education form are used to increase communication among students, parents and teachers. If you would like your child to participate in the daily form program, contact our school counselor at 541- 935-8230 for more information about what is required from the parent, the student, and the teacher to ensure that the use of the forms has the intended impact.

Discipline of Special Needs Students

A special needs student will be disciplined when his/her behavior:

- Is not related to their disability.
- Poses a risk to others or herself/himself.
- Requires a cooling-off period to prevent future occurrence of disruptive behavior.

Enrolling at FRMS

To enroll your student into FRMS, bring the following information to the FRMS office or check our website for directions on how to enroll online:

- proof of residency
- current address
- phone number
- copy of birth certificate
- immunizations records
- name & date of last school attended
- doctor's name and phone number
- name and phone number of parents work
- name and phone numbers of 2 emergency contact persons

Please let us know if your student is a Special Education or a TAG student.

Communicable Disease Plan

Fern Ridge School District follows the published Communicable Disease Guidelines from the Oregon Department of Education and the Oregon Health Authority. Those guidelines can be found on the main district website under the link "district and state reports".

Emergency or Weather Related Closures

In the event of hazardous weather conditions or local emergency, Fern Ridge School District may cancel classes, begin late, or omit certain bus routes or portions of routes. This information will be broadcast over the following radio and television stations: **Radio:** KUGN, KEED, KWAX, KDUK, KLCC, KORE, KPNW, KZAM, **TV:** KVAL, KEZI, KMTR as well as the district's website: www.fernridge.k12.or.us or over the internet at www.Flashnews.net. If school is cancelled, any afterschool events are also cancelled.

Health Concerns

A student who becomes ill or is injured at school, must notify his/her teacher or another staff member as soon as possible. Students who are ill or injured should then report to the office and sign in at the health room. In the case of a serious illness or injury, the school shall attempt to notify parents according to information provided on emergency forms submitted by parents to the school. Parents are encouraged to update this information as often as necessary. Hurt students will receive basic first aid and the office will contact parents. If the student is ill, they will have their temperature taken and be given a short time to rest. If the student does not feel better, the office will notify parents. In emergency situations, the office will call 911 and then notify parents.

Students will only be allowed to remain in the health room for a short period of time. If a student is too ill to be in class, then he/she should be at home under the care of the parents. If the student is too ill to remain in school, the student will be released to the student's parents or to another person as directed by the parents.

LICE

- A student found with live lice may be excluded from school.
- The parent/guardian needs to accompany the child to school for a lice check in the health room before they can return to class.
- Students should not miss multiple days of school due to lice.

Please call the Lane County Health Department (541-682-4041) for more information on lice.

Lost and Found

Items found around the school shall be put in the lost and found located in the vestibule by the main student doors. Items are donated at the end of each quarter or more often depending on how many items have been accumulated. It is considered theft for a student to keep or use an item from lost and found that does not belong to that student.

Office Hours

The office opens for parents at 8:00 and closes at 3:45 PM. Parents can call our office at 541-935-8230. After hours, parents are welcome to leave a message on our voice mail system.

School-Home Communication

ParentSquare: FRMS uses ParentSquare as our primary communication tool with families. ParentSquare allows teachers to easily text or email parents, send flyers, attach permission slips, etc. For more information on ParentSquare, contact the school or check our website.

Email: Parents who have access to the Internet can e-mail teachers to maintain positive communication with the school. Teachers will also use email to communicate their concerns so please make sure the school has your current email.

Reader Board: Important events are also posted on our Reader Board.

Parent Concerns

When you have a concern about your child's academic progress, attendance, grades, assignments, or behavior, please contact their teacher first. Teacher phone numbers and email addresses are in the beginning of the FRMS handbook. Then, if the problem is not resolved call our office and ask to speak to our Principal, Ms. Johnson or our Assistant Principal, Mr. Carman

FRMS Parent Group/ Parent Volunteers

Parents volunteer for a wide variety of activities including lunch supervision, field trips, school celebrations, media center assistance, as well as office and teacher support. We encourage you to volunteer; it is fun and provides you with an opportunity to see what is going on in your child's school. A Criminal History form must be completed and approved prior to volunteering. FRMS has a parent group that meets monthly to plan events and activities for our school. All parents are welcomed- please check for updates on the school website.

Retention Policy

Fern Ridge Middle School follows district guidelines on retention and retention decisions are made through our Student Study Team. If your child is a candidate for retention, you will be notified of that fact by our counselor on

or about December 10 of the school year. The Student Study Team will work with your child's teachers to support your child's growth at FRMS and to try different strategies/interventions aimed at increasing your child's social and academic success. As the year unfolds, the Student Study Team will closely monitor your child's progress. Parents will be kept informed of whether their child continues to be a candidate for retention or not. Final retention decisions will be made on or about May 20 of each school year. Parents will be heavily consulted during that process. If, however, you disagree with the team's decision you have the right to appeal that decision with the superintendent. 8th graders recommended for retention at the end of their 8th grade year will not be allowed to participate in promotion.

School Lunches

Students may purchase their lunches through the school food program. Breakfast and lunch will be served daily. You may add money to your child's account before school in the commons/cafeteria. Families can also pay online at myschoolbucks.com. Students can purchase a second milk for an extra \$.50. For updated information about school lunches, including information on how to apply for free or reduced lunches, please call 541-935-8218

Site Council/ESSA

Our site council meets monthly and consists of parents, teachers and staff. The site council is responsible for school improvement and oversees many activities and decisions. You are welcome to visit the site council meetings.

Special Education and TAG

We offer various levels of support to those students who require remedial support or accelerated programs. We have teachers who provide these resources and instruction to students who qualify for these services. If you have questions or concerns, please contact our Special Education Director Brian Brands at 541-935-7733

Student Medication

In order to provide a safe environment for your child to take medication at school we must follow the state guidelines for medications. Please help us by following these procedures:

- Parents must transport medications to and from school, and check them in to the office.
- Parents are responsible for the preparation of medication (e.g. cutting tablets.) Medications must be in the original container and the parent must provide written instructions. The prescription on the container must reflect these partial tablets.
- Change of dosage or medication must have written doctor order.
- Inhaled medications must have the prescription label attached and must be stored in the office unless they have a note from the doctor.
- If these stated guidelines are not followed, medications will not be dispensed.
- Parents must pick up unused medications by the last day of school or they will be disposed of by school staff.

TEAM WORK

To insure your child's success at the middle school, it is important that we work together as a team. Our expectation of parents is that you work with us to solve problems. Please feel free to contact the school in a spirit of cooperation whenever you feel the need.

As for the students, it is our expectation that they work to be part of the solutions at Fern Ridge Middle School, not part of the problems. However, we understand that all students make mistakes. Our goal is to have students learn from their mistakes, whether those mistakes are academic or behavioral. Working together, we can make a difference for your child.

VISITING FRMS

Parents are always welcome to visit the school. We ask that you always come in the main entrance and check into the office. If you wish to visit a classroom, please call first to arrange a visit to ensure that students aren't disrupted during testing, etc. Students who are expected to be in attendance at another school are not allowed to visit FRMS during the school day.

WELLNESS POLICY

The Fern Ridge School Board is committed to providing school environments that promote and protect children's health, well-being, and ability to learn by supporting healthy eating, physical activity and other behaviors that contribute to student wellness. Good health fosters student attendance and education. Children and adolescents need access to healthful foods and opportunities to be physically active in order to grow, learn, and thrive

To meet this commitment, the district will be guided by the following policy goals:

- The health/safety of our students is a priority. When faced with conflicting priorities or issues of implementation, decisions will be made that favor student health/safety.
- All students in K-12 will have opportunities, support, and encouragement to be physically active on a daily basis.
- School will provide access to a variety of affordable, nutritious, and appealing foods that meet federal health and nutrition standards for students; and provide clean, safe, and pleasant settings and meet federal guidelines for adequate time to eat.
- To the maximum extent practicable, all schools in the district will participate in available federal school meal programs.
- The school district supports a coordinated approach to school health which includes: comprehensive school health education, physical education, school nutrition services, counseling, psychological, and social services, healthy school environment, school-site health promotion for staff, and family and community involvement through site council(s) and dissolving committees.
- The school district engages students, parents, teachers, food service professionals, and other interested community members in reviewing, developing recommendations for wellness, and as appropriate, monitoring nutrition safety and wellness policies.

For even more detailed information on the policy and healthy party, snack, incentive guidelines, contact the school.

ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL
2025-2026
STUDENT/PARENT HANDBOOK
Information Guide
Home of the Falcons



24936 Fir Grove Lane
Elmira, Oregon 97437
(541)935-8200
Attendance 935-8200 Ext. 277
www.fernridge.k12.or.us/ehs

THE SIGN OFF PAGE FOR RELEASING INFORMATION TO THE MILITARY, DIRECTORY INFORMATION, ETC, WAS PREVIOUSLY ON THIS PAGE. IT HAS BEEN MOVED TO PAGE 5 IN THE FRONT OF THIS DOCUMENT. PLEASE REVIEW THAT DOCUMENT, SIGN AND RETURN TO THE BUILDING SECRETARY.

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It is the responsibility of each student to read, understand and abide by the handbook. Furthermore, it is the responsibility of the student to share and review their copy of the handbook with their parent/guardian and return the sign off sheet in the front of this document to the office of Elmira High School.

Main Office Hours:	7:30 - 4:00
Counseling Office Hours:	8:00 - 4:00
Attendance Office Hours:	7:30 - 4:00
Athletic/Business Office Hours:	7:45 - 3:45
Normal Teacher Hours:	7:45 - 3:45

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Principal's Message

Dear Elmira High School Families,

On behalf of our entire staff, it is with great excitement that I welcome you to the 2025–2026 school year at Elmira High School. Whether you are joining us for the first time or returning for another year, we are thrilled to have your family as part of our school community.

We are committed to providing an enriching, supportive, and academically rigorous environment for every student. One of the most important ways to ensure success in high school is through **consistent daily attendance**. When students are present and engaged every day, they are more connected to their peers, their teachers, and their learning. Regular attendance helps build good habits, improves academic performance, and opens the door to more opportunities both in and outside of school. We ask for your partnership in making school attendance a top priority in your household.

As we begin this school year, we are proud to introduce several **exciting new improvements** to our campus that reflect our continued investment in student experience and community pride. Construction is very close to being completed on our **brand-new all-purpose athletic field and stadium**. This modern facility will serve as the home for football, soccer, track and field, and other school and community events. Featuring a professional-grade turf surface, expanded bleacher seating, energy-efficient lighting, and sound system, the new stadium represents a true leap forward in school spirit and athletic excellence.

Additionally, we've added a **new parking lot** in front of the school, making it easier and safer for students, families, and visitors. We hope the changes will help reduce congestion during drop-off and pick-up times. Finally, the science rooms were remodeled to use the existing space better. We upgraded ventilation, plumbing and more. (side note: The rooms where I studied

science in 1985 looked exactly the same then as they did before the remodel.) Thank you so much for your continued support of our school building and property. We can't wait for you to see these improvements in person and hope you'll join us at our upcoming Fall events.

When students arrive, they will see some familiar faces in permanent positions at EHS. Tessa Slager is our new health teacher and Conrad Davis will teach math.

Together, let's make this year one of growth, celebration, and achievement for every student. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact our main office.

Welcome to a great year ahead at Elmira High School!

Go Falcons!

Principal Vandercar

Building Mission Statement

The mission of Elmira High School is to meet state standards through active teaching and learning, and provide all students the academic and social skills to become successful members of our global community.

District Mission Statement

The mission of Fern Ridge School District is to create a safe place where people grow to become caring, ethical, healthy individuals...who can adapt to change, enrich the democratic process and contribute to a global society.

Belief Statement

To increase sensitivity among students and staff towards social responsibility and respect for self and others.

.....

PREFACE

The material covered within this student handbook is intended as a method of communicating to students and parents regarding general district information, rules and procedures and is not intended to either enlarge or diminish any Board policy, administrative regulation or negotiated agreement. Material contained herein may therefore be superseded by such Board policy, administrative regulation or negotiated agreement. Any information contained in this student handbook is subject to unilateral revision or elimination from time to time without notice.

While this handbook covers many common issues it is not inclusive. There are issues that may not be covered and in some individual cases there may even be exceptions to procedures listed herein. These situations will be addressed as they arise and decided on an individual basis.

EHS Staff Listing

Principal

Cydney Vandercar

Assistant Principal

Joel Smith

Counselor

Brittany McMillan

Court Wirth

CTE Coordinator (Measure 98)

Jon Guldager

Leadership Advisor

Cody Brock

Art

Tom Edmundson

Music

Matt Taylor-Band

Mikey Cannon-Choir

English

Emmy Erwin

Shannon Hart

Michelle Nelson

Health

Tessa Slager

Physical Education

Robert Lee

Mathematics

Ken Best

Conrad Davis

Jeff McCourtney

Science

Christopher Doscher

Gwen Harper

James Monegan

Social Studies

Sarah Wartenbee

Patrick Wondra

DesiRae Wright-Rendon

Spanish

Jennifer Snider

Special Education

Teri Moen-Gay

Heather Pomada-Correa

Vocational Education

Johnny Bowden

Bookkeeper

Lorie Haffner

Custodians

Brody Erb

Kaishea Kegley

Owen Lounsbury

Instructional Assistants

Jeannie Core

Mikaylah Hammontree

TBD

Cortnie Peeler

Secretaries

Angela Baker (Registrar)

Tammy Eutsler

Media Assistant

Ryan Chambers

YTP Specialist/ School to Work

Cody Brock

Athletic Director

Emmy Erwin

EHS Coaching Staff

Head Football

Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

Head Volleyball

Assistant

Head Boys Soccer

Head Girls Soccer

Cross Country

Head Boys Basketball

Assistant

Assistant

Head Girls Basketball

Assistant

Assistant

Head Wrestling

Assistant

Head Track Coach

Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

Assistant

Head Baseball

Assistant

Head Softball

Assistant

Equestrian

Conrad Davis

TBD

James Monegan

Tyler Johnson

Rich Jones

Don Harris

Jeannie Core

Karson Laing

Maddie Lee

Eric Carman

Trevor Daniels

Jamal Wilson

James Duty

Jeff Greene

TBD

Nick Anderson

Justin Peeler

Matthew Davis

Pat Wondra

Abby Archer

TBD

TBD

Emilee Brink

John Rhodes

Aaron Franklin

Rindy Spicer

Jeannie Core

Sarah Drago

Student Officers

Site-Council Representatives

President/Admin: Vandercar
Parent Reps (3): TBD
Certified Reps: Nelson, Monegan Edmundson
Classified Rep: TBD
Student Board Reps: Rylee Rice, Jake Van Damme

Class Advisors

FRESHMEN	SOPHOMORES	JUNIORS	SENIORS
Ken Best Jeff McCourtney Chris Doscher Shannon Hart Brooke Raph	DesiRae Wright- Rendon Heather Pomada- Correa Tessa Slager Tom Edmundson	Conrad Davis Gwen Harper James Monegan Sarah Wartenbee Michelle Nelson	Emmy Erwin Jennifer Snider Rob Lee Johnny Bowden Teri Moen Brittany McMillan, Court Wirth, Jon Guldager = Always with Senior class

ELMIRA HIGH SCHOOL FEES

Materials that are part of the educational program are provided without charge to a student. A student is expected to supply their own basic school supplies. This includes, but is not limited to the following: pens, pencils, paper, notebook, calculator, etc.

All students will receive a student body card for identification purposes. For free admission to all home athletic events, students must purchase an activity sticker that is permanently affixed to the student body card. The cost for this sticker is \$20. Dances will have a reduced admission price with the purchase of this sticker.

Recommended Fee:

\$20.00 Student Body Activity Sticker: (Non-refundable 2 weeks after purchase)

NOTE: I.D. card is required for EHS activities and computer lab use.

Optional Fees:

\$ 50.00 Yearbook

\$ 40.00 Parking Pass (per year) - Non-refundable 2 weeks after purchase

Fees for the following programs will be paid/provided by district fund (SIA dollars).

\$ 15.00 Each Class: Ceramics, Acrylics, Art 1, Water Colors, Drawing

\$ 20.00 Food & Nutrition & Intro to Film & TV Production

\$ 25.00 Vocational Education Classes (metals-woods-auto-construction)

\$ \$150 Athletic Participation Fee

\$ 40.00 Instrument Rental Fee \$40/semester

*If you voluntarily drop a class after the first day it is in session, for which a fee has been paid, you will forfeit your right to receive a refund (not applicable as long as class fees continue to be paid by district SIA dollars)

All past due fees (**including library fines**) must be paid prior to student participating in sports or attending extra-curricular functions. Students will be presented with a statement of past due fees at registration every year, in addition to receiving the bill at the completion of each semester.

Daily Bell Schedules 25-26

Regular Bell schedule M/T/Th/F

Period 1: 8:25 a.m. to 9:16 a.m. (51 minutes)
Period 2: 9:20 a.m. to 10:11 a.m. (51 minutes)
Period 3: 10:15 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. (55 minutes-Announcements)
Period 4: 11:14 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. (51 minutes)
Lunch: 12:05 p.m. to 12:36 p.m. (31 minutes)
Period 5: 12:40 p.m. to 1:31 p.m. (51 minutes)
Period 6: 1:35 p.m. to 2:26 p.m. (51 minutes)
Period 7: 2:30 p.m. to 3:21 p.m. (51 minutes)

Two Hour Delay

Period 1: 10:25 a.m. to 11:03 a.m.
Period 2: 11:07 a.m. to 11:41 a.m.
Period 3: 11:45 a.m. to 12:19 a.m.
Period 4: 12:23 a.m. to 12:57 p.m.
Lunch: 12:57 p.m. to 1:27 p.m.
Period 5: 1:31 p.m. to 2:05 p.m.
Period 6: 2:09 p.m. to 2:43 p.m.
Period 7: 2:47 p.m. to 3:21 p.m.

