

Friendswood
JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
2018-2019
STUDENT HANDBOOK



ADOPTED BY THE FJSD BOARD OF TRUSTEES
JULY 2018

MISSION STATEMENT

FRIENDSWOOD JUNIOR HIGH 2018-2019

The staff, students, parents and community of Friendswood Junior High School are devoted to Academic Excellence and the cultivation of Individual Strengths and Talents for all students.

The contents of this handbook are not contractual, and do not give rise to a claim of breach of contract against the school district. Further, the contents of this handbook apply to all students of Friendswood Junior High School, as the contents now appear in the handbook or may be amended in the future.

The Friendswood Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer and offers equal education opportunities, as requested by the Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IX of the education amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended. The Friendswood Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or handicapping condition in the employment, assignment and promotion of personnel nor in the admission of students to any educational program or activity, except as may be authorized by law or regulations. The Friendswood Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs.

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FOREWARD

To Parents

In order for a student to have maximum academic success at FJH, four key components should be considered:

1. Student motivation
2. Home study and homework
3. Regular and punctual attendance
4. Open and continuing communication among parents, students and teachers.

Student motivation begins at home and can be facilitated to some extent by programs available at FJH. A student's attitude is an integral part of his/her ability to succeed and your involvement in this aspect of the process is extremely important.

The amount of homework varies greatly, from course to course and from day to day. It is reasonable to assume that most students will have homework most nights. You can contribute greatly to your person's success in school by providing for home study.

Regular and punctual attendance is of inestimable importance to success in school; therefore, your first concern should be that your daughter/son attends school every day. Permitting a young person to be absent from school unnecessarily not only places a handicap upon the student's opportunity to succeed in his/her studies, but also encourages poor attitude toward work and obligations.

With regular attendance, home study and a good attitude, your young person is indeed poised for success. The fourth component is essential – that of communication between home and school, and it is with that in mind that this handbook has been developed. Information for you and your student has been gathered and condensed as much as possible. Being familiar with policies, procedures, opportunities and expectations of FJH will ensure a positive academic experience for your young person.

You are welcome at FJH. Your interest and presence at school functions will have a profound, positive effect on your student and on the school as a whole.

To Students

This handbook of information about FJH is planned to serve as a guidebook to the students who come to this school. The handbook will prove to be a source of information of which you will learn to refer to when questions arise concerning school.

We want *YOU* to feel that this is *YOUR* school and take part accordingly. To become a good citizen in any group, one must have knowledge of the rules under which he works and plays, and then live according to these rules.

Standard of Student Conduct

Students and parents also need to be familiar with the Student Code of Conduct. The Standards of Student Conduct, which sets out the consequences for wrong or inappropriate behaviors, is required by state law and its intended to promote school safety.

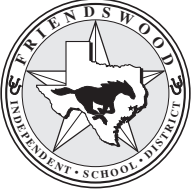
PURPOSE of the HANDBOOK

The purpose of this Student Handbook is to give Friendswood ISD students and their parents an understanding of the general rules and guidelines for attending and receiving an education in our schools.

When the Handbook uses “we” or “our,” it means the school district and/or school administrators. When the Handbook uses “you” or “your,” it means the parent, legal guardian, or person who has accepted responsibility for a student, at least in regard to school matters. From time to time, the Handbook will use more general terms, such as “parents” and “school officials.” Regardless of the particular terminology, our intention is to speak directly to you as the adults who are responsible for working with us, the school officials, to make your children’s experience with the Friendswood public schools a positive educational experience.

School district administrators have developed the Student Handbook with assistance of teachers, students, and parents. The content is reviewed by the Board of Trustees and is intended to be consistent with formally adopted school board policies. If there is an apparent contradiction between information in the Handbook and a formally adopted board policy, the school administration will interpret the Handbook in a way that is consistent with policy and may request guidance from the Board of Trustees.

The Student Handbook is not a contract between the school and parents or students. It can be amended at any time at the discretion of the school district. If the district makes changes to the Handbook during a school year, the administration of the district and the campus will communicate those changes in ways that are designed to inform parents and students of the new or revised information.



**FRIENDSWOOD INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
NOTICE OF PARENT AND STUDENT RIGHTS
FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT,
20 U.S.C. SEC 1232G
AMENDED OCTOBER 19, 2006**

The Friendswood School District maintains general education records required by law. A student's school records are private and are protected from unauthorized inspection or use. A cumulative record is maintained for each student from the time the student enters the District until the student withdraws or graduates. This record moves with the student from school to school.

By law, both parents, whether married, separated, or divorced, have access to the records of a student who is a minor or a dependent for tax purposes. A parent whose rights have been legally terminated will be denied access to the records if the school is given a copy of the court order termination of these rights.

The principal is custodian of all records for currently enrolled students at the assigned school. The Superintendent is the custodian of all records for students who have withdrawn or graduated. Records may be reviewed during regular school business hours. The record custodian or designee will respond to reasonable requests for explanation and interpretation of the records. The address of the Superintendent's office is: 302 Laurel Drive, Friendswood, Texas 77546. The address of the principals' offices are: Cline Primary, 505 Briar Meadow; Westwood Elementary, 506 W. Edgewood; Bales Intermediate, 211 Stadium Lane; Windsong Intermediate, 2100 West Parkwood; Friendswood Junior High, 1000 Manison Parkway; Friendswood High School, 702 Greenbriar.

Parent of a minor or a student who is dependent for tax purposes, the student (if 18 or older), and school officials with legitimate educational interests are the only persons who have general access to a student's records. A school official is a person employed by the District as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the District's Board of Trustees; a person or company with whom the District has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, therapist or School Resource Officer); a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks; or employees, agents of cooperatives of which the District is a member, or of facilities with which the District contracts for placement of handicapped students, as well as their attorneys and consultants, who are (1) working with the student; (2) considering disciplinary or academic actions, the student's case, or a handicapped student's individual education plan (IEP); (3) compiling statistical data; or (4) investigating or evaluating programs. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility.

Certain other officials from various governmental agencies may have limited access to the records. The District forwards a student's records on request to a school in which a student seeks or intends to enroll without the necessity of the parent's permission. Parental consent is required to release the records to anyone else unless the District has received a validly issued subpoena or court order, or if another exception contained in FERPA applies. When the student reaches 18 years of age, the right to consent to release records transfers to the student.

The parent's or student's right of access to, and copies of, student records does not extend to all records. Materials that are not considered educational records, such as teachers' personal notes on a student that are shared only with a substitute teacher and records that only contain information about an individual after he or she is no longer a student in the district do not have to be made available to the parents or students.

Students over 18 and parents of minor students may inspect the student's records and request a correction if the records are inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student's privacy or other rights. If the District refuses the request to amend the records, the requestor has 30 school days to exercise the right to place a statement commenting on the information in the student's record. Although improperly recorded grades may be challenged, parents and students are not allowed to contest a student's grade in a course through this process.

Parent or students have the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education if they believe the District is not in compliance with the law regarding student records.

Copies of student's records are available at a cost of \$.10 per page, payable in advance. Parents may be denied copies of a student's records (1) after the student reaches age 18 and is no longer a dependent for tax purposes; (2) when the student is attending an institution of post-secondary education; (3) if the parent fails to follow proper procedures and pay the copying charge; or (4) when the District is given a copy of a court order terminating the parental rights. If the student qualifies for free or reduced-price lunches and the parents are unable to view the records during regular school hours, upon written request of the parent, one copy of the record will be provided at no charge.

Certain information about District students is considered directory information and will be released to anyone who follows procedures for requesting it, unless the parent objects to the release of any or all directory information about the child. This objection must be made in writing to the principal within ten school days after the issuance of this notice. Directory information includes: a student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams and dates of attendance, awards received in school, and most recent previous school attended.

The district's complete policy regarding student records is available from the principal's or superintendent's office.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS NOTICE SHOULD BE TRANSLATED FOR, OR EXPLAINED TO, THE PARENTS OF STUDENTS WHOSE PRIMARY OR HOME LANGUAGE IS NOT ENGLISH.

Notification of Rights Under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA)

PPRA affords parents certain rights regarding our conduct of surveys, collection and use of information for marketing purposes, and certain physical exams. These include the right to:

- *Consent* before students are required to submit to a survey that concerns one or more of the following protected areas (“protected information survey”) if the survey is funded in whole or in part by a program of the U.S. Department of Education (ED)–

1. Political affiliations or beliefs of the student or student’s parent;
2. Mental or psychological problems of the student or student’s family;
3. Sex behavior or attitudes;
4. Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating, or demeaning behavior;
5. Critical appraisals of others with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6. Legally recognized privileged relationships, such as with lawyers, doctors, or ministers;
7. Religious practices, affiliations, or beliefs of the student or parents; or
8. Income, other than as required by law to determine program eligibility.

- *Receive notice and an opportunity to opt a student out of –*

1. Any other protected information survey, regardless of funding;
2. Any non-emergency, invasive physical exam or screening required as a condition of attendance, administered by the school or its agent, and not necessary to protect the immediate health and safety of a student, except for hearing, vision, or scoliosis screenings, or any physical exam or screening permitted or required under State law; and
3. Activities involving collection, disclosure, or use of personal information obtained from students for marketing or to sell or otherwise distribute the information to others.

- *Inspect*, upon request and before administration or use –

1. Protected information surveys of students;
2. Instruments used to collect personal information from students for any of the above marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes; and
3. Instructional material used as part of the educational curriculum.

These rights transfer to from the parents to a student who is 18 years old or an emancipated minor under State law.

Friendswood ISD has developed and adopted policies, in consultation with parents, regarding these rights, as well as arrangements to protect student privacy in the administration of protected information surveys and the collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales, or other distribution purposes.

