

**Ferndale High School Student Handbook**  
**2023 - 2024**



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**"Ferndale Unified SD" - App**

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## Principal's Message

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and Board of Trustees, I welcome you to the 2023-2024 school year! It's going to be a great year, and I am looking forward to working with our students, families, and community.

It is an exciting time for Ferndale High School and the Ferndale Unified School District. We are continuously working to expand academic course offering and extracurricular activities. Ferndale High School is proud to offer our students a selection of Advanced Placement (AP) classes, Career and Technical Education courses (CTE), Agricultural courses, as well as a variety of elective courses. These courses and classes offer students the opportunity to choose classes that fit their interests and individual learning styles.

Ferndale High School has been in existence for over 115 (since 1904) years. It has a rich tradition and is an important source of community pride! Your time at Ferndale High School will help continue these traditions that are such a valuable part of the Ferndale community. Our local community is here to support you through attending athletic events, offering scholarships (over 200,000 dollars last year), and supporting clubs and student groups.

Our front office staff, Kristy Millsap and Rebecca Rocha, are here to help you. Parents and students, please familiarize yourselves with our school website, facebook page and App and all of the helpful information that is available online. This handbook is a tool to help you understand the policies and procedures we have in place to ensure a safe, positive and productive learning environment.

I want to thank our parents and community for your continuous and consistent support. Thank you in advance for your attendance at our events, for volunteering your time to help with events, for your support of our staff and programs, and especially thank you for sharing your students with us. Working together, we will have a fantastic year!

It's truly great to be a WILDCAT!

Jeremy Griffith, Principal

## Ferndale Unified School District Mission Statement

Ferndale Unified School District in partnership with parents and the community will provide in a structured, safe, efficient and caring environment, a challenging and stimulating educational experience while meeting the needs of all students and providing them with the skills necessary to succeed in the homes, work places, and communities of today and tomorrow. The District will also strive to develop the qualities of good character and responsible citizenship by fostering self-esteem, self-discipline, respect for the rights of others and the stewardship of our planet.

### SCHOOL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Danella Barnes-Penman, President  
Colton Brodt  
Mike Warner

Cliff Titus  
Julie Hagemann

*Board Meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. in the Ferndale High School Library*

### FERNDALE HIGH SCHOOL STAFF

#### Administration

Jeremy Griffith Principal

#### Office Staff

Kristy Millsap High School Secretary  
Rebecca Rocha High School Secretary

#### Pupil Services

Erin Bigham Counselor  
Leanne McCulloch Technology/Library Technician

### INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Alexa Alexandre	CTE/TPP Coordinator, ASB Advisor, Ag. Soil Chemistry, Floral Design
Henry Chiles	Yearbook Advisor, English 1, Student Success, Drama
Trevor Christiansen	Health & Safety/Drivers Education, PE
Megan Davie	Art
Kimberly Hendrickson	Algebra 1A, Algebra 1, Consumer Math
Jessica Frisk	Geometry, Algebra 2, Trigonometry/Pre-Calculus, AP Calculus, Data Analysis
Samuel Licon	Spanish 1, Spanish 2, Spanish 3, AP Spanish
Clint McClurg	Athletic Director, PE, Strength & Conditioning
Jodi McDonald	Athletic Trainer, Financial Management, Kinesiology & Patient Care, Sports Medicine & Advanced Patient Care
Jeff Michael	World Civilizations, U.S. History, AP U.S. History, Civics/Economics
Theresa Noga	Ag. Biology, Intro to Ag. Science, Farm to Table
Kelly O'Day	Ag. Mechanics, Rural Recreation, Adv. Interdisciplinary Ag. Science
Yohei Shiraishi	Biology, Chemistry, AP Environmental Science, Physics, Intro and AP Computer Science
Brandi Smith	English 2, English 3, English 4
Amanda Velazquez	Ed. Support, Basic English, Algebra 1A, TPP

**Instructional Assistants**

Kim Hindley

Instructional Aide

**Advisors**

FFA

Yearbook

Leo Club

Alexa Alexandre, Theresa Noga, Kelly O'Day

Henry Chiles

Henry Chiles, Dave & Bonnie Griffiths

**2023-2024 School Calendar**

August 28, 2023	First Day of School
September 4, 2023	Labor Day Holiday
October 27, 2023	End of 1st Quarter
November 10, 2023	Veterans' Day Observed
November 20-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 25, 2023 - Jan. 5, 2024	Winter Break
January 15, 2024	Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday
January 26, 2024	End of 1st Semester
February 19-23, 2024	Presidents' Week Break
April 5, 2024	End of 3rd Quarter
April 15-19, 2024	Spring Break
May 27, 2024	Memorial Day Holiday
June 13, 2024	End of 2nd Semester
June 14, 2024	Graduation

**BELL SCHEDULES**

<b>REGULAR</b>	<b>WEDNESDAYS - EARLY RELEASE</b>
<b>1</b> 8:30 - 9: 20	<b>1</b> 8:30 - 9:14
<b>2</b> 9:24 - 10:16	<b>2</b> 9:18 - 10:03
<b>3</b> 10:20 - 11:10	<b>3</b> 10:07 - 10:51
<b>4</b> 11:14 - 12:04	<b>4</b> 10:55 - 11:39
<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
<b>5</b> 12:42 - 1:32	<b>5</b> 12:15 - 12:59
<b>6</b> 1:36 - 2:26	<b>6</b> 1:03 - 1:47
<b>7</b> 2:30 - 3:20	<b>7</b> 1:51 - 2:35

## Graduation Requirements

Students earn five (5) credits each semester for each class they pass with a grade of D- or higher. Students must have a minimum total of 230 credits in order to graduate; those credits are divided as follows:

English	40 credits
Mathematics	30 credits (Must pass Algebra 1)
Social Studies	30 credits
Student Success	10 credits
Health & Safety/Drivers Ed	10 credits
Financial Management	10 credits
Science	20 credits (1 year physical science and 1 year bio. science)
Physical Education	20 credits
Foreign Language/Fine Arts	10 credits (Spanish/Drama/Film/Art/Floral/Ag. Mechanics)
Electives	50 credits

Total: 230 credits

### GRADE POINT AVERAGE CALCULATION

To establish a student's grade point average, the first quarter, first semester, third quarter and second semester grades are calculated and recorded. All grades are used in the calculation except for classes in which the student receives a "pass" or "fail" instead of a letter grade. Point values are as follows:

A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D+	1.3
B	3.0	D	1.0
B-	2.7	D-	0.7
C+	2.3	F	0.0

### COLLEGE GRADE POINT AVERAGES

Most colleges use semester grades issued in the tenth, eleventh and twelfth (if applicable) grades in college preparatory classes only (University of California A-G requirements). P.E. and pass/fail courses are not used in the calculation.

Colleges use the following point values:

**A: 4    B: 3    C: 2    D: 1    F: 0**

Up to eight semesters of AP or honors courses are allowed using the following point values:

**A: 5    B: 4    C: 3    D: 2    F: 0**

## **HONOR ROLL**

Students may qualify for **High Honors Honor Roll** in two ways:

1. Qualify for the California Scholastic Federation. A student must have at least two A's and one B in college preparatory classes approved by the University of California and at least one additional A from either a UC approved course or any other class other than PE. A "D" in a class is not allowed.
2. Earn an overall GPA of 3.5 or above. All classes in which a student is enrolled will be used to calculate this GPA. A "D" in any class is not allowed.

Note: In order to qualify for **Honor Roll**, a student must earn an overall GPA between 3.00 and

All classes in which a student is enrolled are used to calculate this GPA. The grade of "D" in any class is not allowed.

## **CLASS RANK**

To establish a student's class rank, semester grades issued in the 10th, 11th and 12th grades are used. All grades are used with the exception of PE and courses in which a student receives a "credit/no credit", "pass" or "fail" instead of a letter grade. Point values for letter grades are the same as those listed above.

## **GPA AND WORK PERMITS**

All students under 18 years of age who are working must fill out a work permit application. During the school year, a new work permit application must be filled out each time a student changes jobs or begins working more than the hours specified on the work permit. Summer work permits are good for all summer and all employers. Students may obtain applications in the main office. **A student who fails to earn a 2.0 GPA, or who has more than one grade of F in a grading period, or has eight or more days of absence in a quarter will have their work permit revoked.**

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS–PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES**

To participate in any extracurricular activity with Ferndale High School, a student must have obtained at least a "C" average (2.0) during the previous grading period (approximately 4 weeks – end of progress report period, end of quarter and end of semester). When two grades are issued simultaneously, such as at the end of the second and fourth quarters, scholastic eligibility will be established by the grades issued for credit. This grade point average will be based on a 4.0 scale and plus and minus grades will be used to calculate the grade point average.