Wednesday Early Release with Homeroom

Period 1: 8:25 a.m. to 8:57 a.m.
Period 2: 9:01 a.m. to 9:33 a.m.
HRM: 9:37 a.m. to 9:57 a.m.
Period 3: 10:01 a.m. to 10:36 a.m.
Period 4: 10:40 a.m. to 11:12 a.m.
Period 5: 11:16 a.m. to 11:48 a.m.
Lunch: 11:48 a.m. to 12:18 p.m.
Period 6: 12:22 p.m. to 12:54 p.m.
Period 7: 12:58 p.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Academics

Grading Policy

A = Superior Academic Achievement
B = Exceeds Academic Standards
C = Meets Academic Standards
D = Below Average Academic Standards
F = Does Not Meet Minimum Academic Standards
I = Requirements of class have not yet been satisfied
P = Minimum Standards Met
NP = Minimum Standards Not Achieved

Incomplete Grades (I)

If a student receives an incomplete grade at the end of a grading period, he/she should make arrangements with their teacher to complete the course requirements and set time limits not to exceed three weeks. Incomplete grades will automatically change to an F three weeks after the grading period is complete. If there are extenuating circumstances that would require more than three weeks, arrangements need to be approved by the administration prior to the third week after the end of the semester.

Pass (P)/No Pass Grades (NP)

Students may request to take one elective course per term pass/no pass. Students must make this request no later than the last day of the fifth week of the semester. A required class may only be taken pass/no pass with administrative approval.

Grade Level Placement

At EHS a student's grade level is primarily determined based on their cohort or federal graduation year which is established when they start grade 9. For internal tracking and privileges, such as the ability to leave campus for lunch, the number of credits earned toward the graduation requirements as of September of each school year will be used.. Placement will be as follows.

	<u>Class of 2025-2028</u>			
Grade	9	10	11	12
Credits	6	12	18	

Grade Reduction/Credit Denial

Punctual and regular attendance is essential to academic success. Teachers may consider a student's attendance in determining a grade reduction or credit denial, though attendance will not be the sole criterion used. At the beginning of each semester, teachers will inform students and parents how attendance and class participation are related to the instructional goals of the subject/course. Due process will be provided to any student whose grade is reduced or credit denied for attendance related issues.

Partial Credit & Late Enrollment or Early Withdrawal

Partial Credit is not issued at Elmira H.S. Situations that arise such as a student un-enrolling prior to the end of the semester or starting a semester late are not allowable exceptions. A student must be enrolled for the appropriate number of seat hours to earn credit. Credit is only issued in ½ credit increments.

Challenging a Course/Credit by Proficiency

Process: Submit a one page written request detailing the reason for the challenge to the principal, counselor and teacher. The request must include a follow up plan that addresses what will occur after a successful challenge, e.g. replacement course, other course, etc....If the student is enrolled in the class they are challenging then the request must be submitted within the first week of the class and the test must be taken by the end of the second week of the course.

Core Class: A student that would like to challenge a core content class, will take a sample final exam administered by the teacher. A student that passes the final with an A or B will have their challenge considered by a committee that includes the class instructor and building administrator. Any successful challenge will result in the grade of Pass and the appropriate # of credits being added to the student's transcript. A student that has previously failed a core content class will not be allowed to challenge it.

Elective Class: The student provides documentation of prior learning activities or experiences which demonstrates proficiency or mastery of identified standards (knowledge and skills) (e.g., certification of training, letters, diplomas, awards, etc.). A student that submits such material will have their challenge

*GPA Calculation

97% - 100%	A+	4.3
93% - 96.99%	A	4.0
90% - 92.99%	A-	3.7
87% - 89.99%	B+	3.3
83% - 86.99%	B	3.0
80% - 82.99%	B-	2.7
77% - 79.99%	C+	2.3
73% - 76.99%	C	2.0
70% - 72.99%	C-	1.7
67% - 69.99%	D+	1.3
62% - 66.99%	D	1.0
60% - 62.99%	D-	.7
0%- 59.99%	F	0.0

***AP and Academic College Now Courses will receive an additional 1.0 grade point. The weighted grade system will be used to determine valedictorian and salutatorian.**

considered by a committee that includes the class instructor and building administrator. Any successful challenge will result in the grade of Pass and the appropriate # of credits being added to the student's transcript.(OAR 581-022-1131)

AP Course: A student that does not take an AP Course, but passes the AP exam with a score of 4 or 5, can be granted upon request the following number of elective credits.

Score of 3= no credit

Score of 4= .5 credit

Score of 5= 1.0 credit.

Schedule Changes/Dropping A Class

Student initiated schedule drop/changes will be allowed **for the first 5 school days of the semester.** Following this date, up to the first progress report (approximately 4 ½ weeks), courses may be dropped without an F penalty with teacher approval. After 4 ½ weeks all course drops will result in an F penalty. The only exception to this will be for **AP or Academic College Now courses.** With teacher and administrator approval, **AP and Academic College Now courses** may be dropped prior to the 9-week report card being issued.

Repeating a Course

A student is permitted to retake a course at EHS to improve a grade of D+, D or D-. This does not include an F as the course was failed and if retaken would be credit recovery, possibly to complete graduation requirements. If a student retakes a course to improve a D grade, the course must be the same as the original course with the same curriculum. If the original course was taken in person then the retake must be in person as well. The same course taken at a different school would not count as an improved grade. In instances where a student retakes a course to improve a "D" grade, then the original grade is replaced with an "R", meaning the course was repeated. The credit is removed and then applied to the repeated course.

Grade Reports/Conferences

Credit and GPA are determined by the semester grades only. **Progress reports will be sent home with students and report cards at the end of each semester will be mailed.** Parent/teacher conferences are scheduled approximately 1/3 through each semester. (See Calendar) School personnel may request a conference if (1) the student is not maintaining passing grades or achieving at the expected level; (2) the student is not maintaining behavior expectations; (3) in any other case the teacher/administrator deems necessary. A parent or student who wishes to confer with a staff member should call the school to arrange a mutually convenient time with the principal and staff member. A parent who wishes to confer with several teachers should contact the counseling office to arrange a staffing before or after school.

Open Periods

Juniors and Seniors that are on track to complete the minimum credit requirements needed for graduation have the option of scheduling an "open period" if they do not want to take an additional elective. The only restriction for open periods is that they may not occur within the middle of a student's school day unless there is no other options based on the master schedule. Open periods must be scheduled as either a late arrival or an early release. This means students could elect to have an open period either the first or last period(s) of the day. In addition, it should be noted that students are expected to be off campus during an open period. To be on campus a student must check in at the office and either be in the library, the cafeteria, or under the direct supervision of a staff member.

Required Courses: The State of Oregon requires 11th grade students to pass certain exams demonstrating essential skills in order to earn a Regular H.S. Diploma. Any student that has not passed the appropriate exam may be required to take a remedial course in the specific content area.

Final Examinations

Students will not be allowed to take finals early and there will be no make up of end of year finals. Please review the school calendar at the end of this handbook to assist you in making end of year vacation plans accordingly. Classroom teachers as a rule will administer finals only during the times identified by the "Finals schedule" that will be created at least 2 weeks prior to the end of each semester. If a teacher would like to request that a final be given outside of the identified "finals schedule", that request will be made to the building principal or curriculum director, and students will be notified. In addition, all final exams for EHS classes will be comprehensive in nature and count for at least 10% of the students overall semester grade. Exceptions to this must be approved by the principal or building curriculum administrator.

Academic Recognition (end of each semester)

Academic Excellence	4 point or better
Academic Achievement	3.5 or above
Honor Roll	3.0 or above

Academic Letter

Students wishing to earn an academic letter must have a non-weighted cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher and satisfy at least three of the following criteria:

- Three years of a second language
- AP or College Now course of the student's choice
- Chemistry or Physics
- Pre-Calculus

The first opportunity to apply for an academic letter is the Fall of a student's 12th grade year. However, the GPA that will be used is the GPA accumulated following 1st semester of a student's senior year.

Honors Graduation Criteria

A non-weighted GPA of 3.5 or above, the passing of all state assessment tests and 40 hours of community service. Recipients of the honors diploma must have a GPA of 3.5 or above in the following classes: AP English, Second Language (3 years consecutively), Pre-Calculus, AP or College Now Science, additional AP or College Now course. The deadline for submitting honors diploma criteria to the Registrar will be the second Friday of May

State Test Recognition (White Cord): Students must pass the State Smarter Balanced exams in both ELA and Math with scores of "4".

Honor Society (Purple Cord): Earned by Seniors who are active participating members of Honor Society.

Valedictorian/Salutatorian

The student(s) with the highest GPA will be the class valedictorian(s). The student(s) with the second highest GPA will be the class salutatorian(s). AP and Academic College Now classes have a weighted GPA system that is used to determine these awards. The valedictorian and salutatorian are determined after 7 ½ semesters of high school work. In case of a tie for valedictorian, co-valedictorians will be honored. In case of a tie for salutatorian, co-salutatorians will be honored. Valedictorians and salutatorians must earn all credits at an accredited high school or another approved institution such as a community college. Any high school credit earned as an eighth grade student or correspondence courses will not be considered toward valedictorian/salutatorian selection. Students must be enrolled at Elmira High School their junior and senior years. Foreign exchange students will not be eligible for valedictorian or salutatorian. Valedictorians and salutatorians earn the right to speak at commencement at the discretion of the administration. Titles and privileges granted to students designated as valedictorian or salutatorian may be revoked for violation of District policy, administrative regulation or school rules.

Commencement Ceremony

The commencement policy is designated to ensure integrity of the graduation ceremony. Students must complete all requirements for an Elmira High School Diploma or an Elmira High School Modified Diploma and be enrolled in Elmira High School to participate in graduation exercises. To facilitate this process, **all work assigned at Elmira High School must be submitted to the registrar's office at the end of day on seniors' last official day. Official verification of grades of correspondence courses, independent study or charter school work completed for credit recovery must be submitted to the registrar's office by 2:30 p.m. on the Friday before graduation. Such course work not completed on EHS campus must have been pre-approved by EHS administration to be considered towards graduation requirements.** Students must also maintain regular attendance, meet behavioral standards and serve all consequences, and pay all fines and fees accordingly to FRSD Board Policy IKFB. Students must also participate in all rehearsals and dress appropriately for the occasion. Any student not meeting the above standards will forfeit their commencement privileges. Any senior enrolled in and attending an alternative education program will graduate with that program.

Seniors who are continuing to pursue correspondence courses or independent study for credit recovery during the summer after their senior year in order to meet remaining graduation requirements must have official verification of grades submitted to the registrar's office by August 31st in order to be considered a graduate of the school year prior. Submission after August 31st will result in the student becoming a graduate of the following school year and being responsible for all the graduation requirements of that year.

Early Graduation

A process is in place that would allow a student to graduate early. Please refer to FRSD Policy IKFA and IKFA-AR

On-Line Course (Credit Recovery)

Students seeking credit recovery options will have the opportunity to take on-line classes at Elmira high School through a program called Edgenuity. Edgenuity classes will be supervised and administered by a teacher in their specific discipline. In addition to credit recovery, students may have the option to pursue further studies in courses that Elmira High School does not offer such as specific career-related electives through Edgenuity. Students taking Edgenuity classes must remain on track to complete the class over the course of the semester. Students who fall behind will be removed from Edgenuity. Credit Recovery grades will be added to the student transcript. A previous course grade will only be replaced if the course is the same, so a course taken online will not replace a grade for a course that was taken in person.

In addition to credit recovery, students may have the option to pursue further studies in courses that Elmira High School does not offer such as specific AP classes or other similar examples through Edgenuity.

Students taking Edgenuity classes must remain on track to complete the class over the course of the semester. Students who fall behind will be removed from Edgenuity and placed in a study hall. Students who finish early may use the remaining time as a study hall for the remainder of the semester.

Extended Semester

Elmira High School recognizes that sometimes students may require additional time to complete the course requirements for a given semester. In those instances, students may have the option of extending their semester by two weeks to attempt to earn credit. Extended semester is offered at the discretion of the teacher and is not a right. Students participating in extended semester will have an F grade entered on their transcripts that will remain until the contract is completed. The following rules for extended semester will also apply:

1. All work must be completed outside of the regular school day.
2. Students are required to attend both homework club and athletic study hall during the two-week extended semester period following first semester and from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Monday through Wednesday for the two weeks during the extended semester period after the conclusion of the school year.
3. Teachers reserve the right to determine exactly what work must be completed for a student to successfully complete their extended semester contract.
4. Students must have earned at least a 52% in their class to be eligible for extended semester.
5. Extended semester is a privilege and will not automatically be offered when a student fails a class.
6. Student-athletes who are ineligible at the conclusion of the semester will remain ineligible while completing their extended semester contract.

Upon successful completion of the extended semester contract, students will return their contract to their teacher for a signature and the teacher will submit the form to the registrar for a grade change. Any student who has not successfully completed the work by the end of the two week extended semester period will have the F permanently marked on their transcript at that time.

Graduation Requirements*

Class of 2025		Class of 2026		Class of 2027		Class of 2028	
Subjects	Credits Needed						
Language Arts	4						
Math	3	Math	3	Math	3	Math	3
Science	3	Science	3	Science	3	Science	3
Global Studies	1						
U.S. History	1						
Government	1/2	Civics	1/2	Civics	1/2	Civics	1/2
Health	1	Health	1	Health	1	Health	1
Physical Education	1						
Applied Art, Fine Art or Second Language	3	Applied Art, Fine Art or Second Language	3	Applied Art, Fine Art or Second Language	3	Applied Art, Fine Art or Second Language	3
Economics	1/2	Economics	1/2	Economics	1/2	Economics	1/2
				Career Education	1/2	Career Education	1/2
Electives	6	Electives	6	Personal Finance	1/2	Personal Finance	1/2
				Electives	5	Electives	5
Total Required	24						

*Must include at least .5 credit from Civics, starting with class of 2026.

*.5 credit of “higher edu./career path skills” and .5 credit of “personal finance” required for class of 2027

*Graduation requirements have been updated as of 6-27-25

PERSONALIZED LEARNING REQUIREMENTS

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Plan & Profile: Tracked in Homeroom where students follow academic progress. Completed all 4 years of school.	x	x	x	x
Career-Related Learning Experiences: Students attend a job shadow and a Career Fair-completed as juniors	x	x	x	x
Extended Application: Culminating project/activity-completed as Seniors	x	x	x	x

ESSENTIAL SKILLS REQUIREMENTS

	2025	2026	2027	2028
Read & Interpret a Variety of Texts	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD
Write for a Variety of Purposes	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD
Apply Mathematics in Variety of Settings (2014)	N/A	TBD	TBD	TBD

Alternative Education

Students/parents interested in alternative education options should contact the Elmira High School Counseling Office. Resident students denied regular school admission will be provided with an alternative education option as deemed appropriate by the District. However, students expelled for violation of applicable state or federal weapons laws may be denied a district funded alternative education option.

A student's alternative placement must have the Superintendent's prior approval. The district will not assume alternative education costs for any student not placed in an alternative program according to procedures established by the district and Oregon law. If a parent receives an exemption on a semi-annual basis to withdraw a student age 16 or 17 from school, the district has no obligation to pay for an alternative program. If a student is not successful in an alternative education program, there is no obligation to propose or fund a second program.

EHS OPTIONS DISTANCE LEARNING PROGRAM

Purpose: The Options program exists to serve seniors only who need or want a different learning experience than the traditional in-person approach.

Students must have parent/guardian permission to apply for the Options program, or to transfer back to EHS. Students who are in the Options program and wish to switch back to EHS should do so within the first two weeks of a semester, to avoid the risk of losing the opportunity to earn high school credit for a full schedule.

Campus Activities for OPTIONS students

Except for attending in-person classes, Options students should not spend time on campus during the school contact day. Students may contact Options by email or phone for assistance with classes or program questions. Options students may participate in after school extra-curricular activities, such as athletics. Options students are NOT included in in-person extra-curricular activities during the student-contact day, such as ASB activities, assemblies, or lunchtime clubs. They may attend dances as a visiting guest of an EHS student, by obtaining a guest pass.

Foreign Exchange Students

Students who are attending Elmira High School as foreign exchange students are not eligible to receive the Elmira High School diploma or participate in the graduation ceremony. In addition, if all paperwork for foreign exchange students is not completed, approved by administration and on file in our counseling office by April 15 of the preceding year attendance, entry into Elmira High School will be denied. Foreign Exchange students will be required to enter into a binding contract with Elmira High School that will specify expectations and possible removal from Elmira High School. Any infraction of any law by a Foreign Exchange student will result in removal from Elmira High School.

Transfer Students and Students Earning Credit by Alternative Methods:

Students who transfer to Elmira High School from another accredited high school will receive credits earned matched as closely as possible with EHS courses/curriculum. The students rank in his/her respective class will be based upon the transferred GPA except for purposes of determining valedictorian or salutatorian status.

Students who have been home schooled or who enter with a transcript from an unaccredited school or earn credits through independent study may have difficulty earning a regular High School diploma. The complete requirements in regards to credits earned (among others) must be met. Coursework completed through home-school or other unaccredited school will not transfer to EHS for fulfillment of the graduation requirements nor count towards graduation requirements.

When a student enters public school after the start of what would be his/her 9th grade year from home school or an unaccredited school, the family, EHS counselor and principal will attempt to develop a plan for graduating with an Elmira High School Diploma. However, the plan must include all requirements of a regular High School diploma as outlined by the State of Oregon. As such, students may need to take credit recovery courses to assist in meeting the credit requirements.

Students who enter with senior standing from home school or from an unaccredited school will not have the opportunity to earn an Elmira High School Diploma.

Alternative Education Credit Policy

In addition to the regular curriculum and courses offered, students may, with prior administrative approval, obtain credit that can be used to meet EHS Graduation Requirements. The following restrictions apply:

- All fees including test proctoring are the responsibility of the student
- Courses must be pre-approved through the EHS counseling office
- A request for Optional Education form must be filled out through the EHS counseling office
- Official verification of grades of on-line/correspondence courses must be submitted to the registrar’s office by 2:30 p.m. on the Friday before graduation in order to participate in the graduation ceremony. Courses must be completed by August 31st to receive a diploma from your original graduation year.
- Students that are credit deficient need to have a full schedule at EHS, and may be enrolled in no more than 2 on-line courses at any given time. No more than 3.0 total credits can be earned through alternative means. This rule may be waived at the discretion of the principal for second semester seniors who may need further assistance to complete their graduation requirements.
- Students that are not credit deficient but would like to apply outside credit to EHS graduation requirements must do so with the following restrictions
 - Students can acquire no more than 2 credits from on-line/correspondence courses.
 - Of the 2 credits, only 1 may be for a core content class (Math, English, SS, Science, Heath & PE)

Activities, Athletics and Student Clubs

The benefits of involvement in student activities are many. Studies show that students involved in extra-curricular activities tend to have higher grades in high school and have greater post high school success than those who do not participate. Leadership, organization, and time management skills are all developed through student activities. Perhaps the greatest reward for involvement is the friendships which develop.