Friendswood ISD will directly notify parents of these policies at least annually at the start of each school year and after any substantive changes. **Friendswood ISD** will also directly notify, such as through U.S. Mail or email, parents of students who are scheduled to participate in the specific activities or surveys noted below and will provide an opportunity for the parent to opt his or her child out of participation of the specific activity or survey **Friendswood ISD** will make this notification to parents at the beginning of the school year if the District has identified the specific or approximate dates of the activities or surveys at that time. For surveys and activities scheduled after the school year starts, parents will be provided reasonable notification of the planned activities and surveys listed below and be provided an opportunity to opt their child out of such activities and surveys. Parents will also be provided an opportunity to review any pertinent surveys. Following is a list of the specific activities and surveys covered under this requirement:

- Collection, disclosure, or use of personal information for marketing, sales or other distribution.
- Administration of any protected information survey not funded in whole or in part by ED.
- Any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening as described above.

Parents who believe their rights have been violated may file a complaint with:

Family Policy Compliance Office
U.S. Department of Education
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-5901

Notice Concerning Privacy of Student Directory Information

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy ACT (FERPA) of 1974 is a federal law governing the privacy of educational records. It grants specific rights that schools obtain written permission from students before releasing educational records. In certain well-defined circumstances, some information may be released without written permission from the student.

Certain information about district students is considered directory information and will be released to anyone who follows the procedures for requesting the information unless the parent or guardian objects to the release of the directory information about the student. If you do not want Friendswood Independent School District to disclose directory information from your child's education records without your prior written consent, you must notify the district in writing by September 4, 2018. Friendswood ISD has designated the following information as directory information: student's name, address, telephone listing, photograph, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, honors and awards received, the most recent educational agency of institution attended, high quality or award-winning student work and interviews given by students about honors, awards and school activities.

The District uses this type of information about students in publications such as, but not limited to, school telephone directories, yearbooks, playbills, graduation programs, sports activity sheets and programs, Friendswood ISD publications, the Friendswood ISD web site and news releases to the media. The District is proud to feature students and their accomplishments and uses a variety of resources to publicize district events and school news. Friendswood ISD may publish a child's name, photograph, and student work as well as allow a student to be interviewed and videotaped by the media. Please note that the media may include newspapers, newsletters, television stations, radio stations and web sites.

A parent or guardian may not want any types of information within the definition of directory information to be subject to release. A parent or guardian has the right to instruct the District not to designate any or all of the information described above as directory information about the student by using this form to notify the District by September 4, 2018. The District recognizes that a parent may not want some directory information released but may want other information to be made available. Therefore, the District has divided directory information into two categories.

Federal law requires districts receiving assistance under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to provide a military recruiter or an institution of higher education, on request, with the name, address, and telephone number of a secondary student unless the parent has requested that the information not be disclosed without their prior written consent.

PRIVACY FORM FOR NEW STUDENTS TO FISD

Please fill out form below and return to the campus IF YOU WANT TO EXCLUDE YOUR CHILD FROM ONE OR MORE AREAS OF COVERAGE. Please note that once completed, it is kept on file and remains active unless you complete another form.

Directory Information — General Student Data

I do not want my child’s address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, dates of attendance, enrollment status and most recent educational agency or institution attended to be released.

Student’s Full Name _____ School _____

Grade _____ ID # _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Directory Information—Student Publicity

I do not want my child’s name, photograph, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height if a member of an athletic team, honors and awards received, interviews and/or student work to be published or released to the media. **If you indicate that you would like this information kept private, your student’s information will NOT be included in publications such as the yearbook, sports roster, or graduation program.**

Student’s Full Name _____ School _____

Grade _____ ID # _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Directory Information—Military Recruitment/Institution of Higher Learning

I do not want my secondary student’s name, address, and telephone number released to a military recruiter or institution of higher learning.

Student’s Full Name _____ School _____

Grade _____ ID # _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Only return this form if you want your student’s information kept private.

STUDENT RECORDS

Admission, Release, Withdrawal

[\(Admission Application Questions and Residency Power of Attorney forms available\)](#)

These are the basic requirements for admission to district schools:

1. The student must live in the district with a parent or legal guardian or one of the student's parents must live in the district, even if the student does not live with that parent.
 - To be eligible for admission based on just the parent's residence in the district, the court that issued a final order in a divorce proceeding must have designated that parent as a managing or possessor conservator for the child.
 - The parent enrolling a student based on only the parent's residence in the district must provide a copy of a current final order, signed by the judge and showing a file stamp from the court, designating the parent as a managing or possessor conservator.
2. The student is under age 18 and lives in the district with an adult resident of the district who has accepted a Power of Attorney from the child's parent or legal guardian. The school district has Power of Attorney forms to be completed by both the person the student lives with and the parent.
3. A parent, legal guardian, or adult resident who has a valid Power of Attorney for the student must enroll students under the age of 18. Students who are 18 or older, who are legally married, or who have ever been legally married, and who have not graduated from high school can enroll themselves.
4. The adult enrolling the student must present current immunization records or make arrangements to begin immunizations as soon as possible.
5. No later than 30 days after a student has been enrolled, the adult enrolling the student must provide a copy of a birth certificate or other acceptable identification for the child and copies of the education records from the school the child last attended.

The application for admission and enrollment forms are official government records, and it is a crime to provide false information of any kind or false records for identification. School officials can ask parents or another adult enrolling a student to provide some evidence that they are bona fide residents of the school district. As required by law, we will record the name, address, and date of birth of the person enrolling a student.

If school officials have reason to question the legitimacy of a child's residency information, they can investigate to determine the student's actual place of residence. If the district finds that a student is not really a district resident, the student will be withdrawn, and school officials will take the necessary legal steps to recover the maximum tuition fee the school district can charge or the amount the board of trustee's budgets as an expense per student.

Children who are under age 18 will not be permitted to withdraw from school unless a parent, legal guardian, or other adult with responsibility for the child comes to the school to complete the necessary forms. Students must return all textbooks issued to them and clear any library fines and other outstanding fees in order for the school to release an official copy of the student's records to the parents or to another school district.

Students who are age 18 or older, who are legally married, or who have ever been legally married are adults and can withdraw themselves from school.

Assessment and Testing Programs

The Student Assessment Calendar for the **2018-2019** school year can be accessed on the FJH website: www.fisd12.net/jh/

Grading and Report Cards

Teachers establish his/her grading standards, including penalties for late work, but those standards must be consistent with guidelines approved by the campus principal. If you have a question about a grade your child receives on an assignment, you should talk first with the teacher.

Progress reports will be issued at the end of the 3rd and 6th week of each grading period. Report cards will be sent home at the end of each grading period. If your child is having trouble in a class, the teacher may ask you to schedule a conference. We encourage you to attend those conferences.

Semester 1 (SM1): NW1 = 45%, NW2 = 45%, Fall Semester Exam EX1 = 10%

Semester 2 (SM2): NW3 = 45%, NW4 = 45%, Spring Semester Exam EX2 = 10%

The Year End Grade is found by averaging SM1 and SM2.

Parents have 24-hour access to student grades via Parent Connect web system. <http://dsgs.fisd12.net/pc/>

FJH Grading Policy

NUMBER OF GRADES – A student will receive a minimum of 17 grades per 9 weeks with a minimum of 2 grades assigned to major tests or major projects.

MAKE-UP WORK – Make-up work is outlined by district policy.

Every teacher is willing to help a student make up as much work as possible, which was missed due to an absence. It should be kept in mind, however, that students cannot completely make up a missed day of school, regardless of the willingness of all persons involved. It is the responsibility of each child to make up work missed because of an absence. He/she should consult with the teachers to find a convenient time at which this work may be done. A student has as many days to make-up work as absent with a maximum of five days. Example: If a student is absent on Friday, all make-up work must be turned in by Tuesday. If a student is absent six days or more, all make-up work must be completed within a maximum of five school days after his/her return.

Otherwise, no credit will be given for the assignment in question. Work that has been assigned prior to the student's absences is due upon their return. However, work will not be called for the day the student returns if he/she was not in school for the assignment. The teacher may request that the work be made up any time during the five day make-up period. Teachers will occasionally make a long-term major assignment with a designated due date. When this is the case, students must make arrangements, even if absent the date due, to have the work turned in to the teacher by 3:45 p.m. the afternoon when due.

EXTRA CREDIT – Extra credit is only allowed if it is available for every student in the class. It must be given within the 9 week grading cycle. It cannot be added exclusively to the 9 weeks average, but rather averaged with the other 9 weeks grades to determine the final average.

INCOMPLETES – Incomplete grades must be cleared one week after the grading period ends. Extenuating circumstances must be cleared through administration.

PERCENTAGES – Each department will submit their percentages for major and minor grades to the Principal before the beginning of the year. These percentages must be the same for each course, i.e., Alg. I, Spanish IA, Texas History, etc.

LATEWORK

6th GRADE

- Minus 30 pts for one day late (highest grade attainable is a 70)
- Minus 50 pts for every day late thereafter (highest grade attainable is a 50)
- Work will be accepted up until three weeks after the assigned due date. Work must be turned in during the nine weeks it was assigned.

7th GRADE

- Minus 30 pts for one day late (highest grade attainable is a 70)
- Minus 50 pts for every day late thereafter (highest grade attainable is a 50)
- Work accepted until the end of the unit.

OR

- Drop 3 grades excluding major assignments

8th GRADE

- Minus 30 pts for one day late (highest grade attainable is a 70)
- Minus 50 pts for every day late thereafter (highest grade attainable is a 50)
- Work accepted until the end of the unit

OR

- Drop 2 grades excluding major assignments

Teachers may make exceptions that would be more lenient but not more stringent. Teachers will determine which option they will use prior to the beginning of the course and publicize it on their webpage and syllabus.