Students in grades 9-12 with two or more failing grades (F's) during any grading period become ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the following grade period (approximately 4 weeks) regardless of GPA.

Any student who fails to maintain his/her eligibility will become ineligible one calendar week following the first day of the new grading period. They shall remain ineligible for the entire grading period (4 weeks) and they may not participate in any extra-curricular activities contests.

# Homework and Make-Up Work

## **HOMEWORK**

The Ferndale Unified School District recognizes that not all learning takes place in the classroom.

Development of study habits and application of study skills are necessary for continued independent learning. Therefore, it should be emphasized that regular assignments outside the instructional day are to be deemed a part of the total instructional program and should be as frequent as necessary for the student to develop mastery of the subject.

Homework is an extension and reflection of instruction. It provides opportunities for:

1. Practice to promote mastery of skills.
2. Development of independence and responsibility in students.
3. Parents/guardians to become familiar with the curriculum and support the educational experience.
4. Prepare students for new material.
5. Reinforce and expand classroom instruction.

## **MAKE-UP WORK**

The teacher of any class from which a student has an excused absence shall determine what assignments the student shall make up and in what period of time the student shall have to complete such assignments. Tests and assignments may be the same as those missed, or shall be reasonably equivalent to them. Students who have unexcused absences may be denied make-up privileges, and this may be reflected in the student's final grade. The teacher of any class from which a pupil is suspended may require the suspended pupil to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension.

## **PROGRESS REPORTS**

Progress reports will be issued at mid-quarter. This notice generally allows sufficient time for a student to improve their academic standing. These progress reports will be mailed home and will include attendance and behavior records. Note: Parents/guardians are encouraged to communicate with teachers at any time during the school year to help ensure timely and accurate information regarding a student's academic, behavioral and attendance standing. Additionally, parents may check student grades and attendance using the Aeries portal under the Student Resources tab on the school webpage([www.ferndalek12.org/fhs](http://www.ferndalek12.org/fhs)) or by downloading the Aeries Mobile Portal App.

## **REPORT CARDS**

Report cards are issued at 9-week intervals. The two 9-week periods comprise a semester. Only semester grades are recorded on the permanent record of each student. Students are urged to discuss their work and grading system with teachers to ensure good understanding. Report cards will be mailed home and will include attendance and behavior records.

The letter grade system is used, with "A" denoting outstanding work, "B" above-average work, "C" average work, "D" below average work, and "F" failing. Students not completing their work by the end of the grading period, due to unforeseen circumstances, may be given an "incomplete."

An "incomplete" may be issued by the student's instructor. This determination often results from collaboration with the parent, student, teacher, counselor and principal.

A student who receives an "incomplete" grade on the report card may have a maximum of ten school days following the last day of the quarter in which to submit the course work required to change the



“incomplete” grade to a letter grade. A one-day extension for each full day of excused absence will be granted up to a maximum of ten days – at which time all “incompletes” must be cleared. If an incomplete is not cleared within the 10 day or shorter period, the “incomplete” will be recorded as an “F” grade.

## **Attendance Policies and Procedures**

**Daily student attendance is of prime importance in the educational process.** All students are expected to attend school for all days of the established school calendar as adopted by the Board of Education and the California Education Code. **Attendance is the responsibility of the student, parents and the school.** The importance of regular daily attendance as a basis for academic achievement cannot be over emphasized. All absences have a negative effect upon instructional continuity, regardless of the attempts to make up work. The regular contact of students with instruction, active dialogue and participation in classes, and instructional activities under the guidance of teachers is vital to a complete educational experience.

**Students with excused absences (Ed. Code 46010) shall be allowed to make up class work missed:** The teacher of any class from which a pupil has an excused or parent verified absence shall determine, pursuant to regulations of the Governing Board, what assignments the pupil shall make up and in what period of time the pupil shall complete such assignments. Tests, assignments and quizzes may be the same as those missed or be reasonably equivalent.

Students receive an excused absence when they are absent from school for any of the following reasons (Pursuant to Ed. Code 46010):

1. Student illness or injury
2. Verified medical or dental appointment
3. Attendance at funeral services of a member of the immediate family
4. Serving on a jury or a scheduled court appearance/appointment
5. Observance of a holiday or ceremony of their religion
6. A pre-approved employment conference

### **School related absences are excused absences:**

Activities that are school related need to be clearly identified in advance of the absences. FFA contests, college visits, athletic games/trips, etc., need to be approved as school related absences by the administration prior to the absence or the absences will be recorded as unexcused.

### **Extracurricular participation and Absences:**

A student who misses **any portion** of the school day (except for a verified medical or dental appointment) **will not be allowed to participate** in extracurricular activities (practice, games, contests, etc.) **on that school day**. Any student who misses any portion of a school day on a Friday will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities on the Saturday immediately following. Exceptions will be made for athletes who bring a note from a doctor or dentist verifying an appointment, or for *athletes with extenuating circumstances who have obtained permission to practice or play from the Principal.*

### **Permission to leave campus:**

Any student leaving campus other than for lunch must first obtain a Permission to Leave Campus Pass from the office. **Any student that leaves campus without a Permission to Leave Campus Pass will receive an unexcused absence. We prefer that parents call the office rather than disturb their student in class by calling or texting their cell phone. Thank you.**

### **Readmission Following Absence:**

If a student does not have parental verification upon returning to school, his/her admission slip will be recorded as “unexcused”. The student then has three (3) school days to provide acceptable

parent/guardian verification to clear the unexcused absence. **After three (3) school days, the absence will become a permanent unexcused absence.**

If a student goes to a medical or dental appointment, verification from the office visited will need to be provided when the student returns to school or the following morning when a student is released early for an appointment. Eighteen year old students will **not** be allowed to authorize absences. All student absences will be verified by the parent/guardian of the student. An eighteen-year-old student living independently from their parent/ guardian may petition the School Board for permission to authorize absences.

**Tardy Procedures:**

To promote a responsible, respectful and effective learning environment it is necessary for students to be in class and on time to class. A student is tardy if they are not in their classroom ready to learn when the bell rings. Teachers will record tardies in Aeries. Beginning with the second recorded tardy, students will be assigned infraction minutes.

**Consequences for Tardies and Cut Classes:**

**An Unexcused Tardy of less than 10 minutes will result in 10 infraction minutes. A tardy of more than 10 minutes will result in 20 infraction minutes. An uncleared absence (skipping class or leaving campus without an off campus slip) will result in 30 infraction minutes.**

**When 60 infraction minutes have accumulated, a student must serve a 60 minute after school detention in order to clear the minutes back to 0. A student who has 60 infraction minutes or more who does not serve the detention at the first available opportunity will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities until their minutes have been served and they return to a balance of less than 60 minutes.** This includes athletics practices or contests, FFA, Clubs or School Trips that are beyond the regular school day. Once the student has served an hour (60 minutes) of detention in either After School Detention or All Day Detention then they go back to (zero) 0 minutes. The student is responsible for signing up for and attending the detentions needed to clear minutes.

**Students who do not serve their detention in a timely manner will be assigned an ALL DAY**

**DETENTION.** Students who are assigned all day detention are responsible for making up the class work missed during the detention and credit will be awarded for this make-up work. In addition, students with three or more unexcused absences (cut), or three unexcused tardies in excess of 30 minutes, will be declared habitually truant and may be referred to the School Attendance Review Board. Students are responsible for keeping up with class work missed during unexcused absences that are not detentions or suspensions; however, no credit will be given for the work.

**Family Supervised Absence(s):**

For family travel, each student will be permitted Family Supervised Absence(s) not to exceed five (5) school days, (recorded with a "K" in Aeries) each school year. The intent of this policy is to permit, but not encourage, students to travel with their parents/guardians for family trips that cannot be scheduled during a school recess. Family Supervised Absences will be excused absence and must be approved by the school administration 3 - 5 school days prior to the absences or they will be recorded as unexcused absences. All student work must be turned in to their teacher(s) on the first day back to school after the Family Supervised Absence for a student to receive credit. We encourage students who are going to be gone for family trips to complete Independent Study contracts whenever possible.