Student clubs, performing groups and athletic teams may establish rules of conduct and consequences for conduct that are stricter than those for students in general. Performance groups shall abide by established policies and guidelines that govern all performances. If a violation is also a violation of the Student Code of Conduct, the consequences specified by the district shall apply in addition to any consequences specified by the organization.

ATHLETICS

Students must meet all District and OSAA requirements and complete all prescribed paperwork before participating in athletics. Information may be obtained from the athletic director or athletic secretary. All “competitive activities” fall under the District drug testing requirements. We have two emerging sports: eSports (full year) and boys volleyball (Spring).

Competitive Athletics/Activities

Fall	Winter	Spring
Soccer - boys and girls Football - boys Volleyball - girls Cross Country - boys and girls Cheer - Coed	Wrestling – girls Wrestling -- boys Basketball - boys and girls Cheer - Coed	Track - boys and girls Softball - girls Baseball - boys

* Sports which are not funded or formally sponsored by the district.

Co-Curricular Activities

Co-curricular activities are school related activities for which credit is not offered or classes for which credit is offered but have a related component where the student performs or represents the school. At

Elmira High School these categories currently include but are not limited to the following: journalism, yearbook, leadership, clubs, band, choir, drama/theater and the "Falcon Competition." Students involved in these activities may be required to sign a contract. Violation of the contract may result in a student's grade being reduced if a student is unable to participate in the out of class performance or is removed from the class.

Event Conduct/Sportsmanship: Assemblies, Concerts, Activities, Athletics

Assemblies scheduled during the school day have an educational value; therefore, attendance at assemblies is required. However, advanced administrative approval may be granted for an alternative placement if a student has a legitimate concern regarding content. Students who do not attend will be considered truant. Students are expected to conduct themselves in a way which reflects respect for those speaking, performing, participating or attending events. Disrespect, rude behavior, or poor sportsmanship at an event will not be tolerated and students or student sections which exhibit such behavior will be removed from the event and may receive disciplinary consequences. Students shall show respect for game officials, opponents and visiting students and adults at all times. They shall demonstrate a positive attitude in cheering for Elmira High School by providing encouragement and support for our team without participating in negative cheers against the other team.

Confidential/Trusted Positions

Confidential/Trusted positions include any position for which the student is given responsibilities or access not accorded the general student population. Confidential/Trusted positions include but are not limited to the following: Computer support Technicians; Teacher Aides; Office Aides; Media Aides; Mentors; Tutors; STARS. Students in these positions must sign a contract. Any violation of the contract will result in the student being removed from the class with a "NP" recorded for a grade.

ATTENDANCE

Philosophy

Punctual and regular attendance is a learned function that contributes to a student's academic success and is expected of adults in their careers. Good attendance is being present 95% of the time while an attendance rate below 90% is unacceptable. Absences contribute to students failing to complete course work or causes assignments to be turned in late. In addition, the knowledge and understanding gained from participation in group projects, discussions, lectures, labs, and demonstrations can not usually be replicated. Students who have unacceptable attendance usually fail to achieve at their ability level and frequently fail their classes.

For the purpose of computing irregular attendance, an unexcused absence for a period during a portion of the day will be considered a half days absence. Additionally, a parent or other person lawfully charged with the care or custody of a student under 15 years of age, may be found by the courts to have committed the offense of failing to supervise a child who has failed to attend school as required. Violations, as determined by the court, may be punishable by a requirement to complete a parent effectiveness program approved by the court and/or a fine of not more than \$600.

Absences and Excuses: Attendance Office: 935-8200 Ext. 2200. 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; beyond these hours you may leave a voice mail message.

The attendance office is located in Elmira High School's front office. When returning to school after an absence, a student must report to the front office before attending class. A parent may call the front office to excuse a student before their return to school or the student must bring a note signed by the parent that describes the reason for the absence. Students must clear all absences the day they return or their absence will be considered unexcused. Students who are truant or unexcused will be subject to disciplinary action. Information needed to evaluate an absence includes the student's name, a detailed reason for the absence, date(s) of the absence, and parent signature. By law, the administration determines if an absence is excused and confirmation of the reason may be required. A student who is absent from school for any reason will not be allowed to participate in school-related activities on that day. Attendance on the last day of the school week prior to an event controls a student's right to attend or participate in athletics and activities on non-school days.

Absences from school or being tardy to school **may** be excused under the following circumstances:

1. Illness of the student.
2. Illness of an immediate family member or when the student's presence at home is necessary.
3. Emergency situations that require the student's absence.
4. Field trips and school approved activities.
5. Medical or dental appointments. Confirmation of appointments may be required. A student will only be excused for the appointment time period not the entire day.
6. **If the student or parent calls in prior to the first bell ringing to share that a problem has arisen that will necessitate them being late.**

* Students are required to be in class first period when the tardy bell rings. Missing the bus, over sleeping and running late are examples of tardiness that are not required to be excused by Oregon State law. Students who show a pattern of this type of behavior will be subject to discipline up to and including suspension.

Prearranged Absences

A limited number of excused absences for parent-approved activities may be requested and approved by the school administration if requested in advance. Failure to make arrangements in advance will result in the absence being considered unexcused. A Planned Absence Form is available in the front office. This form must be completed, signed by all scheduled teachers, and then signed by the parent/guardian and returned to the attendance office at least one day prior to the absence. Three days should be allowed for this process whenever possible.

Leaving School During the School Day

A student who must leave school during the day must bring a detailed note from his parent and check out in the attendance office. A student who becomes ill during the school day, with the teacher's permission, must report to the attendance office. The staff member in charge of the health room will decide whether or not the student should be sent home and will notify the student's parent as appropriate. Students who leave school without prior approval and/or without signing out will be considered unexcused or truant and may lose parking privileges. This includes students who do not return after lunch. These absences may not be excused after the fact. **See definition of "Closed Campus" on page 88.**

A student may only be picked up and checked out during school hours by a parent/guardian or someone listed on school records as an emergency contact. The person picking up the student must come into the front office and sign the student out. This is required for the safety and security of each student.

Check out procedures for students not residing with their legal guardian

1. Come to the office to check out
2. Get prior approval of the principal, asst. principal or Dean of Students.
3. Failure to follow these steps will result in an unexcused absence.

In addition, note that the same procedures will apply regarding excusing an absence for any reason, the student must receive prior approval. The school administration will follow school and district policy, along with state law, in determining how the absence will be identified (excused, unexcused, etc....)

Make-Up Work

Absences and tardies may directly affect a student's grade. A student may not be allowed credit for late work or work missed as a result of an unexcused absence or truancy violation. Students absent for an excused reason are responsible for all activities/assignments missed while absent and may be given an incomplete or failing grade if the work missed is not completed. Parents should contact the attendance office to arrange for the collection of assignments for a student who will be absent several days. 24 hour notice is necessary. Students will be given a reasonable amount of time to make up work missed due to an excused absence; however, the make up period may not exceed the number of days missed. Prearranged absences, major tests, school related absences, such as athletic/activity and field trips, and long term projects are exempt from this policy. The conditions for make up work including time, place and the assignment are at the discretion of the teacher. Suspended students are responsible for obtaining their assignments and making up the work during the period of suspension.

Skip Day

Student organized “skip days” or other unauthorized group absences of students are not considered acceptable educational practices, and permission for absences of this type of activity will not be granted. Days skipped will be dealt with under the discipline policy. In lieu of senior skip day, seniors are released from school several days early.

Withdrawal from School

Students will not voluntarily be withdrawn from school without permission from parents or legal guardians. To withdraw, students need to bring written permission to the attendance office, fill out a withdrawal information form and turn in all books and materials. A locker check will be conducted by a school employee. All fees and fines must be paid before withdrawal is complete.

Elmira High School is required by law to withdraw a student from school after 10 consecutive absences of any type.

Program Exemptions

Students may be excused from a state-required program or learning activity for reasons of religion, disability or other reasons deemed appropriate by the district. An alternative program or learning activity for credit may be required. All such requests should be directed to the administration by the parent in writing and include the reason for the request.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is expected of students at EHS. Incidents of plagiarism/cheating will not be tolerated. Consequences will include, but not be limited to, a grade of “ F” for the assignment. Using a cell phone to take pictures of assignments/exams, etc. is strictly prohibited and will be consequence at Level 2.

Access/Release of Education Records

By law, both parents, whether married, separated or divorced, have access to the records of their student who is under 18 years of age unless the district is provided evidence that there is a court order, state statute or legally binding document relating to such matters as divorce, separation or custody that specifically revokes these rights.

Asbestos

The district has complied with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act (AHERA) by having their buildings inspected by accredited inspectors and the development of a management plan for the control of this substance. The management plan is available for public inspection in the district office.

Bicycles

Bicycles may not be ridden in pedestrian areas. Bicycles on campus are to be parked and locked in the bicycle rack. (Level 1 Consequence - Inappropriate Object)

Breakfast/Lunch Program

EHS participates in the National School Lunch and Commodity Program and offers free and reduced-price meals based on a student’s financial need. Additional information may be obtained from the District Office. **Beginning in 24-25, school meals are free for all students!**

Bullying/Harassment: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Cafeteria

Breakfast and lunch, including a sack lunch, are to be eaten in the cafeteria. Parents can verify how much money is in their child’s account and add money to that account online by going to www.myschoolbucks.com A student ID number is needed. Most students know their ID number, but if they don’t parents can call the school office for the number. Money can be added to your child’s account in the morning when the kitchen is open or during lunch. Checks should be made out to Fern Ridge Lunch Fund. **BEGINNING IN 24-25, SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL STUDENTS!**

Students are expected to use good manners in the cafeteria and to place trays and refuse in the appropriate place when finished eating. Misconduct in the cafeteria may result in student discipline, including loss of cafeteria privileges and work crew.

Ear buds/Radios/Speakers/Headsets, etc

Music devices with headsets are allowed, but may not be played or worn during class time. Occasionally an individual teacher may deem the use of these devices as being appropriate for use during class time. In such cases they may be worn, but only with the prior permission of the teacher. Boom boxes and other amplified devices are forbidden (except as allowed by staff). These items will be confiscated by school authorities and placed in the main office for parents to retrieve. Students who violate this policy will face disciplinary action. (Level 1 - Inappropriate Objects)

Child Abuse Training: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Classroom Rules

Classroom regulations are the responsibility of the teacher and are binding upon the student. Each teacher will develop a set of class rules to assist the student in achieving success in that class. Class rules may exceed, but not preclude district and school rules. Students are not to enter classrooms to communicate with other students, nor are they to distract students in other classrooms at any time.

Closed Campus

Elmira High School is a closed campus. This includes breaks, passing times, assemblies and advisor/advisee meetings. Therefore, all students are required to stay on campus upon arrival including before school. Seniors and Juniors are permitted to leave campus only during their lunch period, however any junior or senior not on track for graduation will not be allowed to leave campus for lunch. . Walking off campus during lunch is not permitted. Freshmen and Sophomores may leave campus during the lunch period if they check out and are accompanied by their parent. If it is necessary to leave campus during the school day, students must check out in the attendance office and receive approval from the administration. Failure to receive advanced approval will result in the absence being unexcused. The administration may periodically or permanently close the campus based on student violations or inappropriate off-campus behavior during the lunch period.

Communication Devices

Due to a new cell phone requirement from ODE that came out in July of 2024, the FRSD administrators and school board will be discussing cell phone policies in July-September. Once updated, the new language will be inserted into the online version of the FRSD Handbook.

Students who refuse to turn over their phone to a staff member will face additional consequences. In addition, the use of cell phones to take pictures of exams, assignments or unauthorized pictures that invades a student's privacy is strictly prohibited and may be consequence up to step 3 and expulsion at the discretion of the administrator. **See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for more information.**

Computer Use/Internet Access: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Examples of Misuse of computers or technology

Examples of misuse include, but are not limited to, the activities in the following list.

1. Using a computer account that you are not authorized to use. Obtaining a password for a computer account without the consent of the account owner
2. Attempting to download unauthorized software, games, applications or music files.
3. Accessing the District network with an unauthorized Computing system.
4. Using the District network to gain unauthorized access to any computer systems.

5. Knowingly performing an act which will interfere with the normal operation of computers, terminals, peripherals, or networks.
6. Knowingly running or installing on any computer system or network, or giving to another user, a program intended to damage or to place excessive load on a computer system or network. This includes but is not limited to programs known as computer viruses, Trojan horses, and worms or their variants.
7. Attempting to circumvent data protection schemes or uncover security loopholes.
8. Violating terms of applicable software licensing agreements or copyright laws.
9. Deliberately wasting computing resources.
10. Using electronic mail to harass others.
11. Masking the identity of an account or machine.
12. Posting materials on electronic bulletin boards that violate existing laws or Elmira High School codes of conduct.
13. Attempting to monitor or tamper with another user's electronic communications, or reading, copying, changing, or deleting another user's files or software without the explicit agreement of the owner. Users will notify the school administrator, technology coordinator or supervising teacher when they see a possible security problem.

Students are to obey all copyright laws with regard to downloading of files or reproduction of any material found on the Internet.

Web pages will not contain the full name or identifiable picture of any student without written parent permission. All web pages are to be pre-approved by the appointed District or School Webmaster prior to the web page being published.

The District makes no guarantee that the functions or the services provided by or through the District system will be error-free or without defect. The District will not be responsible for any damage you may suffer, including but not limited to, loss of data or interruption of service. This District is not responsible for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained through or stored on the system. The District will not be responsible for financial obligations arising through the unauthorized use of the system.

Students are responsible for all activity under their account. Therefore, an account owner shall never share their account name, number, or password with another person or leave an open file or session unattended or unsupervised.

Students complying with the above conditions may use the system. A student must present their student identification card to the staff member in charge of the media center or computer lab if they are accessing the system independently. Violation of any of the conditions of use may be cause for disciplinary action and/or suspension of the system access up to and including permanent revocation. Violations of laws will be reported to law enforcement officials.

Counseling

Guidance services are available for every student in the school. A counselor is available to assist students with a wide range of personal concerns, including such areas as social, family, emotional, academic, drug, alcohol or tobacco dependency. The counselor may also make available information about community resources to address personal concerns. Students are encouraged to seek assistance when needed. Most discussions with counselors are considered confidential.

Students are encouraged to talk with a counselor, advisor or other faculty member to learn about the curriculum, course offerings and graduation requirements. Students who are interested in post graduate education - community college vocational schools, apprenticeship programs, university/college, or some other advanced education - should work closely with a counselor so that they take the courses that will best prepare them for their goals. In addition to providing information about entrance requirements, financial aid, scholarships and housing for the above, counselors may also provide testing programs which provide students with information about their interests, abilities and achievements, interpret test scores and other information useful to their personal and career goals.

Distribution of Materials and Meetings: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Emancipated and 18 Year Old Students

Students in this category may act as their own guardian. However, students who are 18 and still living at home will need written permission from their legal guardian to leave campus and excuse absences. While attending Elmira High School, all rules and policies are applicable to all emancipated students.

Emergency/Fire/Earthquake Drills

Safety drills will be scheduled monthly during the school year. Students should exit in an orderly fashion with the classroom teacher. Escape routes are posted in every classroom. Once the return signal is given, students are expected to return immediately to class.

Grooming & Dress: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook for District Guidelines.

Responsibility for dress and grooming rests primarily with students and their parents; however, the district expects student dress and grooming to meet standards which ensure that the following conditions do not exist:

1. Disruption or interference with the classroom learning environment;
2. Threat to the health and/or safety of the student concerned or of other students.

Students who represent the school in a voluntary activity may be required to conform to dress and grooming standards and may be denied the opportunity to participate if those standards are not met. Students may generally dress as they please, but there are some restrictions in keeping with basic health and safety standards, as well as minimizing disruptions to the learning environment. Provisions for dress and grooming for performance, activity-based, career or special activities will arise directly from the needs of the course or activity. Courses in science, career-technical education, music, fine arts, and alike, will outline the specific dress needs for safety, performance or venue in the respective course syllabi and/or safety contracts. Special activities or field trips will have specific dress needs outlined prior to departure so that both students and parents are prepared for both the activity and site location. When student hygiene impacts the ability of others in the classroom environment to learn, they may be asked by teaching or administrative staff to make use of the bathing facilities or pantry supplies.

SPECIFIC GUIDELINES TO BE OBSERVED

1. Students must wear clothing that includes both a shirt with pants, skirt, or shorts, or the equivalent, and shoes.
2. Undergarments should be worn and should not be visible to others, with the exception of straps associated with sports bras or bralettes. Clothes designed primarily as undergarments may not be worn as exterior, visible clothing. Clothes that are see-through and/or worn in a way that reveal undergarments are not appropriate and may not be worn.
3. Hats and other headwear must allow the face to be visible and not interfere with the line of sight to any student or staff. Hoodies must be kept down while inside the building.
4. Clothing should provide appropriate body coverage.
5. Student religious apparel and head or hair coverings (yarmulke, kippah, kufi, hijab, dupatta, turban, pagri, bonnets, etc.) are allowed.
6. Clothing must be suitable for all scheduled classroom activities.
7. Hoods, scarves, bandanas, facemasks, etc. that obscure a person's face or identity pose a safety hazard/threat and are not permitted on school grounds or during school activities (exceptions may be made for special activities such as Spirit Week).
8. Clothing with illicit drug alcohol or tobacco messages are prohibited as these substances are illegal for minors or are illegal by law.
9. Clothing with vulgar, plainly offensive, profane, obscene or sexually explicit references, graphics or comments are prohibited.
10. Clothing may not advocate prejudice, violence, or depict violence.
11. Clothing that depicts gang affiliation or other hostile messages that could be interpreted as harassment in their message (implied or not) may not be worn.

FRSD staff will make the final decision as to whether a student's dress is appropriate for a school setting. Students who do not follow the above guidelines will be asked to change their clothes and/or will be provided with alternative clothing from the student pantry/school office if the student has nothing readily available on campus. Clothes provided by the office are for temporary use. Hygiene products provided

by the office do not need to be returned. Flagrant deliberate or repeated violations will result in disciplinary action.

Emergency School Closure (UPDATE)---

In case of hazardous or emergency conditions, the superintendent may alter transportation and school schedules, as appropriate to the particular condition. Such alterations include closure of schools, delayed openings of schools, early dismissal of students and run limited bus schedules. Such changes will be broadcast on local radio and television stations and will also be available over the Internet at www.Flashalert.net as well as the District website and social media pages. **When schools are closed due to these conditions, all extra-curricular activities, including practices, are cancelled.**

End of School Year Behavior

Violation of school rules and policies near the end of the school year may result in suspension from school with final exams to be taken after the school year is completed. If the violation occurs too late to effectively implement consequences, the student will be subject to the consequences at the beginning of the next school year. Seniors may be prevented from participating in graduation activities, including commencement ceremonies.