All “A” Honor Roll

To qualify for the All “A” Honor Roll, you must have all A’s for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd nine weeks.

Promotion, Retention, Award of Credit

Students are promoted from grade to grade, or awarded credit for a course, based on their mastery of the knowledge and skills that will let them be successful at the next grade level. In secondary grades, students receive credit for a course when they have met all the state and local requirements for that credit.

Academic Achievement, Retention, and Promotion

See Board Policy EIE (Local) Standards for Mastery.

Student’s Legal Name

While we recognize that there are circumstances when a parent may wish his or her child to be enrolled under a name other than the child’s legal name, we are required to maintain all school records for your child under the child’s legal surname as shown on the birth certificate or other recognized document to prove the child’s identity or as shown in a court order changing the child’s name.

DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS OF PARENTS

Academic Programs

You can ask the principal to change your child's teacher or class assignment; however, the principal is not required to make the reassignment and will not do so ordinarily if that change would affect the assignment or reassignment of another student.

You can ask the school board to add a specific academic course to the schedule and offerings. If the administration and the board determine that the course is among those included in the State Board of Education-approved curriculum and that there is sufficient interest in the class to make it economically practical to offer the class, the request will not be unreasonably denied.

You can ask that your child be permitted to attend a class for credit above his or her grade level. If the counselor and child's current and prospective teacher expect that the child can perform satisfactorily in the class, the request will not be unreasonably denied.

Assistance for Homeless Students

You are encouraged to inform the district if you or your child is experiencing homelessness. District staff can share resources with you that may be able to assist you and your family. For more information on services for homeless students, contact your campus administrator.

Complaint Process

We realize that situations may arise when parents disagree with a decision that affects their child or believe that a policy has been improperly applied to their child. A number of these types of disputes or controversies have specific processes for pursuing those concerns. The principal can provide you with a copy of the relevant policies and procedures.

In general, all parent complaints should be brought initially to the teacher involved or the campus principal. Often the problem can be resolved through an informal conference with the teacher or principal. On those occasions when a conference does not take care of problem, you should request a copy of the complaint policy from the principal's office. (See FNG Legal and /or FNG Local) In order for your concern to be resolved at the earliest possible level, you should put your complaint in writing before meeting formally with the principal.

The principal will schedule a conference with you and give you a written or oral response within ten days after the conference. You will also have an opportunity for a conference with the assistant superintendent if the principal has not resolved the matter. If the assistant superintendent is not able to take care of the problem, you can make a written request for the Board of Trustees to consider the matter at its next regular meeting. Individual trustees cannot respond to parent complaints beyond referring the matter to the administration. Furthermore, the Board of Trustees will not permit complaints to be heard in the public comment or open forum portion of board meetings. In order for the board to take any action on a complaint, you must follow the complaint process established in policy.

Credit By Exam

See Board Policy EHDB (Local) EHDB (Legal).

Deliveries

Please do not have balloons or flowers delivered to the school. These items are disruptive to the learning environment of the classroom and will not be delivered.

Exemption from Instruction

You may temporarily remove your child from a class or other school activity that conflicts with your religious or moral beliefs if you provide a written statement authorizing the removal to your child's teacher. However, you are not entitled to remove your child from class or an activity to avoid taking a test or to prevent your child from taking a subject for an entire semester. Your child will be required to satisfy grade level or graduation requirements, regardless of any periods of temporary removal based on your religious or moral beliefs.

Lunch Deliveries

In order to minimize classroom disruption, parents are discouraged from making daily lunch deliveries. Please make every effort to send lunches with students in the morning. If you have to make a lunch delivery, please bring it to the front office, type in your student's name, label the lunch and leave on the table. Also, lunch, treats, and drinks may only be brought for your child.

Lunch Visitation

Lunch visitations will only be allowed on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, with the following exceptions:

1. No visitations the first and last 2 weeks of the school year.
2. No visitations for the weeks of testing (will be advertised)
3. No visitations on early release days.

Also, lunch, treats, and drinks may only be brought for your child.

No high school age siblings may come to eat with their sibling unless accompanied by a parent.

Parent Organizations/Volunteer Opportunities

Every campus in the district has an active Parent-Teacher Association/Parent-Teacher Organization/Parent-Teacher-Student-Organization, and we encourage you to actively participate in the group at your child or children's campus (es). At the secondary schools, parents have formed booster clubs and organizations to support several types of student activities.

We encourage parents to volunteer in our schools. All volunteers must complete an application form for volunteer programs. Approved volunteers participate in a training and orientation program before they are permitted to assist in school programs and activities.

Psychological Examinations

We will seek and obtain your written consent before conducting any psychological examination, test, or treatment of your child, unless the examination is part of an investigation by Child Protective Services in response to a report of known or suspected child abuse or neglect.

Records and Other Information

As we stated in the “Required Notices” section of this Handbook, you have a right of access to all written educational records that we maintain concerning your child. You also can receive full information about any and all school activities in which your child is involved. However, as we explained in the section on “Questioning Students at School,” we must comply with a request or directive from a Child Protective Services investigator or law enforcement officials regarding contact with or information to parents about an investigation.

Safety Transfers

As a parent you have the right to request the transfer of your child to attend a safe public school in the district if your child attends school at a campus identified by TEA as persistently dangerous or if your child has been a victim of a violent criminal offense while at school or on school grounds.

Standardized Testing (STAAR, EOC)

In order to maintain a quiet and secure testing environment, parents are requested to only check out students for doctor’s appointments or funerals. Checking students out for unnecessary reasons leads to interruptions in classrooms and excessive students in the hallways. This applies to ALL students, whether taking STAAR or not. We thank you in advance for your help.

Student Check Out, Last 15 Minutes of the School Day

It should be common practice to have your student bring a note when checking out during the school day. The student will show the note to their teacher to dismiss them from class and then sign out in the front office with the attendance clerk. This will allow for teacher instruction without unnecessary disruption. FJH does not check out students after 3:30pm.

Teaching Materials

You may review all teaching materials, textbooks and other teaching aids used in your child’s classroom and may review all tests administered to your child, after the test is given. To review these materials, please contact the principal, who will make arrangements to provide you access to those materials at school during regular school hours.

Some textbooks are so expensive that we purchase classroom sets rather than a textbook for each student taking the course. You may request that your child be permitted to take home any textbook used by the student, and if a book is available, we will gladly honor that request. If the teacher requests it, the student must return the textbook to school the following school day.

Video and Audio Recording

We will seek and obtain your written consent before any school employee makes an audio or video recording of your child, except that your prior consent neither is nor required before a recording that will be used only for:

- Safety purposes, including maintaining order and discipline in common areas of the school or on school buses; or
- A purpose related to a co-curricular or extracurricular activity; or
- A purpose related to regular classroom instruction; or
- Media coverage of the school.

Visiting School

You are encouraged to visit your children's schools; however, we ask that you comply with our policy requiring all visitors to go first to the front office and sign in to register. We have this policy for the safety of your children and our staff. Parents and any other person on campus without the principal's knowledge will be considered as trespassers. We also expect parents to be polite and civil in their dealings with all school staff. We do not permit or tolerate abusive, disrespectful, threatening, lewd, profane, or offensive language from your children at school, and we will not tolerate it from parents.

While we encourage you to be involved in your children's education and knowledgeable about their classes, teachers, and curriculum, it has been our experience that frequent and lengthy visits to the classroom are disruptive both to teaching and learning. The principal can limit or restrict the frequency and duration of classroom visits to be sure that disruption of the instructional process does not occur.

We encourage you to come to school occasionally and eat lunch with your child; however, children can be removed from the campus during lunch period only by following the established process of signing the child out from the principal's office. Unless we have possession of a court document that limits a possessor conservator's (that is the parent who does not ordinarily have custody of the student) access to their child while at school, we will permit either parent to eat lunch with their children at school.

Parent Rights and Responsibilities

As a parent, you have a right:

- To request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's teachers, including whether the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction; whether the teacher has an emergency permit or other provisional status for which state requirements have been waived; and undergraduate and graduate degree majors, graduate certifications, and the field of study of the certification or degree. You also have the right to request information about the qualifications of any paraprofessional who may provide services to your child.
- To review teaching materials, textbooks, and other teaching aids and instructional materials used in the curriculum, and to examine tests that have been administered to your child.
- To inspect a survey created by a third party before the survey is administered or distributed to your child.
- To review your child's student records when needed. These records include:
 - Attendance records, test scores, grades, disciplinary records, counseling records, psychological records,
 - Applications for admission,
 - Health and immunization information, other medical records,
 - Teacher and counselor evaluations,
 - Reports of behavioral patterns, and
 - State assessment instruments that have been administered to your child.
- To grant or deny any written request from the District to make a videotape or voice recording of your child. State law, however, permits the school to make a videotape or voice recording without parental permission for the following circumstances:
 - When it is to be used for school safety;
 - When it relates to classroom instruction or a co-curricular or extracurricular activity; or
 - When it relates to media coverage of the school.
- To remove your child temporarily from the classroom, if an instructional activity in which your child is scheduled to participate conflicts with your religious or moral beliefs. The

- removal cannot be for the purpose of avoiding a test and may not extend for an entire semester. Further, your child must satisfy grade-level and graduation requirements as determined by the school and by the Texas Education Agency.
- To request that your child be excused from participation in the daily recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States flag and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag. The request must be in writing. State law does not allow your child to be excused from participation in the required moment of silence or silent activity that follows. [See Pledges of Allegiance and a Minute of Silence in policy EC.]
 - To request that your child be excused from recitation of a portion of the Declaration of Independence. State law requires students in social studies classes in grades 3-12 to recite a portion of the text of the Declaration of Independence during Celebrate Freedom Week unless (1) you provide a written statement requesting that your child be excused, (2) the District determines that your child has a conscientious objection to the recitation, or (3) you are a representative of a foreign government to whom the United States government extends diplomatic immunity. [See policy EHBK]
 - To request in writing, if you are a non-custodial parent, that you be provided for the remainder of the school year a copy of any written notice usually provided to a parent related to misconduct that may involve placement in a disciplinary alternative education program (DAEP) or expulsion. See policies FL (LEGAL) and (LOCAL), FO (LEGAL) and the Student Code of Conduct.