**Short Term Independent Study:**

Students or parents may request a short term Independent Study contract for time away from school (pre-planned absence) for 3 or more days (up to 20 school days). Arrangements for Independent Study must be made in advance of the time away from school. Approval by the Principal is required at least one week in advance. Students must complete all assigned work in order to receive attendance and academic credit for the days of absence. All student work must be turned in to their teacher(s) on the first day back to school after the short term independent study for a student to receive credit.

# School-Wide Student and Staff Responsibilities and Expectations

## BE ON TIME

We will:

- ❖ Take start and end times seriously
- ❖ Be considerate of others by arriving on time
- ❖ Turn in assignments on time
- ❖ Plan ahead
- ❖ Show up ready to learn

## BE RESPECTFUL

We will:

- ❖ Treat everyone with dignity and respect
- ❖ Use appropriate language
- ❖ Be kind, not hurtful
- ❖ Be open-minded
- ❖ Take care of our environment, including personal and school property

## BE RESPONSIBLE AND PRODUCTIVE

We will:

- ❖ Follow through on commitments
- ❖ Come prepared
- ❖ Be accountable for choices and actions and understand and accept the consequences
- ❖ Use planning tools to organize time and obligations
- ❖ Plan to succeed

## BE SAFE

We will:

- ❖ Act in a manner that does not endanger self or others
- ❖ Resolve conflicts peacefully
- ❖ Establish and maintain an environment that is free from harassment, violence and bullying
- ❖ Be aware of surroundings at all times
- ❖ Report unsafe situations and conditions

## Student Conduct

All guidelines for Student Conduct at Ferndale High are developed from Board Policy, Education Code, and State/Federal laws and regulations [Board Policy 5131(a-b)]. Ferndale High School's staff and students are encouraged to adhere to a set of core beliefs when addressing issues of student conduct. These core beliefs are:

- Every attempt will be made to maintain the dignity and self-respect of both student and adult.
- Students will be guided and expected to solve problems they create without creating problems for anyone else.
- Students will be given opportunities to make decisions and live with the natural and/or logical consequences of their decisions – be they good or bad.

Students will be given the opportunity to share their information or let their concerns be heard at an appropriate time and place.

## Student Expectations

### CELL PHONES

To promote a respectful, non-distracted, and effective learning environment, electronic devices **must be turned off and put away during class time**. The school is not responsible for lost or stolen electronic devices. If a device is used or turned on during instructional time, it will be confiscated. Students who refuse to relinquish cell phones and other devices upon the teacher's first request will receive additional disciplinary consequences. **We ask parents to call the office rather than disturb their student in class by calling or texting their cell phone. Thank you.**

#### Consequences for misuse of Electronic Devices:

1. On the first offense of inappropriate use or refusal to put away a cell phone or device, the classroom teacher will confiscate cell phones, electronic devices, headphones, etc. The teacher will return it at the end of the class period. A 30 minute infraction may be assigned.
2. On the second offense of inappropriate use or refusal to put away a cell phone or device, the classroom teacher will confiscate the item and it will be stored in the office until the end of the school day. The student will receive 30 infraction minutes and have an appointment with the principal.
3. On the third offense of inappropriate use or refusal to put away a cell phone or device, the classroom teacher will confiscate the item and it will be stored in the office until the end of the school day. A parent or guardian will need to come to the office to claim the item. The student will receive 30 infraction minutes.
4. Any further confiscations will result in In-School Suspension and a parent or guardian will need to come to the office to claim the item.

### FOOD/DRINK

Teacher specific rules and procedures will be in place for the allowance of food and drink in their classrooms. Students are responsible for knowing and following the rules of each teacher/classroom.

### PARKING LOT

The parking lot is off limits during class time unless a student has written staff permission to access their vehicle or unless a student is using their vehicle to arrive or depart (with a signed off campus slip). Students who do not have a scheduled class (off campus privileges) may not "hang out" in the parking lot, they must be off campus. **Students in the parking lot or their cars during class time will receive infraction minutes. Students may not park in the Staff/Ag. Parking lot. This will be enforced and students will receive infraction minutes and be cited if needed.**

**OFF-CAMPUS LUNCH**

Lunch away from campus is considered a privilege. This privilege may be revoked due to rule violation(s).

**DRIVING**

Students are to drive safely and cautiously at all times. Students violating this expectation (whether on school grounds or other school sponsored activities) may lose their privilege of having a vehicle at school, receive 30 infraction minutes and/or be subject to a police citation.

**SKATEBOARDS/BICYCLES/SCOOTERS**

No skateboards, bicycles or scooters are allowed on campus. Students using skateboards, bicycles or scooters as transportation to school must place them in a locker, bike rack or other place provided by the school staff upon arrival at school. Skateboards, bicycles or scooters in use on campus will be confiscated.

**HATS/HOODS/SUNGLASSES/HEADPHONES/EARBUDS**

Teacher specific rules and procedures will be in place for the allowance of these items in their classrooms. Students are responsible for knowing and following the rules of each teacher/classroom.

**APPROPRIATE CLOTHING**

Dress and grooming for a public school setting means that certain styles and types of clothing are appropriate during the regular school day. Examples of inappropriate school clothing include but are not limited to the following: revealing (exposed posteriors, cleavage, midriffs, underclothing, etc.) and/or sheer clothing, short shorts or short skirts. Just as certain clothing is appropriate for the workplace, certain clothing is appropriate for the public school place. In addition, clothing that depicts crude, vulgar, suggestive symbols, inappropriate language, slogans, weapons, gang affiliation, sexual innuendo and/or advertises drugs or alcohol is not to be worn at school. Shoes are to be worn at all times for safety purposes.

**FOUL LANGUAGE/VULGARITY/OBSCENITY**

Foul language, vulgarity and obscenity will not be tolerated and will result in infraction minutes and/or suspension.

**TOBACCO**

Students may not smoke on campus or have tobacco/vape products or devices. Possession of tobacco and paraphernalia will result in suspension and removal from extra-curricular activities.

**ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND OTHER DRUGS**

The Principal shall take appropriate action to eliminate possession, use or sale of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs and related paraphernalia (This includes vape/electronic cigarette devices of any kind) on school grounds, at school events, or in any situation in which the school is responsible for the conduct and well-being of students. School authorities may search students and school properties for the possession of alcohol and other drugs in accordance with law, board policy and administrative regulations.

## **Anti- Bullying Policy**

Bullying by students is strictly prohibited in school board policy. The board, school administration and staff recognizes that bullying creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation, detracts from the safe environment necessary for student learning, and may lead to more serious violence.

### **DEFINITION**

Bullying means an intentional, repeated and targeted electronic, written, verbal or physical act or series of acts directed at another student or students, which occurs in a school setting or where the behavior directly impacts the school setting, that is severe, persistent or pervasive and has the effect of doing any of the following:

- Substantial interference with a student's education.
- Creation of a threatening environment.
- Substantial disruption of the orderly operation of the school.

### **REPORTING AND DISCIPLINE**

Students who have been bullied should promptly report such incidents to a teacher, counselor or the principal. Complaints will be investigated promptly, and corrective action will be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality of all parties shall be maintained, consistent with the district's legal and investigative obligations. Reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of good faith reports of bullying will not be tolerated.

A student who violates this policy shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action consistent with the Code of Student Conduct, which may include, but not be limited to:

1. Counseling within the school
2. Parental conference.
3. Detentions
4. Loss of school privileges
5. Exclusion from school-sponsored activities
6. Transfer to another school building, classroom or school bus
7. Suspension
8. Counseling/Therapy outside of school
9. Referral to law enforcement officials
10. Expulsion

### **BULLYING PREVENTION**

Ferndale High School utilizes robust transition and mentoring programs, involving students and adults, to help incoming students feel comfortable and connected in their new schools. The low teacher to student ratio helps students to get ample support when needed. We encourage any student who witnesses or experiences bullying to report it to an adult they trust at the school. Our ASB program and social-emotional curriculum encourage reporting and standing up to bullying.