Field Trips

All field trips must be pre-approved via a planned absence form signed by the student's parent or legal guardian.

Food and Beverages

Food and drinks shall not be consumed in the classroom except under special circumstances. If garbage in the hallways, courtyards or walkways become a problem, vending machines and the coffee cart will be shut down and all food and drink will be restricted to the cafeteria. Water may be consumed in the classroom at the discretion of the teacher.

Gender Identity: Schools across the country strive to create and sustain inclusive, supportive, safe and nondiscriminatory communities for all students. The issues of gender identity and how public schools can implement policies and practices to support all students is an emerging and rapidly evolving discussion. Elmira High School will remain in compliance with any best practice as well as State and Federal Law, legal guidance and District Policy on this issue.

Hackeysacks, Athletic Balls, etc

Ball playing of any kind is prohibited in the hallways, classrooms and the cafeteria. Athletic equipment is not permitted in classrooms and the cafeteria.

Hall Passes

If it is necessary for a student to leave the classroom during class time, teachers are to issue a hall pass. A hall pass may be written or classrooms may use specific "objects". One hall pass may be issued for multiple students if they are going to the same location. Students are to go directly to and from their designated destination. Students should come to class prepared with books and materials and should not need to go to lockers during class periods. The administration reserves the right to deny hall passes to student who violate the hall pass policy and/or abuse or overuse passes, in addition students who are gone for an inordinate amount of time may be issued a tardy or an unexcused absence from class that will result in a Thursday School.

Health Concerns

A student who becomes ill or is injured at school must notify his/her teacher or another staff member as soon as possible. In the case of a serious illness or injury, the school shall attempt to notify parents according to information provided on emergency forms submitted by parents to the school. Parents are encouraged to update this information as often as necessary. Students will only be allowed to remain in the health room for a short period of time. If a student is too ill to be in class, then he/she should be at home under the care of the parents. If the student is too ill to remain in school, the student will be released to the student's parents or to another person as directed by the parents. A student must check out in the attendance office before leaving campus or the absence will not be excused.

Infection/Disease Instruction

An age appropriate plan of instruction about infections/disease including AIDS, HIV and HBV has been included as an integral part of the district's health curriculum. Any parent may request that his/her student be excused from that portion of the instructional program required by Oregon law by contacting the school for additional information and procedures.

Parents with questions about the district's AIDS, HIV and HBV health education program should contact a health instructor or the district curriculum director.

Law Enforcement Questioning of Students: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Lockers

Lockers and other district storage areas provided for student use remain under the jurisdiction of the district even when assigned to an individual student. The district reserves the right to inspect all lockers and storage areas. A student has full responsibility for the security of the locker and is responsible for making certain it is locked and that the combination is not available to others. Students must use a school lock if they choose to use a school locker. Valuables should never be stored in the student's locker. Lockers may be routinely inspected without prior notice to ensure no item which is prohibited on the district premises is present, maintenance of proper sanitation, mechanical condition and safety and to reclaim district property including instructional materials. Students are not to change lockers without prior office approval. Defects in locks or lockers should be reported to the office as soon as possible.

Lost and Found

Items found around the school shall be turned in to the main office where students may claim items. Periodically, unclaimed items will be given to public agencies. If you keep or use an item that is not your property, it will be treated as theft.

Medication at School

Students in grades 9-12 will generally be assumed capable of handling self-administered medications following the procedures as outlined below. Parents of students who are unable to self-medicate due to their emotional, physical, and/or cognitive development or other such reasons are to contact the front office for assistance as needed.

Procedures for Self-Administering Necessary Medication (Grades 9-12):

- All medication must be in the original container. Prescription labels are to specify the name of the medication, dosage and frequency. The instructions must include information as to the maximum dosage in a given period of time.
- Over-the-counter medication requirements: To include only nonalcoholic medication such as eye, nose, and cough drops, cough suppressants, analgesics, decongestant, and antihistamines to be taken at school that are necessary for the child to remain at school.
- The student should only have the amount of medication needed for that school day.
- All medication is to be kept with the student or stored in his/her own locker.
- There is to be no sharing or borrowing of medication with another student.
- The right to self-administer necessary medication will be revoked if there are any abuses of such procedures and/or other Board policy and administrative regulations as may be applicable.
- Any violation of this policy may result in suspension.

Request for the school staff to administer medication shall be made by the parents in writing. Written instructions of the physician are required for all requests to administer prescription medication. Such instructions must include the following information: name of the student, name of the medication, dosage, frequency of administration and any special instructions. A prescription label meets the requirement for written instructions from the physician, if the information above is included. Written instructions of the parent which include the information above are required for all requests to administer nonprescription medication.

All medication to be administered by the school is to be brought to school by the parent in its original container. Medication not picked up by the parent within five school days of the end of the medication period or at the end of the school year, whichever occurs first, will be disposed of by the district.

Messages/Deliveries for Students

Students will receive notification of deliveries/messages (flowers, etc) but are not allowed to pick them up until after their last class of the day. Items necessary for the school day will be delivered when appropriate. Messages will only be delivered from parents and should be limited to emergency situations.

Off-Limits Area

The following areas are off-limit to students unless they are under the direct supervision of a staff member or have been granted permission to be in the area. The administration may periodically or permanently close any area of the campus for security reasons. Students are to enter and exit EHS by Fir Grove and Falcon Drive.

- vehicles and parking areas
- baseball, softball, football, and track fields, grandstands and dugouts
- area between the building and the football field/grandstand (east of building)
- other school campuses and property in the Fern Ridge School District
- wooded area surrounding the campus
- gravel road north of school building
- area to the east of the science and LCC classrooms
- Falcon Drive is closed to all students during school time
- gym hallway and stairwells during the lunch period
- during athletic contest and other school sponsored activities all areas of campus are off-limits with the exception of the immediate area where the event is occurring
- the areas in and around the Vocational-Technical Building during lunch time.

Reciprocal Transfer Students

Refer to Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook (page 114) for practices and policies around student transfers between districts.

School Sponsored Events

Students at all school sponsored activities are governed by school district rules and regulations and are subject to the authority of school district employees whether the events occur on or off the school grounds. A student who is absent from school for any reason may not be allowed to participate in school-related activities on that day. Attendance on the last day of the school week prior to an event controls a student's right to attend or participate in athletics and activities on non-school days. A student who is suspended, out-of-school or in-school, will be ineligible to attend or participate in athletic, activity, co-curricular or social events for a period of five (5) school days. **Students leaving prior to the end of an athletic contest or school activity will not be allowed to re-enter.**

Dances and other social events are for Elmira High School Students. There are no open dances. Students must present their identification card to be admitted. A student may be accompanied by a guest under 21 years of age to Homecoming, the Winter Dance, and the Prom. Guests must be pre-approved via completion of a guest pass by both the administration and the student's parent. **Guest passes must be turned into the front office by 8:00 a.m. the Wednesday prior to the dance's scheduled date** (Guest passes turned in after this time may not be approved). All guests must show a picture I.D. and an approved guest pass at the door. Any person who has dropped out of EHS or who has been expelled from EHS or any other school will not be allowed to attend dances or school events as a guest.

Middle school students are never allowed as guests. Students bringing a guest are responsible for the guest's behavior. Violations of school rules by a guest will result in the student's loss of guest privileges in the future. Students who violate school rules at a school event may have this privilege suspended or revoked. With the exception of Homecoming, the Winter Dance, and the Prom which may end at midnight, all dances will end at 11:00 p.m./11:30 p.m. after game football dance. Chaperones may close a dance at any time for inappropriate behaviors by students. Except for the Prom, high school dances will be held in the cafeteria. The sponsoring organization is responsible for damage to the facility and must properly clean the facility prior to 7 a.m. on the next school day. A one hundred-dollar cleaning fee is to be deposited in advance with the EHS bookkeeper. The deposit will be returned if the facility is clean and all decorations are removed.

Search and Seizure: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

Self-Referral for Substance Abuse

Students are encouraged to request assistance through self-referral in dealing with substance abuse issues. Students should request a meeting with an administrator or counselor. Students will not be subject to disciplinary action if they agree to a chemical assessment and participation in an abuse prevention program.

Senate Bill 300 also known as “Expanded Options”

The 2005 Oregon Legislators passed SB 300 (Expanded Options); providing eligible high school students early entry into post-secondary education. The Expanded Options Program emphasizes specific provisions for at-risk-students. Key features of the bill and FRSD’s Board Policy can be viewed on our website at: <http://policy.osba.org/fernridg/i/igbhe%20g1.pdf>

Skateboards/Rollerblades/Scooters, etc

Due to the inherent dangers both to participants and non-participants, combined with the potential liability assumption, the use and/or possession of skateboards/scooters/rollerblades, etc. on school property is not allowed. These items will be confiscated by school authorities and placed in the main office for parents to retrieve. Students who violate this policy will face disciplinary action. (Level 1 - Inappropriate Objects)

Student Fund-Raising Activities

With the permission of the administration, students under the direct supervision of their advisors may carry out fund-raising activities in which no outside fund-raising agency or contract is concerned. Where funds are to be raised through an outside agency or contracted activity, the activity must receive prior approval by the Board. Activities concerned with fund-raising for charitable or other causes not relating to school activities may not be carried on without prior approval of the building principal, the superintendent and the Board.

Student Identification Cards

All students are required to have an Elmira High School student identification card while at school or school activities. Students are required to have their pictures taken during registration or on make-up days. Students may not wear a hat for this picture. Students will show their card upon request of a staff member. Students who violate this policy will face disciplinary action.

The activity fee of \$20.00 allows students free admission to all home athletic events and reduced admission to dances. An activity sticker, once purchased, is permanently affixed to the student body card. Students must present this card for entry to school functions including but not limited to athletic and social events including dances.

Student/Parent Complaint Procedure

The following process should be used to address concerns and complaints. An informal conference between the involved parties that may or may not involve the principal should occur in a timely manner. If the problem is not resolved between the involved parties, a meeting may be requested with the building administrator. If the situation is not resolved the appeal process advances to the superintendent and then to the Board. Formal complaints must be in writing.

Supervision of Students

Adult supervision is provided to students 30 minutes before and after classes and 15 minutes before and after district sponsored activities. Students and parents should make arrangements for appropriate and timely transportation.

Syllabi

Grading policies are consistent throughout Elmira High School, however, there are differing academic expectations with every classroom teacher. Each teacher will provide every student with a syllabus for the class they are enrolled in that specifically outlines expectations for that particular class. It is the student’s responsibility to understand deadlines, formats and other criteria to successfully pass courses.

Telephones

Only in the event of an emergency will students be allowed to use the office or classroom phones. Under no circumstances will school phones be used for personal conversations.

Transportation of Students

A student being transported on district provided transportation is required to comply with the Student Code of Conduct and Transportation Rules. Any student who fails to comply with these standards may be denied transportation services and shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Vehicles on Campus

The privilege of parking/driving a vehicle on school property is extended to any licensed driver complying with the rules and regulations of the school and all local and state traffic laws. Permission to park/drive a vehicle on district property may be revoked and the vehicle may be towed for violating the vehicle regulations. Examples of violations would be parking on campus without an EHS permit or student vehicles on campus while driving privileges are suspended. These rules are enforced 24/7. Charges for towing and storage will be the responsibility of the owner or operator of the car. Campus/parking privileges may also be suspended for an excessive number of referrals, leaving campus without signing out in the front office, skipping classes, unacceptable attendance or failure to progress toward graduation and/or violation(s) of the student code of conduct.

Parking/driving a vehicle on school property is a privilege and not a right. The speed limit on school property is not to exceed 10 mph. Vehicles parked/driven on district property are under the jurisdiction of the district. Students may only park in the designated student parking lot on the east side of campus, the gravel lot near the track is off limits, as well as the parking in front of the Orchid Community Health Clinic. As a condition of parking/driving on district property, district officials may conduct searches of vehicles upon reasonable suspicion of a law, policy, rule or procedure violation. The district requires that before parking/driving privileges are granted the student must show that he/she holds a valid driver's license, the vehicle is currently registered and that the student driving the vehicle is insured under a motor vehicle liability insurance policy or that the student or vehicle owner has provided the Motor Vehicle Division with other satisfactory proof of compliance with the financial responsibility requirements of the state. It is the responsibility of the parents and students to ensure that any car driven/parked on district property is in safe operating condition. The district assumes no responsibility or liability for loss, vandalism, theft or damage to vehicles.

While driving privileges are suspended a student may not park/drive a vehicle or have another person park/drive their vehicle on district property. Suspensions apply 24/7/365. Failure to comply with a suspension will be considered insubordinate behavior and the suspension of parking/driving privilege will be moved to the next step.

Video Surveillance Cameras

In an effort to increase school security, provide greater safety for students, staff, building visitors, and to reduce vandalism and theft, many areas of the school campus shall be subject to observation and monitoring by video camera. As such, a person does not have the right to expect privacy in connection with their actions and activities while on campus. The recordings of such actions and/or activities shall be available for use by the staff and law enforcement authorities, if necessary, to enforce school rules and the law.

Visitors

Parents and other district patrons are encouraged to visit Elmira High School. To avoid disruption to the educational process, all visitors, volunteers and guest must register and provide a picture I.D. to the main office in exchange for a visitor's pass. Visitors will then be directed to the appropriate area. Casual and/or social visitors are not allowed. Visitations must be for educational purposes and approved in advance by the administration, teachers and parents.

Wellness Policy

Elmira High School will adhere to the guidelines of Fern Ridge School District Board Policy #EFA "Local Wellness Program." This policy can be reviewed at the following website:

<http://policy.osba.org/fernidg/E/EFA%20G1.PDF>

Student Code of Conduct

(Includes District & EHS policies, regulations, rules and violations of the law)

Basic Student Expectations

Be Respectful
Respect Others' Space

Be Responsible
Follow Directions

Conduct

Students are responsible for conducting themselves properly, in accordance with the policies of the district and the lawful direction of staff. The district has authority and control over a student at school during the regular school day, at any school-related activity, regardless of time or location and while being transported in district-provided transportation.

The Board recognizes that acceptable behavior is essential to development of responsible and self-disciplined citizens and integral for providing a safe, positive and effective school environment and program(s). Positive behavior is based on respect for one's self and for the worth and human dignity of others. Development and reinforcement of such positive behavior in students is a dual function of one's home and of the school system. In order to fulfill the schools' responsibility, it is necessary that every school activity contribute positively to the creation and maintenance of a climate that is safe and promote a positive working and learning environment. Students may face disciplinary consequences for:

- 1) On-campus behavior that would otherwise tend to disrupt the educational process or the operation of the schools or district or any activity involving a school district;
- 2) Off-campus behavior that would otherwise tend to disrupt the educational process or the operation of a school or district or of a school's related or supervised functions and at a school bus stop; or
- 3) Behavior that occurs while traveling to and from school if the behavior has a threatening effect on student activity or physical or mental health.

All district staff members have responsibility for consistency in establishing and maintaining an appropriate behavioral learning and working environment.

A student code of conduct, developed under the district administration's leadership, will be made available to students and their respective parent(s) or guardian(s) and enforced on each school property and school related activity.

Discipline/Due Process

A student who violates the Student Code of Conduct shall be subject to disciplinary action. A student's due process rights will be observed in all such instances, including the right to appeal the discipline decision of staff and administrators. The District complaint procedure and any applicable legal requirements apply to this right.

The District's disciplinary options include using one or more discipline management techniques that may include counseling by teachers, counselors and administrators, detention, non-school or after school attendance, suspension, expulsion, loss of driving privileges, loss of right to apply for driving privileges, loss of privileges, honors and awards and removal to an alternative education program. Disciplinary measures are applied depending on the nature of the offense. The age and past pattern of behavior of a student will also be considered prior to any suspension or expulsion.

Discipline of Students with an IEP: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Warning

A warning is defined as a verbal or written notice of a violation cautioning the student to desist an undesirable behavior. This may be substituted for another consequence.

Work Crew

A student may be required to do tasks around the school. This may be substituted for another consequence at the discretion of the administration or Dean of Students.

Detention/Wednesday School

A student may be detained during school hours if the student violates the Student Code of Conduct. Students will be notified of the reason for detention and are provided a copy of the referral for parents to review. These discipline options are in lieu of suspension. A student who fails to attend one of these options as assigned will be suspended.

Suspension: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Expulsion: See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Refractory Status

A student with unmanageable behavior will receive a suspension for a period not to exceed 10 days pending a mandatory hearing with the parents, student and administrator. The purpose of the hearing is to review the student's behavior pattern to consider an expulsion recommendation.

Behavior/Consequences

Behaviors and consequences include but are not limited to the following:

Accessory/Instigate/Socialize

A student who urges, goads, incites, or helps another person to violate a rule or who aides them after the violation, including lying or withholding information from school authorities, will be subject to the discipline for the offense.

Acknowledgment of Consequences

Students are expected to sign all referrals. Signing a referral is acknowledgment that you have received the information in the document, not an admission of guilt. A student signing a referral does not waive their due process rights. Failure to sign a referral will be considered insubordination.

Process/Procedure Violation

Consequence as stated for the violation.

Level 1 Violations

Abusive Language/Inappropriate Language/Use or Display of Profane or Obscene Language

Messages that include swearing, name calling or use of words in an inappropriate way.

Classroom/Activity Disruption

Behavior causing an interruption in a class or activity. Disruption includes sustained off-task talk, loud talk, yelling or screaming, noise with materials, horseplay or roughhousing, sustained out-of-seat behavior, throwing materials, failure to bring appropriate materials to class, unacceptable classroom effort

Closed Campus Violation

Leaving school grounds during school hours without prior administrative approval and/or without prior parent approval for juniors and seniors. A closed campus violation is also defined as transporting students off campus who do not have off campus privileges or walking off campus (at lunch). Additional Consequences: Sophomores and Freshmen who violate this policy will have their off-campus lunch privileges suspended when they become eligible. Juniors and Seniors will have their off-campus lunch privileges suspended - Step 1: 30 School Days Step 2: 60 School Days Step 3: 120 School Days

Computer Violation

A student's computer privileges may be suspended or revoked

Display of Affection (Inappropriate): Examples that are appropriate include hand holding and short hugs.