Options and Requirements For Providing Assistance to Students Who Have Learning Difficulties or Who Need or May Need Special Education

If a child is experiencing learning difficulties, the parent may contact the person listed below to learn about the district's overall general education referral or screening system for support services. This system links students to a variety of support options, including referral for a special education evaluation. Students having difficulty in the regular classroom should be considered for tutorial, compensatory, and other support services that are available to all students. At any time, a parent is entitled to request an evaluation for special education services. Within a reasonable amount of time, the district must decide if the evaluation is needed. If evaluation is needed, the parent will be notified and asked to provide consent for the evaluation. The district must complete the evaluation and the report within 60 calendar days of the date of the district receives the written consent. The district must give a copy of the report to the parent.

If the district determines that the evaluation is not needed, the district will provide the parent with a written notice that explains why the child will not be evaluated. This written notice will include a statement that informs the parent of their rights if they disagree with the district. Additionally, the notice must inform the parent how to obtain a copy of the *Notice of Procedural Safeguards - Rights of Parents of Students with Disabilities*.

The designated person to contact regarding options for a child experiencing learning difficulties or a referral for evaluation for special education is:

Contact Person: Grade Level Counselor

Phone Number: 281-996-6200

**Friendswood ISD
Visitors On Campus – V-Soft
Registered Sex Offender (RSO)
Alert Action Steps**

If the RSO is a parent:

1. The receptionist/secretary or other person receiving the “ALERT” on the computer should immediately notify the Principal, Assistant Principal or other designated administrator on the campus about the presence of the RSO.
2. The principal, assistant principal, security personnel or designee should watch or stay with the RSO while he/she is on campus.
 - *At NO TIME shall any registered sex offender be permitted to mingle with the student population or walk through the school unescorted.*
 - *Registered Sex Offenders are not permitted to eat lunch with their children in the lunchroom. Those wishing to do so will be provided a separate area (not in the lunchroom and under supervision).*
 - *Registered Sex Offenders who require a teacher conference shall do so when other children are not in class and separated from the student population (i.e. before or after school in the office area).*
 - *Registered Sex Offenders shall conduct their business in the front office area only.*
3. If the RSO is not cooperative with the administrator’s directives, then the campus security personnel or district security manager should be notified via Nextel or telephone for assistance. If the situation escalates prior to response from security personnel, contact local law enforcement via 911.

If the RSO is not a parent:

1. The receptionist/secretary or other person receiving the “ALERT” on the computer should immediately notify the Principal, Assistant Principal or other designated administrator on the campus about the presence of the RSO.
2. If the RSO is a non-parent, including contractor or vendor, access to the campus or building should not be allowed.
3. If the RSO is not cooperative with the administrator’s directives, then the campus security personnel or district security manager should be notified via Nextel or telephone for assistance. If the situation escalates prior to response from security personnel, contact local law enforcement via 911.

NOTE: In all cases, end users should not panic. This person could be a parent with a past history, which may have happened a long time ago. End users should not react any differently than with other visitor

- While we are requiring visitors to produce a state-issued ID, we realize that there may be some occasions where this is not possible. In that event, you may request another form of picture identification that provides name and date-of-birth.
- The V-Soft program will only check first name, last name and date-of-birth. Therefore, it is possible to have a “false match” of someone with the same name and birth date.
- Some states use age instead of date-of-birth as a database field. Therefore, it increases the chance of a “false match” in that a person may have the same first name, last name and be of the same age as a registered offender.

- Comparing the picture on the computer alert with the person checking in is the best way to determine if the match is legitimate or not.
- If there is no picture on the computer alert, the following items may be checked for verification: middle name, description (race, eyes, height, etc.), and incarceration status. *Note: The State of Indiana’s database contains many records with no photograph. It is not uncommon to get a match from Indiana without a photo.*
- When “false matches” are noted on the computer, Raptor Technologies verifies the submission and will contact the district if the match is, indeed, accurate.
- If you get a “false match” and the visitor becomes aware of the match, please assure them that the system only searches on name and date-of-birth. This should alleviate any concerns of identity theft.

DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND RIGHTS OF STUDENTS

Cell Phones

See Responsible Use Policy, Page

Common Areas

Halls, bus area, cafeteria, car rider area, or other areas on campus:

1. Follow all directions given by staff.
2. Walk.
3. Do not make loud noises.
4. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
5. Keep school grounds clean.
6. Do not engage in horseplay or tangible courtship.
7. No open drink containers or chewing gum allowed.
8. No purchase of food or drinks between classes.
9. In the halls, students must keep moving unless they are at their locker.
10. Do not misuse stair handrails.

Conduct and Discipline

Along with this Student Handbook, your child has also received a copy of the Friendswood ISD Student Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct contains the school district’s requirements for student conduct and behavior while at school or under the school’s jurisdiction. The Code of Conduct also explains the kinds of disciplinary action school officials can take in response to violations of the rules for student conduct and the steps involved in taking disciplinary action. If you have any questions about conduct or discipline rules, please refer to the Code of Conduct or call your child’s principal.

Parents will be contacted within two school days when a student is assigned to a disciplinary in-school suspension, out-of-school suspension, DAEP, or recommended for expulsion. School personnel may handle less serious offenses without such notification to parents.

FISD District Dress Code

The Friendswood Independent School District (FISD) maintains dress and grooming standards because students should dress and groom themselves in a manner considered acceptable and appropriate by the community. FISD believes the business of school is learning, and school dress and grooming standards should support the learning environment, along with promoting a safe, orderly learning environment. The FISD Dress Code is also established to teach grooming, hygiene, instill discipline and modesty, teach respect for authority, and prepare students for the future. School is a place of business therefore the dress and grooming of a student should reflect the serious intent of one who is going to work. Accordingly, dress and grooming standards should promote a business-like atmosphere, which is comfortable, but not too casual, free from disruption, and easily enforced by teachers and administrators.

The parent and student shall be responsible for ensuring the student is in compliance with all aspects of the Dress Code when the student enters the school premises, and during the time the student is on school premises during school hours. Each student and parent shall be responsible for ensuring compliance with the standards presented in the campus Manual/Handbook. Failure to comply will result in the student being required to change clothes, and/or correct the infraction to meet the standards. Any clothing deemed inappropriate for the educational setting by the administration; along with the ruling of the building principal regarding compliance or non-compliance with the Dress code and the corresponding consequences assigned for the violation are final. Students whose religious beliefs require exemptions from the District's Dress Code in any way may be granted an exemption, provided the student presents a written statement, expressing a religious objection to the Dress Code which the District determines valid.

The student and parent may determine the student's personal dress and grooming, provided the following standards are met:

1. Hair must be a color that can be grown naturally, neat and well groomed. Mohawk type haircuts, distracting styles, hair carvings, shaved designs or lines are not permitted.
2. Hats, caps, sport-type headbands, or any other types of head covering garments are not to be worn on campuses during school hours. No hooded sweatshirts should be worn with the hood on inside the building. Bandanas may not be worn or carried.
3. Students must be clean-shaven. Goatees, beards and moustaches or any other facial hair are prohibited.
4. A modest appearance must be maintained when standing, sitting, or bending.
5. Inappropriate clothing includes, but is not limited to strapless garments, spaghetti straps, low-cut shirts, tube tops, open underarm shirts, see-through/fishnet shirts, tank tops, pajama tops or bottoms, boxer shorts, and clothes which exposes the midriff or the underarm. *At the Pre-Kinder through 5th grade levels, tank tops are acceptable with straps wider than a 3-finger width strap. At the 6th through 12th grade levels, all shirts/blouses/dresses are to have a fully attached sleeve, shoulders must be covered at all times.*
6. Pants or shorts shall be appropriately sized and worn at the natural waist with or without a belt. Oversized or excessively baggy clothes are not permitted.
7. Shorts, skirts, or dresses, to include top of slit on short, skirt or dress, must be middle fingertip length.
8. *Shorts and jeans with tears above middle fingertip length are not permitted. Cut off type shorts and skirts are not permitted.*
9. Leggings, yoga pants, spandex, biking shorts, or similar material (except those that are worn in a school sponsored activity) cannot be worn unless they are covered by shorts, a skirt/dress or shirt, which meets the middle fingertip length.
10. Appropriate undergarments must be worn, and must not be visible at any time.

11. Full-length coats, such as those commonly referred to, as “trench” coats are not permitted.
12. Non-wheeled shoes are to be worn at all times. House shoes/slippers are not permitted.
13. Permanent or non-permanent tattoos, along with writing, drawing or stamping on the skin cannot be visible.
14. Body piercings are limited to the ear. Plugs, tunnels, and spacers are not permitted, along with eyebrow, nose and tongue rings.
15. Jewelry, heavy chains or trinkets may not be noisy or distracting. Any accessory which could be deemed unsafe, to include, but not limited to spiked bracelets/chokers/watchbands, dog collars, or locks are not permitted.
16. Any clothing or accessory, which may be deemed to represent gang affiliation (real or implied) are not permitted, along with any clothing or accessory, which may be deemed to be offensive or degrade any student population. This includes Gothic style dress.
17. Any clothing or accessory which advertises or is related to alcohol, tobacco, drugs, sex, or any other substances students are prohibited from having at school, are not permitted. Students may not wear suggestive or inappropriately located decorative patches, insignia, or clothing with improper advertising, pictures, slogans or statements.
18. Clothing or accessories that in any way suggest disrespect for the American flag are not permitted. Slogans or drawings representing local, country, state or federal detentions are not permitted.
- 19.