# **Ferndale Unified School District**

## **Student Acceptable Use Policy for Use of all Electronic Resources**

### **Introduction**

The Ferndale Unified School District (FUSD) is providing electronic resources to students including access to the school Local Area Network, Ferndale Unified School District Wide Area Network, and Internet services through the FUSD network. The goal of the FUSD is to promote educational excellence by providing these electronic resources. The intent of the FUSD is for students to use these connections for purposes consistent with curriculum, **not for personal use. FUSD printers are only for educational use, not personal printing.**

### ***Administrative Regulation “Student Use of Technology” Conditions of Acceptable Use Policies***

No students will be allowed to access these electronic resources including the Internet unless the student and a responsible parent/guardian sign and submit or electronically accept the FUSD Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) to the designated program administrator. The combined signatures at the end of this document indicate that student and parent/guardian have read and understand the terms and conditions of appropriate use and agree to abide by them.

### **Access and Security**

Some uses of the FUSD electronic resources may require an individual account with username and password. Students identified as a security risk may be denied access to these resources. **Sharing username and password information with others or accessing another user’s files without his/her knowledge or permission or under the direction of a teacher/supervisor will result in access being revoked or suspended.** In addition, inappropriate use of these electronic resources may result in disciplinary action (including the possibility of suspension or expulsion), and/or referral to legal authorities.

### **Internet Safety**

In compliance with the Children’s Internet Protection Act (CIPA), FUSD will implement filtering and/or blocking software or hardware to restrict access to Internet sites containing child pornography, obscene illustrations, or other materials harmful to minors less than 18 years of age. However, no filtering is foolproof and there is still the risk a student may be exposed to unacceptable content. If a student accidentally connects to such a site, they should contact their teacher/supervisor immediately. If a student sees another user accessing inappropriate sites, they should notify a teacher/supervisor immediately.

### **Cybersafety / Cyberbullying**

Students should be aware of online safety rules including protecting yourself and others from online predators. Students should not give out personal or identifiable information about themselves or others. Students need to be aware that there are online predators on the internet disguising themselves to gather personal and identifiable information to do harm to you and others. Cyberbullying will not be tolerated (See: Student Obligations and Responsibilities item #4) and may result in disciplinary/legal actions.

### **Acceptable Use**

Acceptable use means that a student uses these resources in an appropriate manner, abiding by the rules and regulations described in this agreement and avoiding all unacceptable uses of these electronic resources as described below.

### **Unacceptable Use and Potential Consequences**

Unacceptable use of FUSD technological resources are outlined in the following section (Student Obligations and Responsibilities). Student use of FUSD technological resources may be terminated, denied, suspended or revoked at any time. Disciplinary and/or legal action may be pursued in the event of violation of any conditions of applicable law, Board policy, administrative regulation, or the Student Acceptable Use Policy.

### **Cell Phones and Other Communications Gear**

Cell phones and other communication equipment/devices must not disrupt the education goals of FUSD. Use of these devices during scheduled class time is prohibited. FUSD acknowledges the need for students and families to communicate with cell phones. Cell phones and other electronic devices may be used during breaks and lunchtime at the discretion of the classroom teacher and must align with established classroom rules and procedures.

### **Ipad, Laptops, Netbooks and Other Computer Equipment/Gear**

The Humboldt County Office of Education governing board does not authorize the use of any electronic signaling device or computing system not provided directly by FUSD Information Technology department to pupils, teachers or administrators of the FUSD, during anytime pursuant to California Educational Code 48901.5.

No individual shall be prohibited from possessing or using an electronic signaling device that is determined by a licensed physician and surgeon essential for the health of the individual and use of which is limited to purposes related to the health of the individual

FUSD assumes no liability for any electronic devices that will be confiscated if a violation of FUSD policies and/or lost/stolen from a designated FUSD facility.

### **Student Obligations and Responsibilities**

Students are authorized to use technological resources of the FUSD in accordance with user obligations and responsibilities specified below. In effect, students may not violate any Federal, State or local laws or use the FUSD network for any illegal activity, including the unlawful use of copyrighted works, plagiarism and unlawful downloading of files. Specifically:

1. Students shall not disclose, use, distribute, publish, e-mail, hyperlink, or make available for downloading personal identifying information about themselves or anyone else when using electronic mail, chat rooms, or other forms of direct electronic communication. Personal identifying information includes, but is not limited to, digital images, full names, personal account access information, home addresses, phone numbers, Social Security numbers, and other individually identifiable information.
2. Students shall not use technological resources for commercial or other for-profit activities, political purposes, or personal use unrelated to an educational purpose.
3. Students are prohibited from accessing, downloading, posting, transmitting, publishing or displaying harmful or inappropriate matter that is threatening, obscene, disruptive or sexually explicit, or that could be construed as harassment or disparagement of any member of a group protected by state or federal law. Harmful matter as defined by Penal Code section 313(a) means matter, taken as a whole, which to the average person, applying contemporary statewide standards, appeals to the prurient interest, and is matter which, taken as a whole, depicts or describes in a patently offensive way sexual conduct and which, taken as a whole, lacks serious literary, artistic, political, or scientific value for minors.
4. Students shall not use technological resources to participate in cyberbullying. Cyberbullying is defined as intentional harm inflicted through electronic media and includes, but is not limited to, the sending or posting on the Internet, social networking sites, or other digital technologies harassing messages, direct threats, socially cruel, intimidating, terrorizing, or otherwise harmful text or images, as well as breaking into another person's account and assuming that person's identity for harmful purposes.
5. Students shall not use technological resources to encourage the use of drugs, alcohol, or tobacco, or to promote or participate in unethical practices, such as cheating and plagiarism, or conduct any activity prohibited by law, Board policy, or administrative regulation.
6. Students shall not use technological resources to post, transmit, or publish copyrighted material, including multimedia and software without appropriate permission or user license. Students may download copyrighted material for their own academic use only as permitted by copyright laws.
7. Students shall not knowingly access and without permission read, delete, copy, or modify other users' electronic files or mail messages; interfere with other users' ability to send or receive electronic content; or forge or fraudulently use other users' electronic files or mail.



8. Students shall not damage or take any equipment or use technological resources to commit acts of vandalism. Any damage to or theft of FUSD equipment can lead to financial or criminal charges. Vandalism includes, but is not limited to, hacking, intentionally uploading, downloading, transferring, or creating computer viruses and/or any malicious use of FUSD technology equipment. Also included are any actions that attempt to harm or destroy equipment or materials, whether paper, microform or electronically based, or data in any form of any other user. Public offenses related to computer crime are further defined in Penal Code section 502.
9. Students shall not purposefully disable or circumvent any technology protection measure installed on FUSD technological resources.
10. **Playing or downloading games** is not consistent with educational use, and not allowed.

Students shall report alleged violations of the student obligations and responsibilities specified above, the applicable acceptable use policy, and any other misuse of technological resources to a member of the instructional staff, a supervising adult, or a designated FUSD employee.

### **Privacy and Monitoring Policy**

The students of the FUSD network must be aware that information accessed, created, sent, received or stored on the FUSD Network or school sites are the property of the FUSD . Account users do not have any right to or expectation of privacy regarding such materials. FUSD reserves the right to monitor all traffic on the FUSD network.

**Ferndale Unified School District  
Student Acceptable Use Policy Contract For Use of All  
Electronic Information Resources**

**STUDENT AGREEMENT:**

The acceptable and unacceptable uses of the FUSD network and the Internet are described in this "Student Acceptable Use Agreement" for Humboldt County Office of Education/Court and Community School. By signing this agreement, I acknowledge that I have read, understand and agree to abide by the provisions of the attached Student Acceptable Use Policy. I understand that any violations of the above could result in the immediate loss of electronic computing and may result in further disciplinary and/or legal action, including but not limited to suspension, or referral to legal authorities. I also agree to report any misuse of the FUSD network to school site teacher or administrator. Misuse can come in many forms but can be viewed as any messages sent or received that indicate or suggest pornography, unethical or illegal solicitation, racism, sexism, inappropriate language, and other issues described under the unacceptable uses in this Acceptable Use Policy. I realize that all the rules of conduct described in this FUSD Acceptable Use Policy, procedures, and handbooks apply when I am using the FUSD network.

**Student Name: (Please print):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**PARENT OR GUARDIAN AGREEMENT:**

(Students under the age of 18 must have a parent or guardian who has read and signed this Acceptable Use Contract.)