Disruption of the Educational Process

District Transportation Violation

Violating rules while on district provided transportation. Consequences for this violation may include a level one consequence as well as losing the privilege of riding on district transportation for up to one year.

Dress Code Violation

Gambling

Hall Pass Violation

In addition to the consequences listed below, a student may be placed on the restricted hall pass list. Students on this list must have administrative approval to leave class.

Inappropriate Objects

Bringing, possessing or using - These are items that may disrupt the educational process or learning environment. They include but are not limited to the following: laser pointers; lighters; matches; water devices, legal fireworks, drug paraphernalia, stink or smoke bombs.

Leaving Class Without Permission

Leaving School Without Permission

Students who leave campus without permission and/or without signing out in the front office may lose parking privileges on campus.

Step 1: 5 day suspension of privilege

Step 2: 10 day suspension of privilege

Step 3: Permanent revocation of permit

Off-Limits Area Violation (see page 25)

On Campus During An Off-Campus Period

Students who are scheduled for late arrival, early release, tutoring/mentoring or work experience may not be on-campus unless they check in at the attendance office and are under the supervision of a staff member.

Parking Violation

Students must have a valid parking permit displayed in the front window of their vehicle. Students are not to loiter in the parking lot at any time or visit the parking area during the morning break, lunch period or class time. Students are to be in the student parking lot only when in the process of entering or exiting campus. All student vehicles must be parked in the student (south) parking lot. Parking in the LCC parking area or the staff parking lot is prohibited. Students may park their vehicle in the auto shop area for academic reasons with the permission of the auto shop instructor. Vehicles must be parked in the marked areas of the parking lot. Parking incorrectly, blocking another car, parking in a no parking zone (yellow) or a fire lane (red) is a violation. In addition to the penalties below, these violations may result in the vehicle being towed at the owners expense and shall result in the loss of driving and parking privileges.

Step 1: 5 School Days Step 2: 10 School Days Step 3: 20 School Days

Tardy Violation

A student who is tardy to a class more than two times to a class during a quarter. A student is tardy when they are late to class by five minutes or less. After five minutes (15 min for 1st period), it is considered an absence. Once students arrive at school, tardies will not be excused.

Vehicle Violation

Vehicle violations include but are not limited to the following: leaving school, including truancy without administrative approval; transporting students in the back of open pickups; transporting unauthorized students off-campus, including freshmen and sophomores during the lunch period. In addition to the penalties for a level 1 violation, these violations shall result in the loss of driving and parking privileges.

Step 1: 30 School Days Step 2: 60 School Days Step 3: 90 School Days

Consequences for Level 1 Violations.

Step 1: Detention/Wednesday School

Step 2: Suspension 1-3 School Days

Step 3: Suspension 5-10 School Days

Level 2 Violations

The following behaviors and violations are considered severe.

Bullying/Harassment/Hazing/Tease/Taunt/Intimidate/Extortion

Disrespectful messages include negative comments based on race and/or national or ethnic origin; religion, gender, age, disabilities or other personal matters. This also includes threatening for the purpose of trying to make a person do something against their will or the use of picture taking cell phones in locker rooms or restrooms when a students' privacy is invaded. Consequences for taking unauthorized pictures will immediately be elevated to Step 3 of this level 2 violation.

Cheating

Cheating is defined as, but not limited to, taking pictures of exams/tests/quizzes with a cell phone or other device, plagiarism, copying another students work, fraud, etc. Consequences may range from loss of a grade for the assignment up to loss of credit for the class.

Defiance/Disrespect/Insubordination/Non-Compliance/Profanity Directed Toward a Staff Member

Refusal to follow directions, talking back, socially rude interactions, *open defiance* and/or swearing at a staff member.

Detention or Wednesday School Violation

Driving Violation

Driving violations include but are not limited to the following: exceeding speed limit of 10 mph; reckless or careless driving. In addition to the Level 2 consequences, these violations shall result in the loss of driving and parking privileges. These consequences are for a student=s career at Elmira High School.

Step 1: 90 School Days Step 2: Permanent Revocation

Permanent revocation (Step 2) also applies to a student who transports or stores drugs, alcohol, weapons, or any illegal or restricted substance or article on District property.

Fighting/Aggressive Physical Behavior

Actions involving serious physical contact where injury may occur - hitting, punching, hitting with an object, kicking, hair pulling, scratching, etc.

Forgery

Signing a person's name or representing one's self to be another person by use of the telephone or e-mail without that person's permission.

Gangs

No student on or about district property or at any district activity shall wear, possess, use, distribute, display or sell any clothing, jewelry, emblem, badge or any other such symbol evidencing gang membership or affiliation. No student shall use any speech, either verbal or non-verbal (gestures, handshakes, etc) signifying gang membership or affiliation. No student shall solicit other students for membership in any gangs.

Theft

Student is in possession of, having passed on, or being responsible for the removal of someone else's property. In addition to the level 2 consequences a student will be required to pay restitution.

Tobacco/Vaping materials Violation

Bringing, selling or distributing, possessing, or using any tobacco product. This includes tobacco or non-tobacco simulated smoking devices such as, but not limited to: "vape pens," "cloud pens," "hooka" or "e-cigarettes."

Truancy/Unexcused Absences

Student stays out of class or school without permission or the reason is not excused by the administration. This behavior could result in loss of parking privileges.

Vandalism/Property Damage/Graffiti

Student participates in an activity that results in substantial destruction or disfigurement of *district* property. In addition to the level 2 consequences, restitution will be expected. Students who damage *district* property accidentally will be liable for expenses related to their behavior.

Consequences for Level 2 Violations.

Step 1: Suspension	1-5 School Days
Step 2: Suspension	5-10 School Days
Step 3: Expulsion	

Level 3 Violations

The following behaviors will not be tolerated. Students who violate these rules will be suspended pending an expulsion hearing.

Arson

Student plans and/or participates in the burning of property

Assault/Menacing/Threat

A student who physically or verbally attacks another person causing injury or places them in fear of imminent serious physical injury on District property or while attending a school activity or athletic contest.

Use of threats, targeted lists, intimidation, harassment or coercion against any fellow student, District employee or a person on District property or attending a school activity.

Bomb Threat/Fire Alarm

Student delivers a message of possible explosive materials being on-campus, near campus, and/or pending explosion. This also includes pulling a fire alarm or signaling an emergency when none exist.

Drugs/Alcohol – See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Repeated Violations

Student has three or more Level 2 violations or persistently fails to comply with the school rules and staff directives or a combination thereof.

Weapons (Imitations Included)-See Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook.

Dangerous weapon is defined in Oregon law as any weapon, device, instrument, material or substance which, under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used or threatened to used, is readily capable of causing death or serious injury.

Deadly weapon is defined as any instrument, article or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious injury.

Firearm is defined in federal law as any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive. This includes the frame or receiver of any such weapon or firearm, muffler or silencer.

Consequence for Level 3 Violations

Expulsion

Elmira High School Parent Involvement Policy

It is the goal of Elmira High school to provide frequent, meaningful opportunities for parents and families to become engaged in their child's education. Several approaches are taken in order to achieve this goal. This policy is written to clearly delineate these opportunities as well as describe the process by which they are communicated to parents, methods for such communication, and strategies for program evaluation and improvement.

Parent Communication:

Events/Activities:

Parents may/will be notified of all activities and events through:

1. Electronic phone call system
2. Reader board in front of the district office
3. District website with school calendar
4. Classroom and other staff blogs
5. Facebook
6. ParentSquare

Student Achievement:

EHS has parent teacher conferences twice a year. All parents are invited to the conferences. Report cards are given at these conferences. Those parents that do not attend will have their report card mailed home.

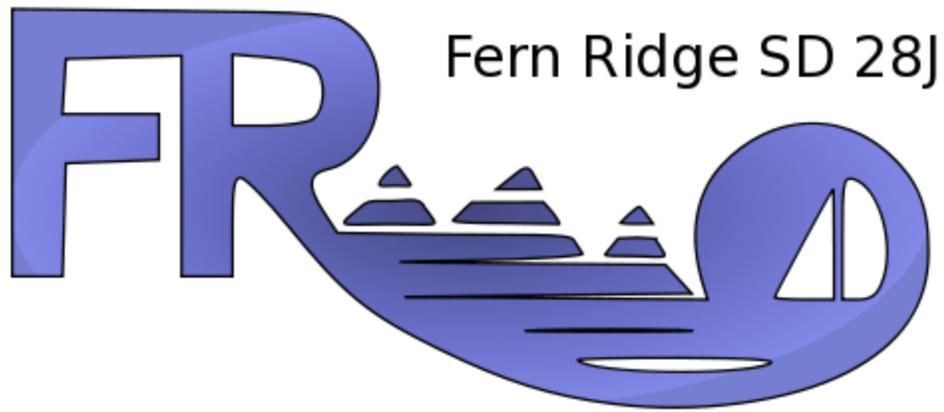
Volunteer Opportunities:

There are many opportunities to volunteer at Elmira High School. They include but are not limited to:

1. Campus/hallway supervision
2. Site council
3. Field Trips
4. Fundraising Events
5. In-class support
6. Community Service Projects
7. ASPIRE PROGRAM: Contact counseling office

To assist with getting information out about volunteering EHS does several things including:

1. Giving every family a Criminal Background Form to fill out at registration so they can become "authorized" to volunteer
2. Put out information regarding volunteer opportunities.
3. Remind parents that criminal background forms are needed to volunteer and attend field trips, etc....



Student Rights and Responsibilities Handbook

The mission of the Fern Ridge School District is to create a safe place where young people grow to become caring, ethical, healthy individuals. Those who can adapt to change, enrich the democratic process and contribute to a global society.

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To All Students and Their Parents or Guardians

This handbook sets forth the rights and responsibilities of students and the standards for student conduct as adopted by the Board of Directors of School District 28J, Elmira, Oregon. The widest possible distribution of this handbook to students and parents is required by Oregon state law (ORS 339.240). Students and parents are encouraged to read this handbook carefully and retain it for future reference. The italicized paragraphs that introduce each section describe existing conditions or laws. The paragraphs that follow outline the rights and responsibilities of all students who attend school in Fern Ridge School District 28J.

The school board has delegated authority for the administration, application and interpretation of these rules to the superintendent. Individual schools in the district have the authority to adopt and implement school rules to assist them in implementing the policies established in this handbook. No school, however, has the authority to modify these rules. Schools are responsible for distributing their rules and students and parents are encouraged to become familiar with them.

Fern Ridge School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, sex or age in providing education or access to benefits of education services, activities and programs in accordance with Title VI, Title VII, Title IX and other civil rights or discrimination issues; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; and the Americans with Disabilities Act. Ms. Rilke Klingsporn has been designated to coordinate compliance with Section 504 laws, Mrs. Michelle Marshall has been designated as our District Title IX coordinator, and Mr. Gary E. Carpenter, Jr., has been designated to coordinate compliance with the remainder of the legal requirements. These staff can be contacted at the Fern Ridge School District office for additional information and/or compliance issues with any of the above rules and regulations. Contact Information below:

Mrs. Rilke Klingsporn: email at rklingsporn@fernridge.k12.or.us 541-935-7733
24936 Fir Grove Lane Building B, Elmira, Oregon 97437

Mrs. Michelle Marshall: email at mmarshall@ferndige.k12.or.us 541-935-2253 ext. 1220
88834 Territorial Road, Elmira, OR 97437

Mr. Gary Carpenter: email at gcarpenter@fernridge.k12.or.us 541-935-2253 ext. 1201
88834 Territorial Road, Elmira, OR 97437

Adopted by the Board of Directors August 18, 2014
Issued by Fern Ridge School District No. 28J, Elmira, Oregon

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www.fernridge.k12.or.us

Freedom of Expression

Citizens of our country are permitted free expression under the first and fourteenth amendments of the United States Constitution and under Article I, Section 8, of the Oregon Constitution. Students, as citizens, have the right of free expression and must also bear the responsibility for the abuse of this right. Students are entitled to express their personal opinions under all reasonable circumstances, but the use of vulgar and plainly offensive, hate symbols, obscene or sexually explicit language undermines one of the school district's basic missions. Symbolic or actual expression shall not interfere with the freedom of others to express themselves nor shall it substantially disrupt the orderly conduct of the school. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy IGDB)

1. School Publications

Students are encouraged to participate in the production of school publications. Any publication which is in any way sponsored or funded by the school is a school publication. Students may express personal opinions in these publications but shall adhere to the written editorial policies of the school. A school newspaper should reflect the life of the school community. Those students responsible for the publication of a school newspaper must be mindful of this responsibility to the school community. Vulgar and plainly offensive, obscene or sexually explicit material; knowing or reckless false or libelous statements; any material that would substantially disrupt classes or other school activities; and any material that is inconsistent with the school's basic educational mission are prohibited from all school publications.

2. Distribution of Materials

a. Rights and Responsibilities: Students have the right to distribute and receive written material from each other. This right, however, also carries responsibilities. Students shall not distribute or display materials that are knowingly or recklessly false or defamatory; are vulgar and plainly offensive, obscene or sexually explicit; tend to create an immediate danger or disruption to the orderly operation of school; or urge the violation of the law, existing attendance regulations or the provisions of this handbook. Materials to be distributed or posted within the school must identify the source of the printed material. Materials that students choose to distribute shall not carry the endorsement or sponsorship of the school.

b. Commercial and Fund-Raising Activities: Students shall not distribute or display announcements or advertisements of a commercial nature, sell materials, or engage in activities to solicit financial contributions without the prior authorization of school officials.

c. Time and Place of Distribution: School officials may designate the time and place for distribution of written information and related materials so that the activity does not materially interfere with the school program. This policy shall be applied in a manner that encourages respect for individuals without regard to disability, race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, marital status, socio-economic status, source of income, cultural background, familial status, physical characteristic, or linguistic characteristics of a national origin group. Additional information regarding the time, location and distribution of materials can be found in specific school handbooks.

d. Student Display Areas: Each school will provide at least one student display area of reasonable size and prescribe methods to inform students of the board policy and school guidelines for the distribution of literature and the display of material.

3. Participation in Patriotic Exercises

Students may refuse to participate in patriotic exercises so long as the manner of such nonparticipation does not deny other students their rights to participate and does not disrupt the educational process.

4. Objections to Instructional Materials

If a student objects on religious or ethical grounds to reading, studying or discussing any instructional material, the teacher may supply alternative materials without prejudice to the student. All requests need to be made by parents through the administration.

5. Prohibited Speech

The use or display of vulgar and plainly offensive, obscene or sexually explicit language or hateful expressions; threats of harm to persons or property; or language that creates or threatens to create an immediate danger of disruption to the

orderly operation of the school or violation of the law, attendance regulations or the provisions of this handbook is prohibited.

Use of Technology and the Internet

Fern Ridge School District allows students' access to the Internet. Teachers are expected to provide guidance and supervision of students who use the Internet. Please see Fern Ridge Board policy IIBGA and IIBGA-AR for complete guidelines.

Dress and Grooming

The responsibility for dress and grooming of a student rests primarily with the student and his/her parents or guardians. A student's dress or grooming should not affect participation in school classes, programs or other school-related activities, except as provided below. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JFCA)

1. Student Dress and Grooming

Student dress and grooming shall be clean and in keeping with health, sanitary and safety practices. Because of health and safety considerations, students are required to wear shoes while on school property or while participating in school-sponsored activities that may occur off school property. Students shall not wear clothing that displays or promotes alcohol, drugs, tobacco, profanity, sexual innuendoes (Hooters or Big Johnson garments), hateful symbols or any other inappropriate illustrations or wording. When a student is participating in the educational program or a school sponsored activity, dress and grooming will not substantially disrupt the activity or constitute a threat to the health and safety of the student or others. Provisions for dress and grooming for special activities should arise directly out of the needs of the activity. Specific restrictions regarding dress and grooming at each school are addressed specifically in their student handbooks.

Gang Activity

The presence of members of gangs and gang activities on campus or at off campus, school-sponsored activities is likely to cause a substantial disruption or material interference with school and school activities. A "gang" is defined as a group who identifies itself through the use of a name, unique appearance or language, including hand signs, the claiming of geographical territory or the espousing of a distinctive belief system that frequently results in criminal activity. (ORS 336.109 (2)) (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy KGB)

The following activities are prohibited at school or at school-related activities:

1. No student shall wear or display clothing or other objects that are commonly considered evidence of membership or affiliation with any gang if it disrupts or is likely to cause a substantial disruption or material interference with school and school activities.
2. No student shall commit any act, or use any speech, verbal or nonverbal, showing membership in, or affiliation with, a gang if it disrupts or is likely to cause a substantial disruption or material interference with school and school activities.

3. No student shall commit any act that furthers gangs or gang activity including, but not limited to, wearing garb or displaying symbols directly associated with affiliation of a known local gang, soliciting others for membership in any gangs or inciting other students to act with physical violence upon any other person. Such acts are presumed to undermine the school's basic mission and will create an immediate danger to the orderly operation of the school.

Assembly of Students

Citizens of our country are guaranteed the right of peaceful assembly under the first and fourteenth amendments of the United States Constitution and under Article I, Section 26, of the Oregon Constitution. Students, as citizens, have the right of assembly and must also bear the responsibility for the consequences of such assembly. Students and staff all share responsibility for the activities that take place in school. School personnel are held accountable to the general public and,

in cooperation with students, are accountable for the image of the institution. Therefore, the orderly use of school facilities is required. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy IGDA and AR, JFI, INE)

1. Informal Gatherings

Students have the right to gather informally, but such gatherings shall not substantially disrupt the orderly operation of the school or infringe upon the rights of others.

2. Student Meetings

Students are permitted to hold meetings at school under the following conditions:

a. Meetings must be scheduled in advance and be sponsored by school officials or an official school club or organization.

b. Meetings must not be disruptive to class or school activities and shall not be of such a nature that could likely result in damage to any person or property.

3. Speakers

Invitations to speakers will be approved by the principal or a designated school official in advance of the meeting.

Attempts will be made to present a balance of viewpoints to students. However, no speaker will be allowed to make a speech that advocates breaking the law or otherwise violates the district's policies or the provisions of this handbook.

4. Student Walkouts

Student-organized "skip days" or other unauthorized group absences of students are not acceptable. Permission for absences for this type of activity will not be granted.

5. Petitions

Students may petition for a change in district policies and procedures. Circulation of such petitions must be reviewed by a building administrator prior to circulation and the original must be submitted to the superintendent upon completion. The superintendent will forward petitions to appropriate authorities.