8th Grade End-of-the-Year Celebration

Discipline: A student is prohibited from attending the End-of-the-Year Celebration if they fall into one of these two categories:

1. They receive an office referral resulting in more than a one hour D-hall prior to Spring Break, then receives another one after Spring Break.
2. They receive two office referrals resulting in more than a one hour D-hall after Spring Break.

Grades: A student is prohibited from attending if they are failing any subject five school days before the scheduled event.

3. They currently owe attendance make up hours.

Extracurricular Activities

We offer a variety of school-related extracurricular activities and encourage students to participate in those that are of interest to them. Some activities, such as Geography Bee, are closely related to subjects taught in the curriculum; others, such as the Student Council, help students build leadership skills. All athletic and sports teams that participate in University Interscholastic League (UIL) athletic competition are extracurricular, as is the band, cheerleading, and color guard.

Participation in extracurricular activities is a privilege, not a right. By state law, students must make a passing grade in all their classes in each grading period in order to be eligible to participate in any extracurricular performance or competition in the next grading period, unless the failing grade was received in an advanced or honors course. (District Policy Applies) Students who are ineligible because of one or more grades below 70 will be allowed to practice or rehearse during a suspension, but cannot perform or compete. If the student raises the grade(s) to passing within three weeks, she or he will regain eligibility per our UIL Eligibility Calendar.

Many of our approved extracurricular activities have standards of conduct, dress, and grooming that are stricter than those that apply to all students. The minimum standards for extra curricular conduct are included in the FJH Student Code of Conduct. You and your child will be informed of any additional rules at the beginning of the semester, school year, or activity and will be asked to sign a form acknowledging that you are aware of those standards and know that violation of those standards will result in suspension or removal from the activity. These additional rules are

authorized by the school board, which has delegated to the superintendent the authority to approve them.

Our secondary schools have established a limited open forum that permits students to meet on school premises during non-instructional time before or after school in groups that are not related to the curriculum. Meetings of these groups must be student-initiated and student-run. School employees cannot be sponsors of these groups, and adults from outside the school system cannot direct, conduct, control, or regularly attend these meetings. Board approved groups, activities, and organizations are authorized extracurricular activities in Friendswood ISD. If a student advances to a post-district competition level, she or he is allowed up to five additional absences.

Leaving Campus after Arriving at School

Once a student arrives on school property, they may not leave without checking out through the office. Doing so will result in a short truancy.

Library Facilities, Hours, and Access

Each school has a library available for student research and study, with resources appropriate for needs of the grades served by the campus. A certified librarian supervises the library. Students have access to the library during the school day and during posted hours before and after school.

Students will be charged \$0.10 per page for copying outside assignments.

If you have a concern about library materials available to your child, please contact the librarian, teacher, or the principal. We have a policy and process that will allow you to explain your concerns and reach an understanding about your child's access to the questioned materials.

Lost, Damaged, or Stolen Personal Items

We ask that you discourage your child from wearing or bringing to school expensive or irreplaceable jewelry, watches, sunglasses, electronics (with the exception of BYOD devices), or personal clothing that may be removed during the days, such as winter coats. Students are responsible for all their personal possessions while at school or any school-sponsored or school-related event. It is important that you understand the school district is not responsible for any personal items that are lost, damaged, or stolen at school or a school-related activity. Lost and found items not picked up by the end of the semester will be donated to a non-profit organization.

Plagiarism/Academic Dishonesty

Students found to have engaged in academic dishonesty shall be subject to grade penalties on assignments or tests and disciplinary penalties in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct. Academic dishonesty includes cheating or copying the work of another student, plagiarism, and unauthorized communication between students during an examination. The determination that a student has engaged in academic dishonesty shall be based on the judgment of the classroom teacher or another supervising professional employee, taking into consideration written materials, observation, or information from students.

Procedures for Reporting Allegations of Bullying Friendswood ISD

The district does not tolerate bullying, and any student or parent of a student who believes a student has engaged in bullying is highly encouraged to immediately report the incident. Retaliation against anyone involved in the complaint process is a violation of district

policy and is prohibited. Reports of an alleged bullying incident may be submitted orally or in writing, to a teacher, counselor, principal or other district employee. Reports may also be submitted electronically, either anonymously or non-anonymously through the district website – Bullying – report it at www.myfisd.com under Parents and Students.

The district prohibits bullying on school property, at school-sponsored or school-related activities, or in any vehicle operated by the district. Bullying may be verbal or written expression or expression through electronic means, or physical conduct. Bullying is not tolerated by the district, and any student or parent of a student, who believes that the student or another student has experienced bullying or that a student has engaged in bullying is encouraged to immediately report the incident.

Please note that after submission of the complaint to the district employee, the district may assign the complaint to a campus administrator to follow up on the submitted complaint and any other important matters pertaining to the complaint. We encourage you to communicate with your designated campus administrator during this time.

Questioning Students at School

As school officials, we have the right to question your child about his or her own conduct at school and, in the investigation of alleged misconduct by other students, to question him or her about the conduct of others. We expect students to cooperate in this process, and the refusal to cooperate will be treated as insubordination. We will not ordinarily contact you before questioning your child about his or her own conduct or about the conduct of other students, but certainly will contact you promptly if our investigation shows that your child has violated school conduct rules. The Code of Conduct provides a complete explanation of the discipline processes and when you will be contacted. Our investigation of possible violations of the Code of Conduct is not a criminal proceeding, and there is no such thing as “taking the Fifth” or a student’s right not to incriminate himself or herself in a school discipline investigation. Refusal to sign the discipline form, indicating that they are aware of the write-up and discipline, will result in insubordination.

Sometimes law enforcement officials or investigators from Child Protective Services (CPS) ask to interview students at school. In the case of an investigator from Child Protective Services conducting a child abuse or neglect investigation, we are required by state law to permit the investigator to talk to the child at school. We will also make every effort to cooperate with law enforcement officials conducting an investigation that requires talking to students.

Ordinarily, we will attempt to contact you before the interview by an outside person takes place. However, if the CPS investigator or the law enforcement official asks or tells us not to contact you, we will comply.

Rumors

Students shall not make false accusations, spread rumors, or perpetrate hoaxes regarding students, staff, or school safety. Disciplinary action may be given.

Searches of Students, Lockers, and Vehicles on School Property

School officials may search a student or a student’s property with reasonable suspicion or the student’s free and voluntary consent. However, consent obtained through threat of contacting the police authorities is not considered to be freely and voluntarily given. Vehicles on school property are also subject to search.

Areas such as lockers and desks, which are owned and jointly controlled by the district, may be searched at any time. Students have no expectation of privacy in the lockers assigned to them.

Students shall not place, keep, or maintain any article or material in school-owned lockers or desks that is forbidden by district policy or that would lead school officials to reasonably believe that it would cause a substantial disruption on school property or at a school-sponsored function.

School officials may search a student's clothing and pockets if they have reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has violated a school rule or possesses contraband. Highly intrusive invasions of a student's privacy, such as searches of the student's person, shall be conducted only if probable cause exists to believe that the student possesses contraband.

Administrators and teachers have the right to question students regarding their conduct or the conduct of others.

The use of sniff dogs, sometimes referred to as drug dogs, are limited only to objects under the school's control or situated at school, such as lockers, desks, cars and backpacks. Periodically, dogs will be brought into classrooms to search rooms, desks and student belongings, once the students have been removed from the room. The sniffing of objects of school property by dogs does not constitute a search under the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. *Horton v. Goose Creek ISD*, 690 F.2d471 (5th Cir. 1982), cert. denied, 103 S. Ct. 3536 (1983). Therefore, an alert by a *sniff dog can provide the basis for a further search of the object.*

See Something, Say Something

In FISD, the safety of our schools is paramount. Students and parents are our first line of defense for reporting unusual activity or safety concerns. FISD's ***See Something, Say Something*** is an anonymous reporting system immediately alerting administration when sent. The form asks you to specifically describe what you saw: What did you see? When did you see it? Where did it occur? Why was it suspicious? You are always encouraged to call 911 if you believe it is an emergency. The See Something, Say Something link can be found on the homepage of the FISD website, www.myfisd.com

Sexual Harassment

We prohibit students from sexually harassing other students and from sexually harassing employees. Engaging in sexual harassment is a violation of the Student Code of Conduct. We, of course, prohibit employees from having any kind of sexual contact or romantic relationship with students enrolled in our schools, even if the student is willing and the parents do not object.

If you or your child has a complaint about sexual comments, conduct, contact or any other inappropriate conduct by a school employee, do not hesitate to contact the school principal. We will listen to your concern, take a written statement, and conduct a prompt investigation. We also will look into reports that other students have been making sexual comments to or engaging in sexual or other inappropriate conduct or contact with your child at school or school activities and take appropriate disciplinary action according to the requirements of the Code of Conduct.

Although we will provide you a general report of the results of our investigation of sexual harassment complaints, the same federal law that protects the confidentiality of information about your child (see Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) protects the confidentiality of information about the student you reported for investigation. In other words, we will not disclose to you the actual discipline imposed on another student, unless that student's parents give us permission to disclose that information. If the complaint is about an employee's conduct, we will inform you of the results of the investigation and of the general action taken in response if there is a finding of wrongdoing on the employee's part.

Your child's principal can give you a copy of the entire sexual harassment policy and complaint process and will be glad to answer any questions you may have about this subject.