As a parent or guardian of this student, I have read this Acceptable Use Policy and understand that the use of the FUSD network is designated for educational purposes only. I understand that it is impossible for the FUSD to restrict access to all controversial materials, and I will not hold the FUSD responsible for materials acquired on the FUSD network or Internet. I also agree to report any misuse of these electronic resources to the school administrator. I accept full responsibility for my child should they use remote connections when available to the FUSD network in a non-school setting. I hereby give my permission to issue an account for my child to use the FUSD network and Internet. I release FUSD, its affiliates and its employees from any claims or damages of any nature arising from my child or dependent's access and use of the FUSD network. I also agree not to hold FUSD responsible for materials improperly acquired on the system, or for violations of copyright restrictions, user's mistakes or negligence, or any costs incurred by users. This agreement shall be governed by and construed under the laws of the United States and the State of California.

**Student Name: (Please print):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Name (Please print):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Consequences for Misbehavior

In order to encourage students to take responsibility for their actions, Ferndale High has adopted a direct and strong climate program that puts the responsibility back on the students, is clear to the students, and is easily measured.

Students who are on time, have cleared absences and exhibit positive behavior and citizenship will receive zero (0) minutes. Zero (0) minutes is the goal for all students.

### **Infractions and the minutes they cost:**

Tardy (up to 10 minutes) = 10 minutes

Late (up to 20 minutes) = 20 minutes

Uncleared Absence / Cut Class = 30 minutes Behavior reported to the principal = 30 minutes

Confiscation of phone or device for misuse = 30 minutes

Leaving School Grounds without obtaining an off campus slip = 30 minutes

For each day that After-School detention is offered that a student does not complete her or his 60 minute detention = an additional 10 minutes

Unpaid fees, not returning uniforms and athletic equipment, first of the year paperwork or registration for classes not turned in, etc. = 10 minutes for each day late.

**After receiving an accumulation of 60 infraction minutes, students are not allowed to participate in ANY school sponsored or directed extracurricular/co-curricular activities unless they have served the first available (Tuesdays and Thursdays) 60 minute after school detention. A student who has 60 infraction minutes or more who does not serve the detention at the first available opportunity will not be allowed to participate in any extra-curricular activities until their minutes have been served and they return to a balance of less than 60 minutes.** This includes athletics practices or contests, FFA, Clubs or School Trips, dances or events that are beyond the regular school day. Once the student has served an hour (60 minutes) of detention in either After School Detention, All Day Detention or Saturday school, then they go back to (zero) 0 minutes. The student is responsible for signing up for and attending the detentions needed to clear minutes.

After School Detention and All Day Detention are **consistent and structured**. Student phones must be either given to a supervisor or turned off and stored in a backpack. If a phone goes off or comes out, the supervisor is allowed to add an additional 10 minutes of infraction time. Students must bring homework, missing assignments, books, etc. to complete assignments. If the student does not bring something to quietly work on, they are not allowed admittance and supervisor can add an additional 10 infraction minutes. Students must sign in and out to verify attendance. The door is locked when Detention begins. If a student is late they must sign up again and they will receive an additional 10 infraction minutes.

**Students who receive ZERO infraction minutes for a semester will be entered in a drawing to win prizes.**

# STUDENT DISCIPLINE

**Prohibited Behavior** includes but is not limited to:

1. Behavior that endangers students and/or staff
2. Behavior that disrupts the orderly classroom or school environment
3. Harassment of students or staff, including bullying, intimidation or any other verbal, written or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause bodily harm or emotional suffering
4. Damage to or theft of property belonging to the students, staff, or district
5. Profane, vulgar or abusive language
6. Plagiarism, use of Artificial Intelligence, or any form of dishonesty in schoolwork
7. Inappropriate dress
8. Tardiness and unexcused absences from school
9. Failure to remain on school premises in accordance with school rules
10. Use, possession and/or sale of alcohol, tobacco or other drugs or paraphernalia (This includes vape/electronic cigarette devices of any kind)
11. Defiance of valid authority

Prohibited behavior will result in the assigning of infraction minutes for detention, after school detention, all day detention and/or suspension or expulsion.

## **Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion**

A pupil shall not be suspended from school or recommended for expulsion, unless the superintendent or the principal of the school in which the pupil is enrolled determines that the pupil has committed an act as defined pursuant to any of the subdivisions (a) to (w) of education Code 48900:

- (a) (1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person. (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
- (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless in the case of possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.
- (c) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- (d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage or intoxicant.
- (e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.
- (f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.
- (g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.
- (h) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit the use or possession of by a pupil of his or her own prescription products.
- (i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- (j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.
- (k) (1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise wilfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.  
(2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 3, inclusive, shall not be suspended for an of the acts enumerated in this subdivision, and this

subdivision shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.

- (l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.
- (m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.
- (n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 288, 288a, or 289 of the Penal Code or committed a sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.
- (o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for purposes of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.
- (p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.
- (q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pulp organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.
- (r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following means:
  - (1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following
    - (A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.
    - (B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on his or her physical or mental health.
    - (C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her academic performance.
    - (D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with his or her ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.
  - (2) (A) "Electronic act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
    - (i) A message, text, sound, video, or image.
    - (ii) A post on social network Internet Web site, including, but not limited to:
      - (I) Posting to or creating a burn page. "Burn page" means an Internet Web site created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1).
      - (II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.
      - (III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created a false profile.

recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in sub paragraphs (A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described above, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act

(III) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" does not include a depiction, portrayal, or image that has any serious literary, artistic, educational, political, or scientific value or that involves athletic events or school-sanctioned activities.

- (B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the Internet or is currently posted on the Internet.
- (3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, an exceptional needs pupil, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of his or her age, or for a person of his or her age with his or her exceptional needs.
- (s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including but not limited to, any of the following:
- (1) While on school grounds.
  - (2) While going to or coming from school.
  - (3) During the lunch period whether on or off campus.
- (t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).
- (u) As used in this section, "school property" includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.
- (v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal may use his or her discretion to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil's specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.
- (w) It is the intent of the Legislature that alternatives to suspension or expulsion be imposed against a pupil who is truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.

*(Amended by Stats. 2018, Ch. 32, Sec. 49. (AB 1808) Effective June 27, 2018.)*

Note: A student may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated above and related to school activities or attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- a. While on school grounds
- b. While going to or coming from school.
- c. During the lunch period whether on or off campus.
- d. During, or while going to or coming from a school sponsored activity.

## Drug Testing

To support the District's substance abuse prevention efforts, the Board desires to establish a drug testing program in the District's high school that will provide a deterrent from drug use and help refer those involved with controlled substances to appropriate counseling and rehabilitative services.

Board has established the following types of drug testing programs:

- 1) Voluntary Drug Testing and
- 2) Drug Testing of Students Participating in Extracurricular Activities.  
(Board Policy 5131.61(a-b) and Administrative Regulations 5131.61(a-c))

### **Random Drug Testing – Student Participation In Extracurricular Activities**

The Superintendent or designee shall establish a non-voluntary, random drug-testing program for all students participating in athletics and other extracurricular activities. A drug testing consent form is to be signed by the student and his/her parent/guardian prior to allowing the student to participate in any athletic or extracurricular activity. The consent form shall indicate any prescription medication the student has been or is presently taking. The student shall present either a copy of the prescription or a physician's written verification of this fact with the consent form.

Procedures addressing how students will be selected, how often tests will be conducted, how samples will be collected and transported, and how results will be confirmed shall be made clear to students and parents.

Drug testing procedures shall ensure appropriate individual privacy while maintaining the viability of the process. If urinalysis testing is used, the supervisor collecting the specimen shall be the same gender as the student and the specimen shall be collected in a private facility behind a closed stall.

Parents/guardians shall be notified after any positive test results are confirmed. Test results shall be kept separate from the student's other educational records and shall be disclosed only to school staff designated by the Superintendent or designee as responsible for program implementation.

The district shall not release test results to law enforcement authorities.

No disciplinary or punitive action shall be taken against any student who tests positive, other than removing him/her from participation in extracurricular activities. Students who test positive shall be encouraged to participate in an assistance program and may be required to take subsequent drug tests.

A student who has been removed from participation in extracurricular activities may appeal that decision to the Superintendent or designee and then to the school board.

# Ferndale High School Athletic Code of Conduct

Participation in a public high school athletic program is a privilege. With this privilege comes certain responsibilities since student athletes represent their school in the classroom, in the hallways, in the athletic arena and in the community.