Students with Disabilities

Both state and federal law (Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) require schools to provide an appropriate education for students who have disabilities. (See complete guidelines for Special Education at Fern Ridge School District Board Policy IGB, IGBA, IGBAB/JO, IGBAC, IGBAE, IGBAF, IGBAG, IGBAH, IGBAI, IGBAJ, IGBAK, IGBAL and their ARs.)

The district and its teaching staff will make reasonable accommodations and modifications for any student who has a disability. Some students with disabilities may require reasonable accommodations or modifications in order to participate fully in the regular educational program while others may require a special education placement. Students with disabilities, or their parents, may contact their classroom teacher, or the school principal if they believe accommodations or modifications need to be made or if they would like to be referred to receive special education services.

Freedom of Religion

The Constitutions of the United States and the State of Oregon require the public schools to take a neutral position concerning religion. Public schools cannot aid one religion or all religions or prefer believers to nonbelievers. However, schools may provide instructional activities relating to historical and cultural aspects of religion under the following circumstances: (1) The activity must reflect a clearly secular (nonreligious) purpose. (2) The activity must have a primary effect that neither advances nor inhibits religion, which includes creating an excessive entanglement with religion. The superintendent will develop administrative procedures that include guidelines consistent with the philosophy that religion in the schools must be educational in nature and that the schools must be sensitive to all beliefs. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy IGAC)

1. Student Religious Meetings and Discussions

If secondary principals permit other non-curriculum student meetings or discussions on the school premises during non-instructional time, religious meetings of students that are voluntary and student initiated will also be permitted. Non-school persons are prohibited from directing, conducting, controlling or regularly attending the activities of such student

groups. Except as provided in school board policy for the leasing of school facilities by religious groups, nonstudents are prohibited from meeting on school premises for any type of religious activity.

2. Release Time for Religious Instruction

Elementary students may be excused from school for up to two hours in any week and secondary students may be excused from school for up to five hours in any week to attend weekday schools giving religious instruction. A written request must be signed by the parent or guardian before the student is released. Religious teachers or organizations are not permitted to promote student participation by directly contacting students on school grounds or by asking students who participate in their programs to recruit students who remain at school. All promotional activities will be conducted away from school.

Nondiscrimination and Harassment

Harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying by students, staff and third parties toward students are strictly prohibited. Teen dating violence is unacceptable behavior and prohibited. Retaliation against any person, who reports, is thought to have reported, files a complaint or otherwise participates in an investigation or inquiry is also strictly prohibited. False charges shall also be regarded as a serious offense and will result in disciplinary action or other appropriate sanctions. Students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to discipline, up to and including expulsion. The district may also file a request with the Oregon Department of Transportation to suspend the driving privileges or the right to apply for driving privileges of a student 15 years of age or older who has been suspended or expelled at least twice for menacing another student or employee, willful damage or injury to district property or for the use of threats, intimidation, harassment or coercion. Students may also be referred to law enforcement officials. The principal and the superintendent are responsible for ensuring that this policy is implemented. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy AC, JBA, GBN and their ARs)

1. Definitions

“District” includes district facilities, district premises and non-district property if the student is at any district-sponsored, district-approved or district-related activity or function, such as field trips or athletic events where students are under the control of the district.

“Third parties” include, but are not limited to, coaches, school volunteers, parents, school visitors, service contractors or others engaged in district business, such as employees of businesses or organizations participating in cooperative work programs with the district and others not directly subject to district control at inter-district and intra-district athletic competitions or other school events.

“Hazing” includes, but is not limited to, any act that recklessly or intentionally endangers the mental health, physical health or safety of a student for the purpose of initiation or as a condition or precondition of attaining membership in, or affiliation with, any district-sponsored activity or grade level attainment, (i.e., personal servitude, sexual stimulation/sexual assault, forced consumption of any drink, alcoholic beverage, drug or controlled substance, forced exposure to the elements, forced prolonged exclusion from social contact, sleep deprivation or any other forced activity that could adversely affect the mental or physical health or safety of a student); requires, encourages, authorizes or permits another to be subject to wearing or carrying any obscene or physically burdensome article; assignment of pranks

to be performed or other such activities intended to degrade or humiliate.

“Harassment” includes, but is not limited to, any act which subjects an individual or group to unwanted, abusive behavior of a nonverbal, verbal, written or physical nature on the basis of age, race, religion, color, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation, source of income, familial status, cultural background or geographic location.

“Harassment, intimidation or bullying” means any act that substantially interferes with a student’s educational benefits, opportunities or performance, that takes place on or immediately adjacent to district grounds, at any district-sponsored activity, on district-provided transportation or at any official district bus stop, that may be based on, but not limited to, the protected class status of a person, having the effect of:

1. Physically harming a student or damaging a student’s property;
2. Knowingly placing a student in reasonable fear of physical harm to the student or damage to the student’s property;
3. Creating a hostile educational environment/work environment including interfering with the psychological wellbeing of the student.

The Board is also committed to the elimination of sexual harassment in district schools and activities. Sexual harassment shall include, but not be limited to, unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. The employee's submission to the conduct or communication is made a term or condition of employment;
2. Submission to or rejection of, the conduct or communication is the basis for decisions affecting a student or employment or assignment;
3. The conduct or communication is so severe, pervasive or persistent that it has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with a student's educational performance or an individual's work performance; or
4. The conduct or communication creates an intimidating, hostile or offensive working environment.

Examples of harassment may include, but not be limited to, intimidation (physical, verbal, written) jokes, stories, pictures or objects that are offensive, tend to alarm, annoy, abuse or demean certain protected individuals and groups. (*See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JBA/GBN*)

"Protected class" means a group of persons distinguished, or perceived to be distinguished, by race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation (an individual's actual or perceived heterosexuality, homosexuality, bisexuality or gender identity, regardless of whether the individual's gender identity, appearance, expression or behaviors differs from that traditionally associated with the individual's sex at birth), national origin, marital status, familial status, source of income or disability.

"Retaliation" means harassment, intimidation or bullying, teen dating violence and acts of cyberbullying toward a person in response to a student for actually or apparently reporting or participating in the investigation of harassment, intimidation or bullying, teen dating violence and acts of cyberbullying or retaliation.

"Teen dating violence" means:

1. A pattern of behavior in which a person uses or threatens to use physical, mental or emotional abuse to control another person who is in a dating relationship with the person, where one or both persons are 13 to 19 years of age; or
2. Behavior by which a person uses or threatens to use sexual violence against another person who is in a dating relationship with the person, where one or both persons are 13 to 19 years of age.

"Cyberbullying" is the use of any electronic communication device to harass, intimidate or bully.

2. Reporting (see FRSD policy JBA/GBN-AR for complaint procedure)

Principals will take reports and conduct a prompt investigation of any report of an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying. Any employee who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy shall immediately report his/her concerns to the principal or superintendent who has overall responsibility for all investigations. Any employee who has knowledge of incidents of teen dating violence that took place on district property, at a district-sponsored activity or in a district vehicle or vehicle used for transporting students to a district activity, shall immediately report the incident to the principal. Failure of an employee to report an act of harassment, intimidation or bullying, teen dating violence or an act of cyberbullying to the principal may be subject to remedial action, up to and including dismissal. Remedial action may not be based solely on an anonymous report.

Any student who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy or feels he/she has been harassed, intimidated, bullied, a victim of teen dating violence and acts of being cyberbullied in violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report his/her concerns to the principal or superintendent who has overall responsibility for all investigations. Any volunteer who has knowledge of conduct in violation of this policy is encouraged to immediately report his/her concerns to the principal who has overall responsibility for all investigations. This report may be made anonymously. A student or volunteer may also report concerns to a teacher or counselor who will be responsible for notifying the appropriate district official.

The district shall incorporate into existing training programs for students and staff information related to the prevention of, and the appropriate response to, acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying. The district

shall incorporate age-appropriate education about teen dating violence into new or existing training programs for students in grade 7 through 12.

The district shall incorporate into existing training programs for staff information related to the prevention of, and the appropriate response to, acts of harassment, intimidation or bullying, teen dating violence and acts of cyberbullying. The superintendent shall be responsible for ensuring annual notice of this policy is provided in a student or employee handbook, school and district's website, and school and district office and the development of administrative regulations, including reporting and investigative procedures.

Harassment by Board members, employees, parents, students, vendors and others doing business with the district is prohibited. Employees or students whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to the investigation procedure which may result in discipline, up to and including dismissal or expulsion. Other individuals whose behavior is found to be in violation of this policy will be subject to appropriate sanctions as determined and imposed by the superintendent or Board.

3. District Staff and Volunteer Responsibility

Staff and volunteers will follow school board policy to prevent and respond to incidents of discrimination, harassment, intimidation, hazing, bullying, cyberbullying, teen dating violence or retaliation. They will provide direct and indirect supervision of students, provide reasonable access to all district programs, classes, services and aid, avoid the use of terms that are derogatory, and use tests and instructional material that do not unfairly discriminate between students.

4. Student Responsibility

Students are expected to follow the standards for student behavior that are outlined in school policy and this handbook, which include the requirement that they refrain from discrimination, harassment, intimidation, hazing, bullying, cyberbullying, teen dating violence or retaliation.

Students are expected to hold their peers and other students to the standards established by policy and this handbook, and are encouraged to bring violations to the attention of a teacher, counselor, administrator or other staff member. These reports may be made anonymously.

Students who violate these rules are liable for discipline, suspension or expulsion in accord with the rules established in this handbook.

5. Complaint Process (see reporting "form" at the end of FRSD policy GBN/JBA-AR)

Principals have responsibility for investigations concerning hazing, harassment, intimidation or bullying, acts of cyberbullying and incidents of teen dating violence. The investigator(s) shall be a neutral party having had no involvement in the complaint presented. All complaints will be investigated in accordance with the following procedures:

Step 1: Any hazing, harassment, intimidation or bullying and acts of cyberbullying and incidents of teen dating violence information (complaints, rumors, etc.) shall be presented to the principal. Complaints against the principal shall be filed with the superintendent. Complaints against the Superintendent shall be filed with the Board chair. All such information will be reduced to writing and will include the specific nature of the offense and corresponding dates.

Step 2: The district official receiving the complaint shall promptly investigate. Parents will be notified of the nature of any complaint involving their student. The district official will arrange such meetings as may be necessary with all concerned parties within five working days after receipt of the information or complaint. The parties will have an opportunity to submit evidence and a list of witnesses. All findings related to the complaint will be reduced to writing. The district official(s)

conducting the investigation shall notify the complainant and parents as appropriate, in writing, when the investigation is concluded and a decision regarding disciplinary action, as warranted, is determined. A copy of the notification letter or the date and details of notification to the complainant, together with any other documentation related to the incident, including disciplinary action taken or recommended, shall be forwarded to the Superintendent.

Step 3: If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision at Step 2, he/she may submit a written appeal to the superintendent or designee. Such appeal must be filed within 10 working days after receipt of the Step 2 decision. The superintendent or designee will arrange such meetings with the complainant and other affected parties as deemed necessary to discuss the appeal. The superintendent or designee shall provide a written decision to the complainant's appeal within 10 working days.

given an opportunity to present the complaint. The Board shall provide a written decision to the complainant within 10 working days following completion of the hearing.

Step 4: If the complainant is not satisfied with the decision at Step 3, a written appeal may be filed with the Board. Such appeal must be filed within 10 working days after receipt of the Step 3 decision. The Board shall, within 20 working days, conduct a hearing at which time the complainant shall be

6. No Reprisal or Retaliation

The superintendent will establish a process of reporting for those employees experiencing or observing acts of harassment. There will be no retaliation by the district against any person who, in good faith, reports harassment. False charges shall also be considered a serious offense and will result in disciplinary action or other appropriate sanctions.

Direct and civil rights complaints related to educational programs and services may be made to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, Region X, 915 2nd Ave., Room 3310, Seattle, WA 98174-1099. Additional information regarding filing of a complaint may be obtained through the building principal, compliance officer or superintendent.

Documentation related to the incident may be maintained as a part of the student's education records. Additionally, a copy of all harassment, intimidation or bullying, acts of cyberbullying and incidents of teen dating violence complaints and documentation will be maintained as a confidential file in the district office.

The superintendent shall report the name of any person holding a teaching license or registered with Teacher Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) or participating in a practicum under OAR Chapter 584, Division 17, when, after appropriate investigation, there is reasonable cause to believe the person may have committed an act of sexual harassment. Reports shall be made to TSPC within 30 days of such a finding. Reports of sexual contact with a student shall be given to a representative from law enforcement or Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services, as possible child abuse. In the event the superintendent is the subject of the investigation, reports, when required, shall be made by the Board chair.

Attendance

Except when exempt by Oregon law, all students ages 7-18 who have not completed the 12th grade are required to attend regularly, a school full time during the entire school term. All students five or six years of age who have been enrolled in a public school are required to attend regularly. Persons having legal control of a student ages 7-18 who has not completed the 12th grade are required to have the student attend school. Persons having legal control of a student who is five or six years of age and has enrolled the child in a public school, are required to have the student attend and maintain regular attendance. Under the superintendent's direction and supervision, attendance supervisors shall monitor and report any violation of the compulsory attendance law to the superintendent or designee. Violation is a Class C violation and parents or guardians maybe issued a citation up to \$180. The district will develop procedures for issuing a citation. In addition, a parent who is not supervising their student by requiring school attendance may be in violation of ORS 163.577(1)(c). Failing to supervise a child is a Class A violation. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JEA and its AR and JE)

1. Exemptions from Compulsory School Attendance

In the following cases, students shall not be required to attend public school full time:

1. Students being taught in a private or parochial school in courses of study usually taught in grades 1-12 in the public schools and in attendance for a period equivalent to that required of students attending public schools;
2. Students proving to the district's satisfaction that they have acquired the courses of study taught in grades 1-12 in the public schools;

3. Students being taught by a parent or private teacher the courses of study usually taught in grades 1-12 in the public school for a period equivalent to that required of students attending public schools.
4. Students being educated in the home by a parent:
 - a. When a student is taught or is withdrawn from a public school to be taught by a parent or private teacher, the parent or teacher must notify the Lane Education Service District (ESD) in writing within 10 days of such occurrence. In addition, when a home-schooled student moves to a new ESD, the parent shall notify the new ESD in writing, within 10 days, of the intent to continue home schooling. The ESD superintendent shall acknowledge receipt of any notification in writing within 90 days of receipt of the notification. The ESD is to notify, at least annually, school districts of home-schooled students who reside in their district;
 - b. Each student being taught by a parent or private teacher shall be examined no later than August 15, following grades 3, 5, 8 and 10:
 - (1) If the student was withdrawn from public school, the first examination shall be administered at least 18 months after the date the student withdrew; shall be administered prior to the end of grade 3;
 - (2) If the student never attended public or private school, the first examination shall be administered prior to the end of grade 3;
 - (3) Procedures for home-schooled students with disabilities are set out in OAR 581-021-0029.
 - c. Examinations testing each student shall be from the list of approved examinations from the State Board of Education;
 - d. The examination must be administered by a neutral individual qualified to administer tests on the approved list provided by the Oregon Department of Education;
 - e. The person administering the examination shall score the examination and report the results to the parent. Upon request of the ESD superintendent, the parent shall submit the results of the examination to the ESD;
 - f. All costs for the test instrument, administration and scoring are the responsibility of the parent;
 - g. In the event the ESD superintendent finds that the student is not showing satisfactory educational progress, the ESD superintendent shall provide the parent with a written statement of the reasons for the finding, based on the test results and shall follow the guidelines in Oregon Revised Statutes and Oregon Administrative Rules.
5. Students excluded from attendance is provided by law;
6. An exemption may be granted to the parent of any student 16 or 17 years of age who is lawfully employed full time, lawfully employed part time and enrolled in school, or enrolled in a community college or other state registered alternative education program.

2. Enforcement

Efforts will be made by school officials to enforce the compulsory attendance laws of the state. However, compliance with those laws is the mutual responsibility of home and school. Students are expected to be punctual in reporting to classes and to attend regularly. The school will notify parents of irregular attendance or habitual tardiness. The parents of students who have chronic attendance problems may receive a citation. Failure to send a student to school is a Class C violation of law and is punishable by a court imposed fine.

3. Students Who Have Been Suspended or Expelled

Students may not attend any district school or any school-sponsored activity or be on any school district property when they have been suspended or expelled from school, except with the consent of a school district administrator. Students who violate this policy may be prosecuted for criminal trespass.

Admission

The Board is committed to providing an educational program for all students living in the district. The Board believes all students ages 5 through 18, or special education students up to age 21, living in the district who have not completed 12 years of education should attend school regularly and be included in the available educational programs. State law

requires students to be age six on or before September 1 to enter first grade; and age five on or before September 1 to enter kindergarten. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JEC and JECB)

All new students must register in the office. Registration requirements include proof of the student's birth date (a birth certificate, a hospital record or a baptismal record) and immunization records as required by law. Students admitted to any grade must show evidence of completing the prior school years.

Students enrolled in the district shall comply with Oregon laws related to age, residence, health and immunization. Students located in the district shall not be excluded from admission solely because the student does not have a fixed place of residence or solely because the student is not under the supervision of a parent.

Admission of Resident Students

School-age students who live within the district attendance area may attend school without paying tuition.

- (1) Residents over age 19 may be admitted with the approval of the superintendent and upon payment of tuition at the rate established by the Board. Students who turn 19 years of age during the school year shall continue to be eligible for a free and appropriate public education for the remainder of the school year.
- (2) The Board may admit otherwise eligible students who are not receiving special education and who have not yet attained 21 years of age prior to the beginning of the current school year if they are shown to be in need of additional education in order to receive a diploma. These students may attend school without paying tuition for the remainder of the school year.
- (3) The Board shall admit otherwise eligible students who have not yet attained age 21 prior to the beginning of the current school year, if the student is receiving special education services and:
 - a. Has not yet received a regular high school diploma; or
 - b. Has received a modified diploma, an extended diploma or an alternative certificate.

Students living in the district who have attained the age of majority are considered residents of the district. Minor student living with parents who reside in the district are considered residents of the district. Students who are wards of the court and who are placed in the district are residents of the district. Final determination on any remaining questions of residency shall be made by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction.