Skateboards

Skateboards are not to be ridden on school property.
Skateboards ridden to and from school must be put in locker immediately upon arrival.

Student Publications/Distribution of Materials

All materials prepared and published as part of a school's journalism or language arts programs are under the control and supervision of the administration and the Board of Trustees. The principal has final approval authority on all materials published or distributed in the name of the school.

Each campus has an area in the school where non-school publications or materials that have been approved by the principal can be made available to students. Students are not permitted to distribute non-school publications or materials in the classroom or hallways.

Before non-school materials or publications are made available to students in the designated area, they must be submitted to the principal for review and approval. The principal will make a decision within 24 hours of the time the materials are submitted, and his or her failure to act within that time is interpreted as disapproval. If the materials are disapproved, students can appeal to the superintendent, who will decide within three days. The superintendent's failure to respond is interpreted as disapproval, and students can appeal to the board by making a written request for the board to consider the superintendent's decision at the next regular board meeting.

Summer School

Students needing summer school to raise grade averages will need to see his/her counselor.

Textbooks

Textbooks are furnished by the state and are issued at the beginning of the year. State law requires that textbooks must be covered at all times. Students must pay for damaged or lost books. Adhesive covers are not permitted as they can cause damage to books.

Transportation Program

We provide transportation on school buses to and from school for all students. Students are required to comply with rules for conduct on school buses and to comply with the Student Code of Conduct while at authorized school bus stops waiting for the bus. Students who misbehave or violate the Code of Conduct while on the bus will be disciplined according to the Code of Conduct and may be suspended from the bus for a period of time.

In order to comply with state laws regarding student transportation, students may only be picked up or dropped off at their residence, the residence of a grandparent or a licensed child-care facility. Parents should designate the point of pick-up and drop-off at the beginning of the year. Bus drivers will not be allowed to change the point of pick-up or drop-off. FISD bus drivers will not accept notes for special transportation arrangements. If a child needs to be picked up or dropped off at a point different than designated by the parent, then the parent must provide transportation.

Friendswood ISD Student Guidelines Responsible Use Policy

Friendswood Independent School District provides a variety of electronic resources for educational purposes. District electronic resources are defined as the District's network (including the wireless network), servers, computer workstations, mobile technologies, peripherals, applications, databases, online resources, Internet access, email, and any other technology designated for use by students, including all new technologies as they become available. This also includes any access to Friendswood ISD electronic resources while on or near school property, in school vehicles and at school-sponsored activities, and includes the appropriate use of district technology resources via off-campus remote access. Please note the Internet is a network of many types of communication and is part of the district's electronic resources. These applications offer a variety of opportunities to communicate, collaborate, and create, which are essential to authentic learning.

In accordance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, Friendswood Independent School District educates staff and students regarding appropriate online behavior to insure Internet safety, including use of email and internet resources, and has deployed filtering technology and protection measures to restrict access to inappropriate content such as those that are illegal, harmful, or contain potentially offensive information. While every effort is made to provide the most secure and optimal learning environment, it is not possible to absolutely prevent access (accidental or otherwise) to inappropriate content. **It is each student's responsibility to follow the guidelines for appropriate and responsible use.**

SOME GUIDELINES FOR RESPONSIBLE USE

- Students must only open, view, modify, and delete their own files.
- Internet use at school must be directly related to school assignments and projects.
- Students may be assigned individual email and network accounts and must use only those accounts and passwords that they have been granted permission by the district to use. All account activity should be for educational purposes only.
- Students must immediately report threatening messages or discomfoting Internet files/sites to a teacher.
- Students must at all times use the district's electronic resources, including email, wireless network access, and internet tools/resources to communicate only in ways that are kind, productive and respectful.
- Students are responsible at all times for their use of the district's electronic resources and must assume personal responsibility to behave ethically and responsibly, even when technology provides them freedom to do otherwise.

SOME EXAMPLES OF INAPPROPRIATE USE

- Using any electronic resource for illegal purposes including, but not limited to, cyberbullying, gambling, pornography, and computer hacking.
- Disabling or attempting to disable any system monitoring or filtering or security measures.
- Sharing usernames and passwords with others; and/or borrowing someone else's username, password, or account access.
- Purposefully opening, viewing, using or deleting files belonging to another system user without permission.
- Electronically posting personal information about one's self or others that is inappropriate or damaging to character.

- Downloading or plagiarizing copyrighted information without permission from the copyright holder.
- Intentionally introducing a virus or other malicious programs onto the district's system.
- Electronically posting media or accessing materials that are abusive, obscene, sexually oriented, threatening, racist, harassing, illegal or damaging to another's reputation.
- Electronically lobbying for political purposes.
- Gaining unauthorized access to restricted information or network resources.
- Purposefully utilizing the district's electronic resources in any way that disrupts the use of any computers or networks by others.
- Using any device which permits recording the voice or image of another in any way that disrupts the educational environment, invades the privacy of others, or is made without the prior consent of the individual(s) being recorded or photographed.

EMAIL/ELECTRONIC STORAGE

1. Friendswood ISD staff may arrange for electronic communications, and electronic storage accounts for students on a limited basis for instructional purposes only. As the district provides these accounts, they are considered to be district accounts not personal accounts, and therefore governed by applicable district policies. All communications and data accessible from these accounts are not considered to be private and shall be monitored by district staff.
2. Messages and data in violation of this or other district policies may be archived and/or deleted without notification.
3. All users of any electronic mail either provided by the District or transmitted through the District's technology resources are required to comply with this Responsible Use Policy.
4. Never assume electronic mail or storage is private. Messages relating to or in support of illegal activities must be reported to the authorities and the District will comply with state and federal laws, as well as court orders or subpoenas that will require disclosure.

SPECIAL NOTE: CYBERBULLYING

Cyberbullying is defined as the use of any Internet-connected device for the purpose of bullying, harassing, or intimidating another student. This includes, but may not be limited to:

- Sending abusive text messages to cell phones, computers, or Internet-connected game consoles.
- Posting abusive comments on someone's social networking site.
- Creating a social networking site or web page that masquerades as the victim's personal site and using it to embarrass him or her.
- Making it appear that the victim is posting malicious comments about friends to isolate him or her from friends.
- Posting the victim's personal identifiable information on a site to put them at greater risk of contact by predators.
- Sending abusive comments while playing interactive games.
- Acquiring and/or sharing media, sometimes manipulating it to embarrass the target.

CONSEQUENCES FOR INAPPROPRIATE USE

- Appropriate disciplinary or legal action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct and applicable laws including monetary damages.
- Suspension of access to the district's electronic resources.
- Revocation of the district's electronic account(s); and/or
- Termination of System User Account: The district may deny, revoke, or suspend specific user's access to the district's system with or without cause or notice for lack of use, violation of policy or regulations regarding acceptable network use, or as a result of disciplinary actions against user.
- Possible criminal action.

ELECTRONIC PERSONAL MOBILE DEVICES

An **electronic personal mobile** device is any personally owned device that is used to communicate, access, create or share media via the internet or an individual's personal data plan. It is our goal that students and teachers collaborate in rich, engaging learning experiences using technology.

Students will be allowed to bring an electronic personal mobile device to school and log on to the student wireless network, only. Devices may be used in the classroom upon teacher approval.

ALL PERSONAL DEVICES SHOULD BE CLEARLY LABELED WITH STUDENT'S FULL NAME.

Students are responsible for personal property brought to school and should keep personal items with self or in a locked space. Devices should be charged prior to bringing to school. Devices brought by students are not eligible for technical support and must adhere to these responsible use guidelines while on school grounds. The school is not responsible for students who bring their own Internet connectivity via air-cards or data-plan on a mobile device.

In the event the technology is used inappropriately; normal disciplinary consequences may occur.

Disclaimers

1. Friendswood ISD and its individual schools, administrators, faculty, and staff thereof, make no warranties of any kind for the service provided and will not be held responsible for any damage suffered by users. This includes the loss of data resulting from delays, non-deliveries, mis-deliveries, and intrusion by computer virus, or service interruption
2. Use of any information obtained via network access is at the risk of the user, and Friendswood ISD specifically denies any responsibility for the accuracy or quality of the information obtained.
3. Friendswood ISD cannot guarantee complete protection from inappropriate material. Furthermore, it is impossible for the district or content filter to reflect each individual or family's opinions of what constitutes "inappropriate material." If a student mistakenly accesses inappropriate information, he/she should immediately notify a district staff member.
4. Friendswood ISD is not liable for an individual's inappropriate use of district's electronic resources or violations of copyright restrictions or other laws, or for costs incurred by users through use of Friendswood ISD's electronic resources.
5. Friendswood ISD is not liable for any individual's personal device lost, stolen or damaged while at school or on school property.
6. The District will cooperate fully with local, state, or federal officials in any investigation concerning or relating to misuse of the District's electronic resources.

Attendance and Punctuality

Texas state law requires that children between the ages of 6 and 18 attend school each school day for the entire period the program of instruction is provided. Additionally, regular attendance is necessary if satisfactory schoolwork is to be done. Pupils should not stay out of school for trivial reasons. The education of youth is far too important to be put in second place. The school is held accountable for students residing within its district boundaries and must submit reports of attendance regularly to the Texas Education Agency.

Parents should notify the school when it is necessary for the student to be absent.

Friendswood Junior High School: 281-996-6200.

In addition to the phone notification, following ANY absence from school, the student must bring a written statement from the parent explaining the absence. **A note from the parent or guardian must be presented to the front office within three (3) days of the student's return to school. Notes turned in after the three-day limit will be dated and kept on file, but the absence will remain unexcused unless the principal gives his/her approval to accept the note late because of extenuating circumstances.** It is both a state and local requirement that these statements (notes) are kept on file. A student who misses **more than three consecutive days** of school due to any

illness or injury **MUST** present a statement from the physician or health clinic verifying the illness or other condition requiring the student's extended absence from school.