Interscholastic athletics are an integral part of a student athlete's total educational experience. A successful athletic program is based on the athlete's ability to balance their participation with their academic requirements. Academic achievement comes first. In athletics, our goal is to provide a safe, structured environment where student athletes can develop responsibility, work ethic, trust, loyalty, self-esteem and self-discipline.

An athletic code of conduct is supported by the school district to protect the health, safety and welfare of all students, coaches and community members. The strenuous nature of athletics and the rigors of competition demand that a high standard of behavior on the part of all student athletes be maintained at all times. Furthermore, a code of conduct provides parents with support in dealing with potential challenges with their student and it provides incentive for the athlete to deal appropriately with negative peer pressure.

All student athletes at Ferndale High School are expected to uphold high standards of conduct, both on and off the playing courts and fields. By signing the Athletic Code of Conduct a student athlete acknowledges:

1. To participate in any extracurricular activity with Ferndale High School, a student must have obtained at least a "C" average (2.0) during the previous grading period (approximately 4 weeks - end of progress report period, end of quarter and end of semester). When two grades are issued simultaneously, such as at the end of the second and fourth quarters, scholastic eligibility will be established by the grades issued for credit. This grade point average will be based on a 4.0 scale and plus and minus grades will be used to calculate the grade point average. Students with two or more failing grades during any grading period become ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities for the following grade period (approximately 4 weeks) regardless of GPA.
2. **Each athlete is expected to attend a full school day each day of the season of sport.** Athletes who are absent from school on a day of practice or a game a Friday prior to a Saturday practice or game, will not be allowed to practice or play on Saturday. Exceptions will be made for athletes who bring a note from a doctor or dentist verifying an appointment, or for athletes with extenuating circumstances who have obtained permission to practice or play from the Principal.
3. Each athlete is expected to contact a coach before practice if he/she is going to be absent from a practice or a game. Failure to do so will result in an unexcused absence, which will be dealt with in reduced playing time (coach's discretion) or removal from the team (coach's discretion) depending upon the situation. Each athlete will be punctual to practice and games. Failure to do so can result in reduced playing time.
4. No athlete will engage in criminal activity, including the use or possession of alcohol or drugs at any time during the season of sport. An athlete violating this code will be removed from the team. A coach of any Ferndale team is responsible for reporting offenders. Violation of any school rules may also result in removal from the team or reduced playing time, at the discretion of the coach and/or school officials. A student athlete violating any of the following rules during a sport season shall be subject to the consequences outlined below:
  - a. Unlawful possession, use, sale furnishing or being under the influence of an alcoholic beverage, an intoxicant of any kind or any controlled substance (Ed Code 48900 C&D)
  - b. Unlawful possession, sale or use of any drug paraphernalia as defined in section 11364 of the Health and Safety Code
  - c. Possession, use and/or sale of tobacco in any form
  - d. Possession, use and/or sale of a vaping device in any form
  - e. Possessing, selling, furnishing or brandishing any firearm, knife, explosive or other weapon as defined in Section 48900 of the Education Code
  - f. Being cited by law enforcement or suspended by administration for assault and/or battery on another person



- g. Being cited for any other felony or misdemeanor involving a controlled substance
  - i. Consequences:
    1. First Violation - Removal from the team for the remainder of the sport season
    2. Second Violation - No athletic participation for a full calendar year
    3. Third Violation - No athletic participation for the rest of high school
- 5. Student athletes may be tested for the presence of illegal drugs during each sports season and shall be subject to random drug testing during the entire season. Players will be tested based on percentages of the team size. The percentage will be 20% or no less than two, and players will be chosen at random. Students desiring to participate in a district athletic program shall first provide their parent/guardian's written consent for urinalysis testing. (Board Policy 5131.61) When a student athlete receives a positive test result from drug testing, the following steps will take place:
  - a. A parent/guardian will be contacted.
  - b. The student athlete will be asked to provide another sample.
  - c. The student athlete will be removed from the team upon the second positive test.
  - d. The student athlete must test negative in order to play in the next season of sport.
- 6. Student athletes suspected or found with flavored tobacco/nicotine products shall be subject to a pat down. If found the consequences are as follows:
  - a. First Violation - Removal from the team for the remainder of the sport season
  - b. Second Violation - No athletic participation for a full calendar year
  - c. Third Violation - No athletic participation for the rest of high school
- 7. Student athletes are committed to participation for an entire season of sport. Any athlete who chooses not to complete the season, or is removed from a team for any reason, will be denied athletic points and awards for that sport or join another team during that sport season. Students who quit a sport also remove themselves from consideration for the Senior Athlete Award.
- 8. Student athletes must travel to and from all athletic events using school approved transportation. If a student athlete is released by a coach, a parent/guardian may provide transportation. An adult (21 years or older) approved in writing by parent/guardian may transport a student athlete if they get clearance in the school office in advance. Athletes must sign out with the coach before leaving with the approved parent/guardian.
- 9. A team uniform, provided by Ferndale High, must be returned, replaced or paid for before a student can participate on another team or receive awards. Seniors who have not returned uniforms/equipment must return them or pay before receiving their diploma. Student athletes will not be eligible for their next season of sport or for end-of-season awards until uniforms and equipment have been returned.
- 10. Student athletes must be respectful of referees, coaches, and all players and fans. As an athlete if you attend another sport's game, you must be respectful at all times; failure to do so will result in loss of playing time and possible suspension of game attendance and suspension of play.
- 11. Student athletes are representing Ferndale High School and must be respectful in their social media usage. If students choose to be involved in social media, they are responsible for anything posted to their accounts, whether by them or others. Anything offensive in nature (examples include but are not limited to: sexually explicit media, drug/alcohol related media, racist media, and/or posts about other teams/players, etc.) or reported as offensive in nature shall result in:
  - a. First Violation - Removal from the team for the remainder of the sport season
  - b. Second Violation - No athletic participation for a full calendar year
  - c. Third Violation - No athletic participation for the rest of high school
- 12. If coaches wish to have a separate team contract, it must be approved by the school board prior to the season. Upon approval, the contract must be upheld by the athletes, coaches, Athletic Director, Superintendent, and site Principal.

13. In all our activities we will strive to do our best, do what is right, and treat others, including coaches, teammates, opponents and officials, as we would want to be treated.

**Due Process and Appeal Process**

Student athletes will be provided with due process. The student athlete is entitled to be informed of the charges against them and an informal meeting where they have an opportunity to be heard before the athletic director and the principal. The athletic director shall render a written decision within one school day of the meeting. A student athlete and their parent/guardian may appeal the athletic director's decision to the principal, in writing, within one school day of the decision. The principal shall render their decision within two school days of the written appeal.

**I HAVE READ AND UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE ATHLETIC CODE OF CONDUCT.**

**Student Athlete Name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Athlete Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Parent/Guardian Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

## **Ferndale Unified School District Rules Governing Bus Transportation**

Authority of Driver: Section 4263 of State Board of Education Regulations governing pupil transportation states: "Pupils transported in a school bus shall be under the authority of, and responsible directly to, the driver of the bus, and the driver shall be held responsible for the orderly conduct of the pupils while they are on the bus or being escorted across a street, highway, or road."

1. Students are under the authority and responsibility of the bus driver while riding on, or being escorted to or from the school bus.
2. Students should always use the same bus stops.
3. Students who continue to create disturbances while riding buses will be denied school bus transportation privileges.
4. Students should respect the school bus, and in cases where a student has defaced the bus in any way, the student's parents will be held responsible for the repair of any and all damages caused by the student.
5. Students shall enter the bus in an orderly manner and go directly to their seats.
6. Students must remain seated at all times when the bus is in motion. If the bus is equipped with seat belts, students must remain seated with their seat belts correctly fastened at all times when the bus is in motion.
7. Hands, arms, clothing, items, etc. may not be hung out of the bus windows.
8. Windows shall not be lowered without consulting the bus driver and receiving permission first.
9. Students shall not block the aisle or emergency exit with their body or personal belongings.
10. Unnecessary noise, distraction or commotion by students riding the bus will not be tolerated.
11. A student must have a note, or the school office must receive a phone call from a parent/guardian if there is to be any deviation from the regular transportation schedule of the student.
12. Students walking to and from bus stops must do so in a safe and orderly manner.
13. Students must be at the bus stop at the specified pick-up time and stand in a safe place. Students must maintain good conduct at bus stops at all times.