Admission of Nonresident Students

The district may enroll nonresident students as follows:

- (1) By written consent of the affected school boards. The student becomes a "resident pupil" of the attending district thereby allowing the attending district to receive State School Fund moneys;
- (2) By written consent from the school board with which the student has made application for admission. The student becomes a "resident pupil" of the attending district thereby allowing the attending district to receive State School Fund moneys;
- (3) By unilaterally admitting with tuition a nonresident student whereby neither district is eligible for State School Fund moneys;
- (4) If a juvenile court determines it is in the student's best interest, a student placed in a substitute care program outside the district will continue to be considered a resident student and allowed to attend the school the student attended prior to placement. The public agency placing the student in a substitute care program will be responsible for the transportation of the student, if public agency funds are available.

The Board or superintendent shall deny regular school admission to nonresident students who are under expulsion from another district for a weapons policy violation. The Board may, based on district criteria, deny regular school or alternative education program admission to nonresident students who are under expulsion from another district for reasons other than a weapons policy violation. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JECB)

Use of Motor Vehicles

Students who are licensed drivers have been granted the privilege of driving a motor vehicle to school. Certain regulations are necessary to control the use of motor vehicles because of limited parking, traffic patterns and the large number of pedestrians around schools.

The administrator of each school or district property is authorized to establish regulations governing the use of motor vehicles on school or district property, and may charge a parking fee. These regulations shall be reasonable and widely circulated. Permission to drive a motor vehicle onto school or district premises may be revoked if the driver does not obey school or district regulations and local and state traffic laws.

Student Records

Federal and state laws require school districts to maintain certain education records on students. The records allow the school staff to share progress information with parents and other educational institutions. They also document the eligibility of students for various federal and state mandated programs. Students frequently request copies of their records many years after they have left school to assist them in documenting school attendance and eligibility for certain programs. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy IGBAB/JO and their ARs and JOA)

1. Confidentiality of Education Records

All student records are confidential and may be opened for inspection only in accordance with applicable federal and state law and school board policy.

2. Inspection of Education Records

Students and their parents or legal guardians have the right to inspect their own student records and to challenge the content of the records. Once the student reaches age 18, those rights transfer to the student alone.

3. Release of Education Records

Generally, parents or the student, if he/she is 18 or is attending an institution of higher education, must consent to the release of all student records. The school district, however, may release student records without consent in the following instances:

- a.** To school board members during an executive session to consider the expulsion of a student or to examine confidential medical records;
- b.** To district employees who have a legitimate educational interest in the records;
- c.** To the officials of another school, school district, institution of postsecondary education, or other educational agency that has requested the records and in which the student seeks or intends to enroll. Schools are required to forward these records within 10 days of receiving the request.
- d.** To state and federal officials requiring such information;
- e.** In connection with a student's application for or receipt of financial aid;
- f.** To organizations conducting studies on behalf of the school district to develop, validate or administer predictive tests, administer student aid programs or improve instruction;
- g.** To accrediting organizations to carry out their accrediting functions;
- h.** To parents of a dependent student;
- i.** To comply with a judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena after the district has made a reasonable attempt to notify the parent or eligible student; or
- j.** For emergency situations involving the health or safety of the student or other persons. A "health and safety emergency" includes, but is not limited to, law enforcement efforts to locate a child who may be a victim of kidnap, abduction or custodial interference, and law enforcement or child protective services efforts to respond to a report of child abuse or neglect

4. Directory Information

Directory information means those items of personally identifiable information contained in a student education record which is not generally considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released. The following categories are designated as directory information. The following directory information may be released to the public through appropriate procedures:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Student's name & address; | 5. Dates of attendance; | 8. Weight and height of athletic team members; |
| 2. Student's telephone listing; | 6. Participation in officially recognized sports and activities; | 9. Most recent school or program attended |
| 3. Student's photograph; | 7. Degrees or awards received; | |
| 4. Date and place of birth; | | |

Public Notice

The district will give annual public notice to parents of students in attendance and students 18 years of age or emancipated. The notice shall identify the types of information considered to be directory information and the district's option to release such information and the requirement that the district must, by law release secondary students' names, addresses and telephone numbers to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher education, unless parents or eligible students request the district withhold this information. Such notice will be given prior to release of directory information.

Exclusions

Exclusions from any or all directory categories named as directory information or release of information to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher education must be submitted in writing to the principal by the parent, student 18 years of age or emancipated student within 15 days of annual public notice. A parent or student 18 years of age or an emancipated student, may not opt out of directory information to prevent the district from disclosing or requiring a student to disclose their name or from requiring a student to disclose a student ID card or badge that exhibits information that has been properly designated directory information by the district in this policy. Directory information shall be released only with administrative direction.

Directory information considered by the district to be detrimental will not be released.

Information will not be given over the telephone except in health and safety emergencies.

At no point will a student's Social Security Number or student identification number be considered directory information.

5. Information on Rights of Parents and Adult Students

For information on how to file a complaint under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act; how to obtain a copy of the district's records policy; the procedure for exercising the right to inspect or review education records; the procedure for requesting an amendment of records; or any related information, see school board policy.

Search and Seizure

Schools have a responsibility to protect students from harm, maintain order and fulfill their educational mission. Students have a legitimate expectation of privacy, which is protected by the U.S. and Oregon Constitutions. Balancing these concerns, school officials may conduct searches of students or their belongings only under certain circumstances. (See full guidelines in Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JFG and its AR.)

1. Student Searches

School officials may search a student and his/her personal property, or any district property used by the student, if the officials have reasonable suspicion to believe that the student either personally poses, or is in possession of an item that poses, an immediate threat of serious harm to the safety of the student, the official or others at school. Officials may also conduct a search when the student or the student's parent consents. Searches will not be excessively intrusive in light of the age, sex and maturity of the student and the nature of the infraction. The student will be given the opportunity to be present when the search of personal possessions is conducted, providing the student is in attendance and if there is no reason to believe that his/her presence would endanger his/her safety or the safety of others. Any search of a student's person will be conducted in the privacy of a school office except in an emergency where delay might endanger the welfare of other persons.

2. Seizure of Property

School officials will seize illegal items, stolen property, evidence of commission of a crime or violation of school policy, or other possessions reasonably determined by school authorities to be a threat to the safety or security of students or others. Such items include but are not limited to guns, other dangerous weapons, illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia. Other items that may be used to substantially disrupt or materially interfere with the education process may be temporarily

removed from the student's possession. Dangerous weapons, including guns, knives, metal knuckles or any other weapon, the purpose of which is to injure other persons or property, will be promptly turned over to a representative of the appropriate law enforcement agency. Parents will be notified whenever such an item is removed from a student's possession, unless the notification will unduly interfere with the investigation of the law enforcement agency.

3. Use of Lockers and Desks

a. Assignment of Lockers and Desks: Lockers and desks belong to the school district and are assigned for the convenience of students. They are to be properly cared for by students and not used for the storage of illegal or dangerous items or items prohibited by school handbook.

b. General Inspections of Lockers and Desks: A general inspection of lockers or desks may be conducted by school officials at any time without prior notice. Such inspections may be conducted to ensure proper sanitation, check mechanical condition and safety, reclaim property belonging to the district, or detect drugs, weapons, contraband, or other violation of law or school rules. Items belonging to the school district and not appropriately in the student's possession will be seized and returned. Illegal or dangerous items, or items prohibited by this handbook, will be seized and held for appropriate disposition. Students will be notified of any items seized.

c. Special Inspections of Individual Student Lockers or Desks: Special inspections of individual lockers or desks may be made when there is reasonable suspicion to believe that they contain items that are illegal, dangerous, or evidence of a violation of the law or school rules.

Use of Tobacco

The Tobacco Free Schools Rule (OAR 581-021-0110) requires all school district property to be tobacco-free. The intent of this measure is to protect students, staff and visitors from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke and to prevent students from using and becoming addicted to tobacco. Fern Ridge has five policies that support this OAR. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy GBK, KGC, JFCG, JFCH, JGCI)

Tobacco-Free Environment

All district property, including but not limited to, district-owned vehicles, will be designated as tobacco-free environments. All people, including students, employees, visitors, parents, patrons, contractors, delivery drivers, etc., must comply with this policy at all times including district-sponsored events and functions on or off campus and all public events on district property.

Students shall not possess, smoke, chew, or use tobacco products at school, in a district vehicle, on district property, or at any district activity. *(See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy GBK/KGC)*

For the purpose of this policy "tobacco" is defined to include any lighted or unlighted cigarettes, cigar, pipe, bidi, clove cigarette, and any other smoking product, spit tobacco, also known as smokeless, dip, chew, snuff, in any form, nicotine or nicotine delivering devices, chemicals or devices that produce the physical effect of nicotine substances or any other tobacco or non-tobacco substitute (e.g., e-cigarettes, e-cigarettes that do not contain nicotine, etc.). This does not include FDA approved nicotine replacement therapy products used for the purpose of cessation. "Tobacco use prohibited" signs will be posted in appropriate locations in all district buildings. Tobacco use, distribution or sale by staff and all others is also prohibited on district premises, in any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the district, school, or public charter school and at all school sponsored activities.

Use of Tobacco, Alcohol or Drugs

Student substance abuse, possession, use, distribution or sale of tobacco, alcohol or unlawful drugs, including drug paraphernalia or any substance purported to be an unlawful drug, on or near district grounds or while participating in school-sponsored activities is prohibited and will result in disciplinary action. If possession, use, distribution or sale occurred near district grounds, disciplinary action will follow according to district procedures and extracurricular code if applicable and/or denial or forfeiture of any school honors or privileges (e.g., valedictorian, salutatorian, student body, class or club office positions, senior trip, prom, etc.). If possession, use, distribution or sale occurred on district grounds, at school sponsored activities or otherwise while the student was under the jurisdiction of the school, students will be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion. Denial and/or removal from any or all extracurricular activities and/or forfeiture of any school honors or privileges may also be imposed. A student shall be referred to law enforcement

officials. Parents will be notified of all violations involving their student and subsequent action taken by the school. A referral to community resources and/or cessation programs designed to help the student overcome tobacco, alcohol or unlawful drug use may also be made. The cost of such programs, are the individual responsibility of the parent and the private health-care system. Clothing, bags, hats and other personal items used to display, promote or advertise tobacco, alcohol or unlawful drugs are prohibited on district grounds, at school-sponsored activities and in district vehicles. Any person under age 18 possessing a tobacco product commits a Class D violation and is subject to a court-imposed fine, as provided by ORS 167.400. Any person who distributes, sells or causes to be sold, tobacco in any form or a tobacco-burning device, to a person under 18 years of age commits a Class A violation and is subject to a court-imposed fine, as provided by ORS 163.575. An unlawful drug is any drug as defined by the Controlled Substances Act including, but not limited to, marijuana, cocaine, opiates, amphetamines and phencyclidine (PCP). As used in this policy, unlawful drug also means possession, use, sale or supply of prescription and nonprescription drugs in violation of Board policy and any accompanying administrative regulations. Tobacco use, distribution or sale by staff and all others is also prohibited on district premises, in any building, facility, or vehicle owned, leased, rented or chartered by the district, school, or public charter school and at all school sponsored activities. Unlawful delivery of a controlled substance to a student or minor within 1,000 feet of district property is a Class A felony, as provided by ORS 475.999. (See Fern Ridge School Board Policy JFCG/JFCH/JFCI)

Serious Misconduct

Students are encouraged to maintain high standards of academic and personal behavior, not only in accordance with the rights and responsibilities set forth in this handbook, but with respect toward other students, staff members and private and public property. Oregon law requires students to comply with the written rules of the school district, to pursue the prescribed course of study, to submit to the lawful authority of staff and to conduct themselves in an orderly fashion. Students will be subject to discipline, up to and including suspension or expulsion, for misconduct that violates federal, state, county or city laws or the policies and rules established by the school district, including but not limited to harassment or discrimination, theft, disruption of school, damage or destruction of school property, damage or destruction of private property, assault or threats of harm, unauthorized use of weapons or dangerous instruments, unlawful use of drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages, and persistent failure to comply with rules or the lawful directions of teachers or school officials. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JFC and JG)

1. Violation of the District’s Discrimination and Harassment Policy

Students shall refrain from harassment or discrimination by words, including the use of hateful symbols or expressions, or actions based on another person’s disability, race, color, national origin, ethnicity, sex, sexual orientation, age, religion, marital status, socio-economic status, source of income, cultural background, familial status, physical characteristic, or linguistic characteristics of a national origin group. Students shall also comply with the district’s nondiscrimination and harassment policy, which is outlined in this handbook.

2. Theft and Stolen Property

No student shall steal or attempt to steal school property or private property on school property or during a school activity, function or event that occurs off school property. No student shall have stolen property in his or her possession. Stealing means taking or withholding someone else’s property without permission, or by extorting or by deception.

3. Substantial Disruption of School or School Activities

Any conduct that substantially disrupts or threatens to substantially disrupt school activity is forbidden. Willful disobedience, open defiance of a staff member’s authority, threats of harm to persons or property, harassment or discrimination prohibited by school rules, including racial and sexual harassment, or language that creates an immediate danger of disruption to the orderly operation of the school or creates a clear and present danger of violation of the law or attendance regulations are prohibited.

4. The Willful Disobedience of a Staff Member’s Authority

Students will submit to the lawful authority of teachers, administrators and other staff members. If the student believes that a staff member has behaved inappropriately, he/she and his/her parents may use the district’s complaint procedure to resolve the issue.

5. Use or Display of Vulgar and Plainly Offensive, Obscene or Sexually Explicit Language or Hate Symbols

The use or display of vulgar and plainly offensive, obscene or sexually explicit language or graphics, including hate symbols, is prohibited. Clothing with vulgar and plainly offensive, obscene or sexually explicit references and or graphics or comments is prohibited. Clothing with hate symbols, comments or language is also prohibited.

6. Damage or Destruction of School Property

No student will vandalize or attempt to destroy school property. The district will attempt to recover (through legal action if necessary) from those students or their parents the actual cost of repair or replacement of school property vandalized or intentionally or recklessly destroyed by students.

7. Damage or Destruction of Private Property on School Premises or During a School-Sponsored Activity

No student will cause or attempt to cause damage to private property either on the school grounds or during a school activity, function or event off the school grounds.

8. Coercion, Assault, Menacing, Threats, Intimidation or Harassment

No student will coerce, assault, menace, intimidate, harass or threaten to harm another person for any reason including to obtain money or other property, or force any person to do any act against the will of that person. Assault means intentionally, knowingly or recklessly causing injury to another. Menace means by words or conduct the student intentionally attempts to place another person in fear of imminent serious physical injury.

9. Possession, Handling or Transport of Any Dangerous or Deadly Weapon

No student shall possess, handle or transmit any object that is reasonably considered a weapon on school grounds or off the school grounds at any school-sponsored activity, function or event, including in a student's motor vehicle. A weapon includes the following:

- a. "Firearm" means (A) any weapon (including a starter gun) which will or is designed to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive; (B) the frame or receiver of any such weapon; (C) any firearm muffler or firearm silencer; or (D) any destructive device.
- b. "Dangerous weapon" means any weapon, device instrument, material or substance which under the circumstances in which it is used, attempted to be used, or threatened to be used, is readily capable of causing death or serious physical injury.
- c. "Deadly weapon" means any instrument, article or substance specifically designed for and presently capable of causing death or serious physical injury.

10. Use or Possession of Any Controlled Substances, Including Alcoholic Beverages and Drug Paraphernalia

No student shall knowingly possess, use or transmit any drug paraphernalia or possess, use, transmit or be under the influence of any controlled substance or intoxicant of any kind on the school grounds or off the school grounds at a school-sponsored activity, function or event. Use of a drug authorized by a medical prescription from a registered physician for use during school hours shall not be considered a violation. Students who must take prescription medication at school are to follow district adopted procedures that can be found in schools' handbooks.

11. Violations of City, County, State and Federal Laws While Involved in School Activities

No student shall violate federal, state, county or city laws while involved in school activities.

12. Misconduct that Occurs Off-Campus

Students may face disciplinary consequences for (1) any off-campus behavior that would otherwise tend to disrupt the educational process or the operation of the school or district; (2) conduct that occurs off the school premises at school-related or supervised functions or at a school bus stop; (3) or behavior that occurs while traveling to and from school if the behavior has a threatening effect on student safety or physical or mental health.

Disciplinary Procedures

Fair treatment of all students is essential. Students must be protected from arbitrary and unreasonable decisions. All decisions affecting students must be based on careful and reasoned investigations of the facts and must be consistent in the application of rules and regulations. All students must be informed of the school rules and procedures by which schools are governed and the process by which discipline will be applied. School officials occasionally may find it necessary to discipline a student or even remove the student from the formal learning environment for a period of time. Officials have discretionary power in invoking disciplinary actions and procedures in order to maintain a climate conducive to learning and to the protection of individuals and property. The school administration shall consider the age and past pattern of behavior of a student in determining whether to suspend or expel that student. Before an expulsion can occur there must be a hearing before the superintendent or the superintendent's designee unless waived by the student's

parent or guardian or, if the student is 18 years of age or older, the student. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JG and JGE)

1. Informal Discipline Procedures for Minor Infractions

Discipline for minor infractions are guided by individual schools' handbooks.

2. Formal Discipline Procedures

a. In-School Suspension: An in-school suspension is a temporary exclusion from regular classroom attendance. The student is assigned to a supervised work area and may perform his/her regular class work.

b. Out-of-School Suspension: An out-of-school suspension is a temporary exclusion from school attendance for a period not to exceed 10 school days. In those cases in which the school official states that the suspension will continue until a parent conference occurs, the suspension notice will state that it will not exceed 10 school days. See Appendix 1, *Due Process Procedures for Out-of-School Suspension*

c. Expulsion from School: An expulsion is a long-term exclusion from school attendance and requires a hearing before the superintendent or his/her designee. State law provides that the expulsion of a student will not exceed one calendar year. Any student who brings a weapon (as defined in this handbook's section on Serious Misconduct, subsection 9) onto school property or to a school-sponsored activity, or possesses, conceals or uses a weapon on school property or at a school sponsored activity, shall be expelled for one calendar year unless a specific exception is made by the superintendent.

Required Expulsion Hearings: The school principal or designee may recommend an expulsion for any serious misconduct or persistent defiance of the school rules, but is required to request an expulsion hearing when he/she believes a student is guilty of the following offenses: the possession, transmission or use of a dangerous weapon (or a toy which replicates a deadly or dangerous weapon) on school property or at a school sponsored event; the sale, distribution or unlawful possession of a drug or any controlled substance, possession of any alcohol, drugs or controlled substances related offense that creates a substantial risk to public health, driving under the influence of intoxicants on school property, solicitation by a student or other students to buy, sell or otherwise distribute alcohol, drugs or any controlled substances in any amount, being under the influence of any drug or controlled substance, giving or selling hypodermic devices to a student who has no lawful/authorized use for the device. Only the superintendent, as the designated representative of the district school board, or his/her designee has the authority to expel a student. A hearing must be conducted before an expulsion occurs unless the student's parents or guardian, or the student if 18 years of age or older, waives the right to a hearing.