If a student misses class due to a medical appointment, the student must bring documentation from the doctor's office stating the date and time of the student's visit upon the student's return to school.

If a student checks out of school through the nurse's office and misses more than the remainder of that day, he/she must bring a note to the front office regarding the absence.

Students must check in and out through the front office. Students arriving after classes have begun must sign in through the front office. Students leaving before his/her classes are over must check out with the front office. Failure to check in and out properly may result in disciplinary action being assigned.

The front office will not deliver messages to students unless approved by an administrator.

State law requires that a student be in attendance at least 90% of the time that a class is offered. If a student does not meet the attendance requirement, credit will be denied. Furthermore, by state law, your student may not receive a proof of enrollment to take driver's education, or receive or renew a driver's license without completing make-up hours.

Every 3 tardies a student accrues to a class will be recorded as an absence when determining final exemptions and denial of credit. Students who are more than 10 minutes late to any one class will be considered absent.

Attendance and Credit

Separate and apart from the compulsory attendance requirements, students must attend school a certain amount of time in order to get credit for their academic work. State law requires students to be "in attendance" for at least 90 percent of the days a class is taught during a semester or year.

FJH has an attendance committee that will review student attendance records. If the committee decides that extenuating circumstances prevented a student from meeting the minimum attendance for credit standard, the committee can award credit or tell the student what additional work or time needs to be completed in order for the student to get credit for the grade level or course.

You will be notified when your child is in danger of losing credit because of absences and will have the chance to meet with the attendance committee to discuss your child's situation.

Release During the School Day

Students will be allowed to leave school during the school day only with the permission of the principal or someone in the principal's office that has been given the authority to release students. Parents cannot go directly to their children's classroom and take the child away from school during the day. Teachers do not have the authority to let children leave their classroom with anyone. If you need to take your child from school before the end of the school day, such as for a medical appointment or a family emergency, it should be common practice to have your student bring a note when checking out during the school day. The student will show the note to their teacher to dismiss them from class and then sign out in the front office with the attendance clerk. This will minimize classroom disruptions.

At the time children are enrolled, the parent or other adult completing the enrollment forms should list those people who are authorized to pick up children during the school day. Unless the principal has a current court order signed by a judge, showing an official file stamp with the court, and

indicating that a parent’s right of access to and possession of his or her children has been limited in some way, the principal will release children to either parent.

Students will not ordinarily be released during the school day to participate in private lessons or other instruction. If you believe you have a special situation that would warrant an exception to this rule, please contact the campus principal to schedule a conference about your situation.

**GENERAL INFORMATION
FRIENDSWOOD JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL
2018-2019 FEE STATEMENT**

Received of _____ Date _____

For all Junior High Students

___ \$10.00 Language Arts SAT Vocabulary Prep
Materials

Career Technical Education

___ \$5.00 College and Career Connections
___ \$5.00 Intro to Gateways Technology
___ \$15.00 Gateways to Technology A
___ \$15.00 Gateways to Technology B

Lab Based

___ \$15.00 Construction Management
___ \$15.00 Construction Technology

World Languages (8th gr only)

___ \$10.00 French, German, Spanish

Physical Education/Health

___ \$ 4.00 Wellness and Athletics

Fine Arts

___ \$30.00 Art 6th
___ \$15.00 Art I, II, Portfolio
___ \$30.00 Chamber Choir
___ \$30.00 Concert Choir
___ \$30.00 Mustang Choir
___ \$30.00 Mustang Select
___ \$25.00 Theatre Arts 6th
___ \$10.00 Theatre Arts 1
___ \$10.00 Children’s Theatre
___ \$15.00 Technical Theatre I

Testing

___ \$10.00 PSAT Test (8th gr only)

Other

___ \$15.00 Technology
___ \$10.00 Yearbook Class

Athletics/Band Fees

Participation fees will be collected once your child has made the team/activity. (All fees are per student, per activity – Individual maximum at Junior High: \$75, Family maximum: \$300)

Tier 1 (\$75)

Football	Girls’ Track
Boys’ Basketball	Boys’ Soccer
Girls’ Basketball	Girls’ Soccer
Tennis	Volleyball
Boys’ Track	Band

Tier 2 (\$50)

Boys’ X-Country
Girls’ X-Country

IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A REFUND, YOU MUST HAVE A RECEIPT

NOTE: Certain fees are assessed for items which become property of students or in lieu of requiring students to provide certain consumable items which may be acquired by the school at a reduced cost and maintain consistency among school supplies.

◆ All students enrolled in Pre-Algebra, Algebra and Geometry will be required to have at their disposal a TI 84+ or equivalent graphing calculator.

Approved April 9, 2018 Board Meeting

In addition, the following may apply to your student:

- a fee to cover the cost of materials when the student makes, builds, or prepares some product that becomes the student's personal property.
- dues for voluntary student organizations and clubs and admission fees to voluntary extracurricular activities.
- security deposits for materials, supplies, or equipment that must be returned to the district.
- fees for personal PE equipment and clothing, unless the student provides his or her own clothing and equipment that meets school health and safety standards.
- Fees for items of personal use or products a student chooses to purchase, such as student publications, annuals, and club participation materials.
- a reasonable fee, not more than the annual cost of maintenance, for school-owned musical instruments and uniforms.
- fees for personal apparel used in extracurricular activities that become the student's personal property, such as cheerleader, color guard and band uniforms.
- fees for locker damage will be assessed with the following guidelines:
 - No decorations of any kind are allowed in/on the lockers.
 - No open containers (food, beverage, etc.) inside the lockers.
 - No individual locks are allowed on the lockers. Each locker is equipped with a combination lock. Individual locks will be removed by maintenance and the student is responsible for the \$5.00 fee.
 - A combination is issued at registration. For safety purposes, do not give your combination to anyone other than your parent. It is a good idea to ask your parent to keep your combo handy in case you need to call and ask for it. Also, do not write your locker number and combination down together. The following are end of year maintenance fees:
 - Exterior cleaning \$20
 - Interior cleaning \$20
 - Please encourage students to keep locker in good order to avoid charges.
- fees for textbook use will be assessed according to the following:
 - \$10 bar code replacement fee for bar code that is adhered yet not able to scan due to tampering.
 - \$20 for defacement – if the book is still useable (includes missing barcode if book can still be identified as checked out to the student as verified by inside code number).
 - **Full cost of replacement** if text is lost/unusable due to defacement, destruction, or non-return (average replacement cost is \$50/book.)
- **Report cards are held until fines are cleared.**
- You may request a waiver of any required fee that you are unable to pay by contacting the principal who will determine ability to pay based on the criteria for identifying students who are eligible for participation in the free and reduced-price school breakfast and lunch program.
- The Friendswood Independent School District's Policy Manual is available on line through the Friendswood Independent School District website or in the school library.

Counseling and Guidance Services

Professional school counselors provide an array of services for students. They implement a comprehensive school-counseling program that promotes and enhances student achievement. They offer small group and individual counseling, as well as academic planning and guidance. School Counselors are certified/licensed educators trained in school counseling with unique skills and qualifications to address all students' academic, personal/social and career development needs.

Curriculum Information

Friendswood ISD operates a Pre-K—12 programs that meet all state curriculum requirements. Schools are organized by grade level with separate campuses for: Cline and Westwood (pre-K—grade 3), Bales and Windsong (grades 4-5), Friendswood Junior High (grades 6-8) and Friendswood High School (grades 9-12).

Free and Reduced-Price Food Program

Our schools participate in a Child Nutrition Program, which provides free and reduced-price breakfast and lunch programs to students based on family income levels. We maintain strict confidentiality as to whether students participate in the program. If you would like more information about the program or an application, please contact the Director of Food Services.

School Resource Officer

Through a memorandum of understanding involving the Friendswood Police Department and the Friendswood Independent School District, the School Resource Officer Program is available at Friendswood Junior High School. Our School Resource Officer (SRO) serves our students as a mentor and liaison to create a positive environment and relationship between the school and the police department.

Additionally, the SRO provides security for students and staff while serving in his/her capacity as a police officer in the enforcement of the laws of the state of Texas and the city of Friendswood. This may include issuing citations for infractions such as, but not limited to fighting, theft, truancy, profanity and assault.

Special Programs

To meet the requirements of state and federal law, we also offer several programs designed to meet specific needs of some of our students. We identify students as eligible for one or more of these programs based on assessments made after referrals and recommendations from teachers and counselors and will always inform you about the program beforehand. We also can identify students based on an assessment after a request or referral from you. If you have any questions about the referral and identification process for any of the following programs, please contact your child's teacher(s), counselor, or the campus principal.

Accelerated or Intensive Instruction/Students At-Risk: Some students do not qualify for special education programs or Section 504 accommodations but still need some additional assistance to be successful in school. We provide tutorial programs and intensive or accelerated instruction in subjects where students are showing special difficulty and may provide specially focused instruction to improve student's language and math skills.

Bilingual Education/English as a Second Language: English is the basic language of instruction in our schools. Children who have limited English-speaking skills will have access to programs to help them learn to understand, speak, read, and write the English language. When you enroll your children for the first time, you will be asked to complete a Home Language Survey so we know whether to take additional steps to be sure your child is properly served.

Dyslexia Program: The philosophy underlying the Friendswood Independent School District's Instructional Program for students with dyslexia is predicated on the belief that children have a wide range of educational needs, varying greatly in intensity and duration and that there is a recognized continuum of educational settings which may, at a given time, be appropriate to meet an individual child's needs.