**Please remember that school bus transportation is a privilege and all school rules apply on the bus in order to ensure the safety and protection of all riders, therefore bus riding privileges may be denied for any of the following situations:**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| -Improper conduct at the bus stop           | -Littering on the bus or at the bus stop   |
| -Use of profanity or vulgarity              | -Vandalism                                 |
| -Insubordination                            | -Boisterous or unsafe conduct              |
| -Not remaining seated on the bus            | -Throwing articles on the bus              |
| -Eating, chewing gum or drinking on the bus | -Arguing and/or fighting                   |
| -Constant need of correction or redirection | -Arms, hands, clothes, etc. out the window |
| -Showing disrespect toward the driver       | -Showing disrespect toward students        |

**Bus citations will be issued by the bus driver for infractions of the rules.**

- 1<sup>st</sup> Offense: Warning
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Offense: Loss of bus privileges for 2 weeks
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Offense: Loss of bus privileges for 4 weeks
- 4<sup>th</sup> Offense: Loss of bus privileges for the remainder of the current school year

# ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

## STUDENT DEBTS

Teachers and/or the office will notify students the final week of school of any end-of-the-year outstanding debts. Failure to pay may result in the following:

1. Report cards will be held until debts are paid.
2. No graduating senior student will be allowed to participate in commencement exercises unless all debts are cleared.
3. Any student who owes a debt to the District due to willful destruction, defacing, and/or other damage/loss of school property may have transcripts, grade reports, and/or diplomas held by the District until debts are paid. This policy will remain in effect after a student transfers or graduates from Ferndale High School. (Education Code 48904)
4. Those students who owe money for extracurricular expenses such as athletic equipment, jerseys, and towels will be not allowed to participate in the same or another athletic sport for the high school until such time as the debt is cleared.

Each year Ferndale Union High School spends a significant amount of money to purchase textbooks, technological devices, calculators, lab supplies, instructional supplies, athletic uniforms and athletic equipment. The District makes these purchases in order that students can be assured access to the necessary materials and equipment needed to pursue an excellent education. It is the student's responsibility to see that these materials are wisely used, not abused, and passed on in a good, usable condition to other students who follow them. The following policy will be enforced regarding books, supplies, devices, materials and equipment.

### Textbooks, Library and Reference Books

1. Defacing and/or mutilation of a cover, pages etc. will result in replacement costs.
2. If a library book is lost, a fee for the actual cost of replacement will be assessed.
3. If a textbook is not returned at the time of collection or if a book other than the one originally assigned is returned, a fee for the actual cost of replacement will be assessed.

### Desks, Tables and Chairs

1. Damage (defacing etc.) to any desk, table, chair or other school property that requires repair or replacement will result in a fee charged for the actual cost of repair or replacement.

### All Other Supplies and Equipment

1. An appropriate fee will be charged for wasted materials.
2. Damage to all other school supplies and equipment will result in a fee charged for the actual cost of repair or replacement

Note: It must be remembered that any student guilty of damaging or destroying school materials and/or equipment is guilty of vandalism and can be suspended from school in addition to monetary restitution and criminal charges.

## **LOCKERS**

Students will receive a locker at the start of the year and can request a P. E. locker. Lockers are provided in the main building for the keeping of books and personal property and in the gymnasium to store PE attire. Students should bring a lock from home to use on their P.E. locker. Main building lockers have built-in locks and must be kept locked at all times. The administration cannot be responsible for theft from unlocked lockers. Students will be held liable for damages to lockers assigned to them and will be billed for the repairs.

Your combination should not be shared, nor should you leave your locker unlocked or switch with another student. You are responsible for the locker initially assigned to you. If you have a large amount of money or something of particular value, you may leave it in the office for safekeeping. The school cannot be responsible for theft. If theft does occur, please report it to the principal. If there is a problem with your locker, please report it to the office.

You may put up school-appropriate posters or pictures with masking tape on the inside, but may not write on the locker or deface it. Use only the locking mechanisms provided. We hope that the minimal amount of space in the lockers encourages you to be organized and neat. Remember, that a locker may be searched by the principal or their designee, if there is "reasonable cause" to do so.

## **ASB CARDS**

The purchasing of Associated Student Body (ASB) cards support student activities. Card holders receive reduced free home admission to athletic events, and reduced admission prices for the majority of FHS school functions. This card is required of all team/club members. The fee for this card is \$15.00 (\$10.00 goes to class and \$5.00 to the Student Council).

## **FRONT OFFICE**

Students should go to the main office on official business or when requested to do so. The office will handle all telephone calls, parent requests, bulletins, letters sent home, attendance, tardies, dismissals, all student records, insurance, fees and accident forms.

We encourage you to contact us when questions arise. The high school office staff is available Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at (707) 786-5900. Please feel free to call the office for your student's needs. These might include: to arrange conferences, appointments, report absences, pay school fees, pay athletic fees, ask about insurance, and to inquire about other general information. **We prefer parents to call the office rather than disturb their student in class by calling or texting their cell phone. Thank you.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/BULLETIN**

Announcements will be read in first period class each morning and the daily bulletin is available on the school webpage and app. Students are encouraged to attend to this daily bulletin for important information. Students are also encouraged to see Kristy in the front office if they are interested in having announcements and other important club and organization information shared in the daily bulletin.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

The school is not responsible for losses; therefore we urge all students to leave valuable possessions at home. The lost and found box is located across from the office. Several times during the year, unclaimed items are taken to local charitable organizations.

## **MEDICATION**

All school districts in the State of California are required to have the approval of physicians to allow the school district personnel to administer medication to students on school premises. The law goes even further to say that without doctor and parent approval we are not allowed to administer prescription medication nor any other over-the-counter medications. This permission must be given for each instance and the permission statement is not to be a blanket statement. Students may obtain a form from the school office that will facilitate this procedure. No medicine, including "over the counter" drugs will be given without this form being filled out and returned to the school.

## **VISITOR POLICY**

Visitors, who are enrolled in other schools, may be able to attend FHS classes if their sponsoring FHS student has completed the necessary form a minimum of one day preceding the visit. The form includes teacher and principal signatures. Under varying circumstances, visitors may not be acceptable on a given day.

## **HEALTH CONCERNS**

Students who become ill during the day should report to the attendance office. The school will contact parents/guardians or the emergency telephone number listed on a personal data card to obtain permission for these students to go home. A school nurse is not available. First aid materials are on hand.

## **EMERGENCY HOME CONTACT**

The emergency phone numbers on the students' record card are important, especially when accidents or illnesses occur. Without accurate data we may find it impossible to notify parents/guardians. It is vital to keep this card up to date. Students and parents/guardians will be asked to update this information at the start of each school year. Parents are requested to inform the school of any changes in home, work, or emergency telephone numbers.

## **SCHOOL SPONSORED DANCES**

Dances sponsored by organizations of the Ferndale High School are primarily for students of high school age. The standards of conduct for visitors will be the same as that demanded of regularly enrolled students at any high school function. Use of tobacco, drugs or alcohol is not allowed. Persons leaving the dance will not be allowed to re-enter a school dance. Students not from Ferndale High School must have a guest pass completed by their parents/guardians and school officials at least 1 school day before the dance. No guests over 20 years of age will be allowed to attend school dances.

## **TRANSPORTING STUDENTS**

When the school district provides transportation to a school event, the students being transported are strongly encouraged to return home via the same school transportation. However, if a parent/ legal guardian desires their student to be transported home by means other than the school transportation system, the following policy must be adhered to:

1. Prior to a school vehicle departing for home, parents/legal guardians approach the activity sponsor and request that their student be discharged to their custody. In addition to the person-to-person request, the parent/legal guardian must give the school official a signed note authorizing the student to leave the school transportation vehicle.
2. In the event that the parent/guardian is not in attendance at the school activity and wishes for their student to be transported home by some other person, the legal parent or court- appointed guardian must, in person, and 24 hours prior to the activity, submit a signed authorization to the school administration office. The signed authorization must specifically state the name of the person to whom the school official is to release the student.

**ACCIDENTS**

If a pupil is injured, it shall be their responsibility to inform a teacher or member of the office staff of the injury immediately. An Accident Report shall be completed by a member of the staff within twenty-four hours of an accident and submitted to the District office.

**INSURANCE**

Ferndale High does have student accident insurance coverage. Upon request, students will be provided with information on low-cost insurance provided through a private carrier at the beginning of the school year.