See Appendix 2, *Due Process Procedures for Expulsion*

3. Physical Discipline

Oregon statute and school board policy prohibit the use of physical discipline. However, a teacher, administrator, school employee or school volunteer is authorized to use reasonable physical force upon a student when, and to the extent that the individual reasonably believes, it is necessary to maintain order in the classroom or school, or at a school activity or event, whether or not it is held on school property. When so used, physical restraint will not be considered a form of physical discipline. (See Fern Ridge School District School Board Policy JGAB and its AR)

4. Suspension or Expulsion of Students with Disabilities

When considering student disciplinary procedures that may result in removal of the student, the district follows all special education procedures and ensures the parent and the student are afforded the procedural safeguards of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) if:

- The student is receiving IEP services;
- For the student not yet identified as a student with a disability, the district had knowledge that the student had a disability and needed special education.

The district may suspend or expel students with disabilities for up to 10 school days in a school year following its usual policies and procedures. If a student with a disability is being considered for more than 10 days of suspension from school or a change in placement due to a violation of a code of student conduct, the IEP team, which includes the parent, must conduct a manifestation determination to determine whether the behavior is related to the student's disability.

a. Behavior Is Not a Manifestation of Student's Disability: If the IEP team determines that the student's behavior is not a manifestation of his or her disability, the district may proceed with its disciplinary action.

b. Behavior Is a Manifestation of Student's Disability: If the IEP team determines that the student's behavior is a manifestation of his or her disability, the student may not be removed from school except in cases where the student has violated a district weapon or drug policy or has inflicted bodily injury upon another person.

For a violation involving drugs, weapons or the infliction of serious bodily injury, the district may remove a student with a disability from the student's current educational placement to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for the same amount of time that a student without a disability would be subject to discipline, but for not more than 45 school days in a school year without regard to whether the behavior is a manifestation of the student's disability. This removal is considered a change in placement. The district will provide educational services to a student who is suspended or expelled for more than 10 school days in a school year. These services may be provided in a different location or interim alternative educational setting as determined by the IEP and placement teams.

(See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JGEA-AR)

5. Suspension or Expulsion of Students Eligible under Section 504

It is necessary to follow the relevant federal guidelines established in Section 504 of the 1973 Rehabilitation Act whenever a student eligible under Section 504 is being considered for suspension or expulsion. The relevant statutes are summarized below.

The district may suspend or expel students eligible under Section 504 without conducting a manifestation determination if the student:

- Is not removed for more than 10 consecutive days or has not received a series of short suspensions that create a pattern of removal;
- Is actively using illegal drugs (does not apply to current users of alcohol); or
- Commits a violation of a student code of conduct directly involving the use or possession of illegal drugs or alcohol.

The district must conduct a manifestation determination if the student eligible under Section 504 is to be removed for more than 10 consecutive days or has received a series of short suspensions that create a pattern of removal. The district will make every effort to include parents in the manifestation determination; however, parent participation is not required.

a. Behavior Is Not a Manifestation of Student's Disability: If it is determined that the student's behavior is not a manifestation of his or her disability and the current placement and educational program are considered appropriate, the district may proceed with its disciplinary action.

b. Behavior Is a Manifestation of Student's Disability: If it is determined that the student's behavior is a manifestation of his or her disability, the student may not be removed from school for more than 10 days except in cases described in a2 and a3. While a student eligible under Section 504 whose behavior is determined to be a manifestation of his or her disability may not be removed for disciplinary reasons, if the 504 team determines that current placement and/or educational program is not appropriate, the 504 team can change the student's placement. *(See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JBAA)*

6. Suspension of a Student's Driving Privileges *(See Fern Ridge School Board Policy JHFDA)*

The superintendent may, under ORS 339.254, make a request to the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the suspension of a student's driving privilege or the right to apply for driving privileges on the basis of conduct as provided below.

If a request is made, the following requirements will be met:

- The superintendent will meet with parent before submitting a request to the ODOT;
- The request to the ODOT will be in writing;
- The student involved is at least 15 years of age;
- The student has been expelled for bringing a weapon on district property;
- The student has a drug-related offense(s);
- The student has been suspended or expelled at least twice for any of the following reasons:
 - Assaulting or menacing a district employee or another student;
 - Willful damage or injury to district property;
 - Use of threat, intimidation, harassment or coercion against a district employee or another student;

The request to suspend a student's driving privilege or the right to apply for a driving privilege shall not be for more than one year unless the superintendent is filing a second written request. A second request may state suspension of privileges until the student reaches 21 years of age.

The student has a right to appeal the superintendent's decision through the district's suspension/expulsion due process procedure.

If driving privileges are suspended the student may apply to the ODOT for a hardship permit.

Withdrawal

The superintendent may, under ORS 339.257, notify ODOT of the withdrawal from school of a student who is at least 15 years of age and under 18 years of age. Upon receipt of the district's notice that a student has withdrawn from school, ODOT shall notify the student that driving privileges will be suspended on the 30th day following the date of notice unless the student presents documentation that complies with ORS 807.066. For purposes of this policy, a student shall be considered to have withdrawn from school if the student has:

- More than 10 consecutive school days of unexcused absences; or
- Fifteen school days total of unexcused absences during a single semester.

Appeals

The student has a right to appeal the superintendent's decision through district procedures.

7. Required Reports to Law Enforcement Agencies

Violations of the district's rules related to guns and dangerous weapons must be reported to police. A school official may inform the appropriate law enforcement agencies when a student is suspected of committing other illegal acts on the school campus or at a school-sponsored activity.

8. A Student's Right to Hear His or Her Accuser

a. Complaints and Accusations Made by Staff Members: A student may hear directly from the teacher or other staff member the specific complaints or descriptions of unacceptable behavior.

b. Complaints and Accusations Made by Other Students: Extreme care must be taken by school officials to ensure that a student is not disciplined solely on hearsay evidence. In recognition of the special jeopardy in which student witnesses may be placed, and considering the possible traumatic effects on a student witness of adversary proceedings conducted by attorneys, police officers or court officials, the complaining student may not be required to face the accused nor to have his/her identity revealed. When it is determined that a complaining student ought not face the accused, a school official may then become the official complainant. No licensed staff member may be examined as to communications between a student and that staff member in official confidence relating to the personal affairs of the student or the student's family if the communication will tend to incriminate or damage the student or the student's family. However, the school official conducting an investigation is under a special obligation to assure the careful and cautious investigation of all relevant facts and testimony.

9. Interviewing of Students

School officials will interview students as necessary without parent permission. Parents will be contacted if it is apparent their child has violated policy or law.

Alternative Education Options

Oregon law requires that in certain circumstances school districts inform students and parents of alternative education options that might be available to them. School districts are also required to inform students and parents of those alternative education programs for which they will provide financial support. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy IGBHA)

The school administration will inform students and parents or guardians about the availability of alternative education programs in each of the following situations:

- (1) When a student's attendance problem is so erratic that, in the district's opinion, he or she is not benefiting from the educational program; or
- (2) When a student is expelled.

Cooperation with Law Enforcement Agencies

School officials have a dual responsibility. They must safeguard the rights of students, and even represent students in certain situations. They also must cooperate with law enforcement officers in the legitimate pursuit of their duties. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy KN and its AR)

The Fern Ridge School District and its employees have the responsibility of ensuring that the rights of students are safeguarded at all times. Law Enforcement Officers, as defined in this policy are officials for police agencies, Children's Services Division, parole and probation officers and Juvenile Court counselors. When either a law enforcement agency contacts the District for assistance in the investigation of illegal acts or when the District contacts law enforcement for the same the District will follow procedures under KN-AR to identify the law enforcement official, inform the official of any student disabilities, determine the appropriateness of releasing the student, make a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian, and maintain confidentiality. The building administrator/designee will make a reasonable effort to contact the parent or guardian unless there is reason to believe that such notification could endanger the student or interfere with the investigation. If unable to reach the parent or guardian, prior to questioning, a reasonable effort to contact the same will be made as soon as possible thereafter.

If an officer is visiting the school for purposes other than interviewing a specific student suspected of an illegal act, school officials are not required to contact parents regarding law enforcement officer talking with students.

A law enforcement officer shall contact the building principal or designee prior to interviewing a student during school hours in regards to an illegal act in which the student is either a suspect or a witness. The building principal or designee will make a reasonable effort to contact the parent or guardian when an officer comes to question or arrest a student related to illegal acts that occur off campus and is not school related unless there is reason to believe that such parental contact would unduly jeopardize the investigation or if it is related to child abuse. The interview by the officer may continue if the parent or guardian is unable to be contacted and the principal shall document the date and time of the attempt. Further attempts shall be made by the building principal as soon as possible following the interview. The principal or designee may involve a police officer in investigating violations of school rules/or policies and may interview students without contacting parents. However, if the student becomes a suspect in an illegal act, or if consequences are to occur, the parent or guardian shall be contacted. Law enforcement officials must observe all rights of students and use procedural safeguards as prescribed by law and the agency which they represent. An administrator will be present in the interview unless it pertains to a child abuse issue. Students may be removed from school premises under the following conditions. The officer:

1. Has a court order;
2. Is present to arrest the student;
3. Has protective custody from DHS (Department of Human Services);
4. Has permission from the parent or guardian.

Child Abuse

Oregon law requires all public employees to report possible child abuse to Child Protective Services (CPS) or a law enforcement agency. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JHFE and its AR)

1. Reporting Child Abuse

Any school employee having reasonable cause to believe that any child with whom he/she comes in contact, on or off the job, has suffered abuse, or that any adult with whom he/she comes in contact has abused a child, shall report immediately to the State of Oregon's Department of Human Services – Child Protective Services, or to a law enforcement agency. Staff members may not inform parents of such reports.

2. Investigations of Child Abuse

School staff will cooperate with investigations of possible child abuse being conducted by Child Protective Services or a law enforcement agency. A member of the Child Protective Services staff or a law enforcement officer who is questioning a student in regard to child abuse will determine if a school official may be present in an interview that occurs at school.

Trespassing/Animals on campus

To help protect students and school property, and to prevent disruptive activity, school officials must know if any persons who are not members of the school staff or student body are in the school building or on the school grounds.

1. Visitors Permitted on School Grounds

Visitors are permitted on school grounds as long as their presence is not for the purpose of disrupting school, nor threatening, nor intimidating others in school, and so long as school officials know of and consent to the visit in advance.

2. Visitors Must Report to the Office

During a regular school day all visitors are required to first report to the school office to arrange for their visit.

3. Weapons in the Schools *(See full guidelines in Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JFCJ.)*

Students are prohibited from carrying and/or possessing firearms while on school property and face up to a one-year expulsion if found to have a firearm while at school.

4. Students Who Have Been Suspended or Expelled

Students may not attend any district school or any school-sponsored activity or be on any school district property when they are suspended or expelled from school, except with consent of a school district administrator. Students who violate this policy may be prosecuted for criminal trespass.

5. Violations of this Policy

Visitors who are in violation of this policy will be considered in violation of the law and will be subject to prosecution for criminal trespass in the second degree, as provided by ORS 164.245.

6. Animals on campus

Board policy ING outlines the process and requirements of "Animals in the school". For animals on school grounds either during or outside of the school day, there are off-limits areas identified by signage. For **any district property or school sponsored event**, animals may be prohibited at the discretion of the administrator.

Appendix 1

Due Process Procedures for Out-of-School Suspension

1. The student shall be given oral or written notice of the charges, including specific acts involved. If the student denies the charges, the student shall be given an explanation of the evidence supporting the charges.
2. The student shall be given an opportunity to explain his or her conduct and to informally contest the charge. If the school official then determines the student should be suspended, the student shall be informed and the student's parents or guardian shall be notified by telephone, whenever possible, of the suspension and the reasons for the action. After the parents or guardian have discussed the suspension with the principal or his/her designee, they may appeal the decision to the superintendent or a designee, whose decision will be final.
3. The two steps above may be postponed in emergency situations relating to health and safety. Emergency situations shall be limited to those instances where there is a serious risk that substantial harm will occur if suspension does not take place immediately.
4. When parents cannot be contacted, the decision to send the student home, to allow the student to remain on school premises or to refer him or her to the proper authorities must be made with consideration given to the student's age, maturity and nature of the misconduct that caused the suspension.
5. A suspension notice shall be mailed to the parents or guardian. The notice must state the date, the reasons for the suspension, the length of the suspension (not to exceed ten school days) and the procedures (if any apply) that must be followed by the student and parents or guardian to gain reinstatement.
6. After the parents or guardian receive notice of the suspension, they will be given a conference with the building principal or his/her designee if they so request.

Appendix 2

Due Process Procedures for Expulsion

A principal, after reviewing available information, may recommend to the superintendent that a student be expelled. Expulsion of a student shall not extend beyond one calendar year. No student may be expelled without a hearing unless the student's parents, or the student if 18 years of age, waive the right to a hearing, either in writing or by failure to appear at a scheduled hearing. By waiving the right to a hearing, the student and parent agree to abide by the findings of a hearings officer. (See Fern Ridge School District Board Policy JGE)

When an expulsion hearing is not waived, the following procedure is required:

1. Notice will be given to the student and the parent by personal service or by certified mail at least ten days prior to the scheduled hearing. Notice will include:
 - The specific charge or charges;
 - The conduct constituting the alleged violation, including the nature of the evidence of the violation;
 - A recommendation for expulsion;
 - The student's right to a hearing;

- When and where the hearing will take place; and
- The right to representation.

2. The superintendent or designee will act as hearings officer. The district may contract with an individual who is not employed by the district to serve as the hearings officer. The hearings officer will conduct the hearing and will not be associated with the initial actions of the building administrators;

3. In case the parent or student has difficulty understanding the English language or has other serious communication disabilities, the district will provide a translator;

4. The student will be permitted to have a representative present at the hearing to advise and to present arguments. The representative may be an attorney or parent. The district's attorney may be present;

5. The student will be afforded the right to present his/her version of the charges and to introduce evidence by testimony, writings or other exhibits;

6. The student will be permitted to be present and to hear the evidence presented by the district;

7. The hearings officer will determine the facts of each case on the evidence presented at the hearing. Evidence may include the relevant past history and student education records. Findings of fact as to whether the student has committed the alleged conduct will be submitted to the Board, along with the officer's decision on disciplinary action, if any, including the duration of any expulsion. This decision will be available in identical form to the Board, the student and the student's parents at the same time;

8. The hearings officer or the student may make a record of the hearing;

9. The hearings officer's decision is final; however, this decision may be appealed to the Board if they believe processes, laws or policies were not followed. The decision itself cannot be appealed. At its next regular or special meeting, the Board will review the appeal through the lens of confirming whether or not district processes, policies or laws were followed. Parents of students who wish to appeal the expulsion hearing process will have the opportunity to be heard at the time the Board reviews the decision.

10. Expulsion hearings will be conducted in private and Board review of the hearings officer's decision will be conducted in executive session unless the student or the student's parent requests a public hearing. If an executive session is held by the Board or a private hearing by the hearings officer, the following will not be made public:

- The name of the minor student;
- The issues involved;
- The discussion;
- The vote of Board members, which may be taken in executive session.

Prior to expulsion, the district must propose alternative programs of instruction or instruction combined with counseling to a student subject to expulsion for reasons other than a weapons policy violation. The district must document to the parent of the student that proposals of alternative education programs have been made.



July 21, 2025 – Resolution #25-26/01

FERN RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J
88834 Territorial Road
Elmira, OR 97437

RESOLUTION NO. #25-26/01

BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Directors, School District No. 28J, make the following annual organizational appointments for the school year 2025-2026:

- Clerk (ORS 332.515) Gary Carpenter
- Business Manager/Deputy Clerk (ORS 332.515) Quanah Bennett
- Budget Officer (ORS 294.331) Gary Carpenter
- Custodian of Funds and authorizes the facsimile signature of the custodians of funds, if one is to be used. No other signatures are authorized for district checks. (ORS 328.441, 328.445) Gary Carpenter, Quanah Bennett
- Authorize Salary Payments according to district policy and state laws Gary Carpenter, Quanah Bennett
- Official Legal Advisors The Hungerford Law Firm, LLP
Oregon School Boards Association
Legal Division
Garrett, Hemann, Robertson, P.C.
Luvaas, Cobb, P.C.
- Official Newspapers for Publication Register Guard
- District Auditors (ORS 328.465, 327.137, 297.405) Pauly, Rogers and Co., P.C.
- Insurance Agents of Record WHA Insurance
- Depository of School Funds (ORS 328.441, 294.805-294.895) Banner Bank, LGIP
- Directs the Superintendent and Business Manager to utilize any other banking facilities which are to the financial advantage of the District. Gary Carpenter, Quanah Bennett
- Authorizes the Superintendent to accept resignations and employ personnel as budgeted for and appropriated for the school year upon approval of the school board. Gary Carpenter
- Managers of Grant Funds Gary Carpenter, Quanah Bennett
- Local Public Contract Review Board (ORS 279A.060) Board
- Bond Counsel Hawkins Delafield & Wood LLP

ADOPTED by the Board this 21st day of July 2025, Lane County School District 28J.

Board of Directors, Chair

Superintendent

Date



Fern Ridge School District 28J

Gary E. Carpenter Jr.
Superintendent

88834 Territorial Road, Elmira, OR 97437
Phone: (541) 935-2253
Fax: (541) 935-8222

Classified/Confidential/Manager/Coach Employees Resignations/New Hires/Transfers/Other Report July 21, 2025

Resignations/Retirements

1. Resignation of Deanna Alldridge, 5.2 Speech and Language Pathologist, District wide, effective June 23, 2025.
2. Retirement of Kelly Keller, 7.0 Instructional Assistant at Elmira High School, effective July 18, 2025.

New Hires/Transfers

1. Hiring of Katie Howe, 6.5 Instructional Assistant at Fern Ridge Middle School, effective August 25, 2025.

Other

1. None at this time.

Coaches

1. Hiring of Conrad Davis, 2025-2026 Varsity Football Coach at Elmira High School, effective August 18, 2025.
2. Hiring of Jeannie Core, 2025-2026 JV Volleyball Coach at Elmira High School, effective August 18, 2025.