**PARENTAL CONCERNS**

Our Ferndale High School staff is committed to providing a quality educational program to our students. We strive to provide a nurturing environment where students feel safe, comfortable, and challenged. Our goal is to communicate effectively and establish positive working relationships with parents. We seek to be partners with parents in ensuring that each student achieves to their highest ability, and we welcome comments or questions from parents. We encourage parents to attend back to school night and other school events and communicate regularly with classroom teachers through email. Parental concerns regarding your child's academic, social or emotional growth should first be brought to the attention of the classroom teacher. Parents may request a conference with a teacher at any time. If necessary, a parent may request that the school counselor or principal attend the conference. Conferences provide parents and teachers the opportunity to discuss issues of concern, resolve misunderstandings, answer questions, and open channels of communication. If the concern remains unresolved, the parent should then make an appointment with the Principal. We request that complaints/concerns are first discussed with the teacher or principal before contacting school board members.

# NATURAL DISASTER/EMERGENCY PROTOCOL FOR PARENTS

Should a natural disaster or other major emergency occur, please follow these procedures for student pick-up.

When you arrive on campus to pick up your child, follow the protocol and remain calm.

## Prior to arriving:

- A. Bring I.D. (driver's license or passport). This is critically important to ensure that the students are released only to authorized people.
- B. Know whom you are picking up. Remember that once the child is released to an authorized adult, that adult is now responsible for that child.

## Arriving at school:

- A. Park in a safe location. Do not block driveways, gates, or parking lot drive-through.
- B. Walk on to the campus. The school will already be following its emergency procedures. Calmly follow the directions of the staff.
- C. You will be directed the correct area for checkout. Wait for your turn, then identify yourself and whom you are picking up. Present your identification to the staff member who is helping you. Remember you must be listed on the emergency card. NO EXCEPTIONS! Parents who have more than one child to check out will have to proceed to each grade
- D. This procedure will take time! Do not be in a hurry or panic. The protocol is set up to make sure each child is released to an authorized adult, to account for each child, and to make the atmosphere as calm and non-stressful as possible for both the students (who are waiting) and the parents/guardians (who are checking them out).
- E. After signing out the children, we ask that you leave the campus immediately.

## **LOCKDOWN PROCEDURES FOR PARENTS**

Should Ferndale High School ever need to call a LOCKDOWN it is imperative for the safety of our students and our staff that the procedural expectations articulated below are met.

1. Parents must NOT come to, try to enter, loiter or wait at the school.
2. Parents must NOT call the school; no calls will be answered during an actual lockdown. Please do not call or text students as this may compromise their safety in certain situations.
3. Parents should NOT have a response to E-Mail, cellular calls or texts as it reduces the security of our students and staff.
4. When possible and safe, parents will receive an emergency call or text via the automated One Call Now system offering information and updates.
5. Parents will be advised when the lockdown has been lifted and it is allowable for students to be picked up.
6. Parents are to be reminded that we practice lockdown drills during the school year. Parents are advised to encourage their children to participate in the ongoing drills with respect and with validity. Should we ever need to secure our campus from within, students will benefit from being familiar and routinized with our safety procedures.

Parents must be our partners in order to maintain the highest level of security for our students and our staff. Parent signature(s) below indicate that one or both parents or guardian(s) have read procedural expectations for a lockdown. While we hope it never occurs, we will emphasize our security as the number one operative measure. No exceptions will be made. Activities and appointments during or after school do not take precedence over the security of our learning community. Thank you for your cooperation and vigilance with regard to the safety of our learning community.



# MENTAL HEALTH STUDENT RESOURCES

Mental health can affect how we **think, act,** and **feel.**

## WHAT CAN IMPACT OUR MENTAL HEALTH?

- Stress
- Our environment
- School/work
- Family and friends
- Sudden changes to our routines
- Biological factors
- Grief and loss
- Alcohol or drug use

## WHAT ARE SOME SIGNS THAT SOMEONE IS STRUGGLING WITH THEIR MENTAL HEALTH?

- Too much or too little sleep
- Over/under eating
- Lack of motivation
- Irritability
- Difficulty concentrating
- Wishing to be alone for long periods of time
- Lack of interest in things that used to be enjoyable
- Hearing voices or seeing things that are not there
- Thoughts of death or dying

## WHAT CAN WE DO TO MANAGE OUR MENTAL HEALTH?

The following are positive coping skills that you can practice when you notice your feelings, thoughts, or behaviors becoming harder to manage:

♥ Practice deep breathing  
(inhale for 4, hold for 7,  
exhale for 8)

♥ Go for a walk

♥ Talk to a counselor  
or therapist

♥ Journal

♥ Exercise

♥ Meditate

♥ Practice yoga

## WHERE CAN YOU GO TO GET HELP?

School Counselor

**Erin Bigham (FHS)**  
707-786-5900

**Nancy Nunez (FES)**  
707-786-5300

National Suicide  
Prevention Lifeline

Dial **988**

Crisis Text Line

Text "**HOME**" to **741741**



Scan me

FOR ADDITIONAL RESOURCES



Created in partnership with the San Joaquin and Humboldt County Offices of Education in compliance with AB 748.

# RECURSOS DE SALUD MENTAL PARA ESTUDIANTES

La salud mental puede afectar cómo **pensamos, actuamos, y nos sentimos.**

## ¿QUÉ PUEDE AFECTAR A NUESTRA SALUD MENTAL?

- El estrés
- Nuestro propio ambiente
- La escuela/trabajo
- La familia y los amigos
- Los cambios repentinos en nuestras rutinas
- Factores biológicos
- Un duelo y pérdida
- El consumo de alcohol o drogas

## ¿CUÁLES SON ALGUNAS SEÑALES DE QUE ALGUIEN ESTÁ TENIENDO PROBLEMAS CON SU SALUD MENTAL?

- Dormir mucho o muy poquito
- Comer demasiado o muy poco
- Falta de motivación
- Irritabilidad
- Dificultad para concentrarse
- Deseos de estar solo por largos periodos de tiempo
- Falta de interés por cosas que antes disfrutaba
- Escuchar voces o ver cosas que no existen
- Tener pensamientos de muerte o agonía

## ¿QUÉ PODEMOS HACER PARA CUIDAR NUESTRA SALUD MENTAL?

Las siguientes son habilidades positivas para enfrentar problemas que puedes practicar cuando sientas que tus sentimientos, pensamientos o comportamientos son cada vez más difíciles de manejar:

✚ Practica la respiración profunda (*inhala durante 4 segundos, mantén la respiración otros 7 segundos, exhala durante 8 segundos*)

✚ Meditar

✚ Practicar yoga

✚ Dar un paseo

✚ Hablar con un consejero o terapeuta

✚ Escribir un diario

✚ Hacer ejercicio

## ¿DÓNDE PUEDES IR PARA OBTENER AYUDA?

### Consejero Escolar

Erin Bigham (FHS)  
707-786-5900

Nancy Nunez (FES)  
707-786-5300

Línea Nacional de  
Prevención del Suicidio  
Marca **988**

Línea de Texto en Caso  
de Crisis  
Envía el texto "**HOME**"  
al **741741**



Escanéame

PARA QUE OBTENGAS  
RECURSOS ADICIONALES



Created in partnership with the San Joaquin and Humboldt County Offices of Education in compliance with AB 748

## Ferndale High School Confirmation RECEIPT of HANDBOOK

Dear Parent/Guardian and Student:

We are asking you to review the 2022-2023 Student Handbook online at <http://ferndalek12.org/fhs> under the Student Resources tab on our school webpage. If you would prefer a paper copy, please indicate that by checking the box below.

Please check this box if you would like a paper copy of the Student Handbook.

Student Name (Please print name for delivery of paper copy):

\_\_\_\_\_

—

This handbook provides you with important information. Please take the necessary time to thoroughly review this document. Of particular importance are the academic, behavioral, and attendance expectations. Students will be held accountable for adhering to these guidelines.

Thank you for taking the time to familiarize yourself with this handbook. We wish you and your student(s) a highly productive, successful and enjoyable 2022-2023 school year.

Please indicate with your signature that you have completely reviewed the 2022-2023 Student Handbook.

**Student Name: (Please print):**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: PLEASE RETURN THIS RECEIPT (SIGNED) TO THE FRONT OFFICE OR ONE OF YOUR TEACHERS. IF YOU NEED A PAPER COPY TO REVIEW, YOU CAN SIGN AFTER RECEIVING AND REVIEWING THE PAPER COPY. THANK YOU!