Gifted and Talented Students: The Friendswood Independent School District offers a program for gifted and talented students in grades K-12. Differentiated curriculum is offered in Language Arts, Social Studies, Science, and Math. All identified students are taught the GT curriculum through our core areas.

REFERRALS

- A teacher, counselor, administrator, parent, student, or community member may nominate any student for the gifted and talented program. Once a nomination is made, a screening will be conducted. The screening committee will consist of a counselor, student's teacher, and one of the designated GT teachers. If the screening committee's recommendation is to formally test the student, then parent permission will be obtained first. District and/or contract staff at the campus completes testing.

SELECTION CRITERIA

- Students who have been recommended for testing will be considered using objective and subjective data. Upon receipt of parent permission, individualized and/or group testing will be administered. If a student is tested for the gifted and talented program, you will receive a copy of the matrix that includes the names of the test instruments utilized, the district's required performance level, and your child's scores. Generally, students scoring in the very superior range of intelligence, performing academically in the top 5th percentile nationally, and demonstrating other areas of giftedness meet the criteria for placement. Teachers will complete a gifted characteristics rating scale to supply additional information about the student.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

- When a student identified as gifted by a previous school district transfers into Friendswood Junior High School, the selection committee to determine if placement in FISD'S gifted and talented program is appropriate shall review the student's records. The committee shall make its determination within 30 days of the student's enrollment in FISD and shall base its decision on the transferred records, observations report of the FISD teaches who instruct the student and student and parent conferences. Additional testing may be necessary and will be conducted during this time frame. Parent permission will be obtained prior to testing.

FURLOUGHES

- The selection committee may place students who are unable to maintain satisfactory performance within the structure of the gifted and talented program on furlough. The purpose of such a furlough is to provide the student an opportunity to attain performance goals established by the selection committee. A furlough also may be granted at the request of the student and/or parent. A student may be furloughed for a period of time deemed appropriate by the selection committee. At the end of the furlough, the student's progress

shall be reassessed and the student may re-enter the gifted program, be removed from the program, or be placed on another furlough.

EXIT CRITERIA

- Student performance in the program shall be monitored. A student shall be removed from the program at any time the selection committee determines it is in the student's best interest. If a student or parent requests removal from the program, FJHS shall honor that request after a conference with the selection committee or its representative.

APPEALS

- Parents or student may appeal any final decision of the selection committee regarding selection for or removal from the gifted program. Appeal shall be made first to the selection committee. Any subsequent appeals shall be made in accordance with FNG (LOCAL) beginning at Level Two. Contact the Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum, 281-482-1267.

RECORDS

- The selection matrix and parent permission form will be kept in the student's cumulative folder. They will be forwarded to other schools along with other school records when a student moves and records are requested.

Section 504: Some students who are not eligible for special education and related services may also have disabilities that interfere with their ability to benefit from the regular school program. A committee of educators who have knowledge of the student and his or her needs and limitations will determine what accommodations to the regular method and requirements of instruction are necessary in order for the student to participate. Please contact your counselor to receive full information about the school's Section 504 program.

Special Education: Friendswood ISD provides special education and related services for students with disabilities according to individualized plans developed by teachers, parents, counselors, and other professionals. And ARD Committee will decide whether a student would benefit from special education services after we complete a comprehensive assessment. Please contact Dahria Driskell, Special Education Director at 281-482-0687 or your principal to receive full information about our special education programs.

Please note that a request for a special education evaluation may be made verbally and does not have to be in writing. Districts and charter schools must still comply with all federal prior written notice and procedural safeguard requirements and the requirements for identifying, locating, and evaluating children who are suspected of being a child with a disability and in need of special education. However, a verbal request does not require the district or charter school to respond within the 15 school-day timeline.

In order to achieve the four goals inherent in the philosophy statement, the District assures through the Student Study Team, that students experiencing difficulties in learning are identified as soon as possible and given the services they require to be successful. The District's procedures are intended to identify and serve such students regardless of the reasons for their learning problems.

Student Illness or Injury at School/Medicines/Immunizations

Medications

Legal factors limit school employees in the administration of medication. All medications which need to be administered during school hours must be brought to and kept in the clinic. All medications must be in the original container, age appropriate, and FDA approved. Prescription medication must be specific for the student with a pharmacy label. A signed "Parent Request for Administering Medication" form must accompany the medication. This form can be found on the district website under the tab "Parents & Students", then the link "Nurses", or the nurse's office. In addition, one may also access all clinic forms including forms that need to be completed each school year by a Physician and parent (ie- Allergy Action Plan and Self-Administration of Asthma Medication).

Herbal Supplements

Herbal medications, dietary supplements, and home remedies will not be given during school hours since they are not FDA approved.

Narcotics

Narcotic analgesics will not be administered at school because of the addictive nature and the potential to induce sleep or stupor.

Student Illness or Injury at School

We have at least one Registered Nurse and a clinic on each campus to care for your child should they become ill or injured while at school.

One of the forms the district asks you to complete at the beginning of each school year is a form authorizing designated school employees to consent to medical treatment in case your child is injured at school or at a school-related activity and requires emergency treatment. The nurse will call you in such a situation and will also call for emergency medical assistance. It is important, however, that you understand that the school district is not responsible for any cost of medical treatment or services provided after an injury at school or a school-related activity. The school district cannot and will not use public funds to pay individual student medical expenses.

At the beginning of each school year, the district offers you the opportunity to purchase low-cost student accident insurance that covers the student while at school. You may also purchase a policy that covers the student 24 hours a day. The school district is not the policyholder for this insurance; if you decide that additional protection would be a benefit and protection to you and your family, the contract is between you and the insurance company.

For the protection of all students, the following health rules have been set up and will be followed at all times. A child cannot remain in school with:

- Fever of 100 degrees or over
- Undiagnosed rash or weeping sores
- Vomiting and /or diarrhea
- Red, discharge from eyes, or

- Any illness making him/her feel too badly to participate

A student having any of the above symptoms BEFORE SCHOOL SHOULD STAY AT HOME for observation and care. A student will not be sent home without special arrangements and permission of the parent. Any illness or injury which causes the student to miss three consecutive days of school must return with a note from the health care provider authorizing the return to school. The school nurse is not in a position to diagnose or treat illness. For questions about diagnosis or treatment, a medical doctor should be consulted. Students should be free of fever (without the use of Tylenol or Ibuprofen), vomiting, and /or diarrhea for 24 hours before returning to school.

Immunizations

Texas Law requires specific immunizations for all students enrolled in schools. All required immunizations must be completed, validated by a doctor or health department, and on file at school the first day of class. The immunizations required are:

- **Diphtheria/ Tetanus/ Pertussis (DTaP, DTP, DT, Td)** 4 to 5 doses; 1 dose must have been received on or after the 4th birthday. For students aged 7 years and older, 3 doses meet the requirement if 1 dose was received on or after the 4th birthday.
- **Tetanus/ Diphtheria/Pertussis (Tdap)** 7th grade - 1 dose of Tdap is required if at least 5 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine. 8th-12th grade – 1 dose of Tdap is required when 10 years have passed since the last dose of tetanus-containing vaccine. Td is acceptable in place of Tdap if a medical contraindication to pertussis exists.
- **Polio (IPV)** 4 doses of polio; 1 dose must have been received on or after the 4th birthday. However, 3 doses meet the requirement if the 3rd dose was given on or after the 4th birthday.
- **Measles/Mumps/Rubella (MMR)** 2 doses are required, with the 1st dose received on or after the 1st birthday
- **Hepatitis B (Hep B)** 3 doses are required
- **Varicella (VAR-chickenpox)** 2 doses are required; the 1st dose must have been received on or after the 1st birthday; or parent documentation of the date in which the student had the chickenpox disease
- **Meningococcal (MCV4)** for 7th – 12th grade - 1 dose is required on or after the 11th birthday. For high school students taking dual credit, the dose must be within the five-year period before enrolling. They must get the vaccine at least 10 days before the semester begins.
- **Hepatitis A (Hep A)** K-9th grade - 2 doses are required; the 1st dose must have been received on or after the 1st birthday

Exemptions for Immunizations

Texas law allows (a) physicians to write medical exemption statements that the vaccine(s) required would be medically harmful or injurious to the health and well-being of the child or household member, and (b) parents/guardians to choose an exemption form immunization requirements for reasons of conscience, including a religious belief.

The law does not allow parents/guardians to elect an exemption simply because of inconvenience.

Instructions for requesting the official exemption affidavit that must be signed by parents/guardians choosing the exemption for reasons of conscience, including religious belief, can be found at www.ImmunizeTexas.com under “School & Child-Care.” The original Exemption Affidavit must be completed and submitted to the school. This exemption must be renewed every two years.

For children claiming medical exemptions, a written statement by the physician must be submitted to the school. Unless it is written in the statement that a lifelong condition exists, the exemption statement is valid for only one year from the date signed by the physician.

Bacterial Meningitis

What is Meningitis?

Meningitis is an inflammation of the covering of the brain and spinal cord. Viruses, parasite, fungi, and bacteria can cause it. Viral meningitis is most common and the least serious. Bacterial meningitis is the most common form of serious bacterial infection with the potential for serious, long-term complications. It is an uncommon disease, but requires urgent treatment with antibiotics to prevent permanent damage or death.

What are the symptoms?

Someone with meningitis will become very ill. The illness may develop over one or two days, but it can also rapidly progress in a matter of hours. Not everyone with meningitis will have the same symptoms.

Children (over 1 year old) and adults with meningitis may have a severe headache, high temperature, vomiting, sensitivity to bright lights, neck stiffness or joint pains, and drowsiness or confusion. In both children and adults, there may be a rash of tiny, red-purple spots. These can occur anywhere on the body.

The diagnosis of bacterial meningitis is based on a combination of symptoms and laboratory results.

How serious is bacterial meningitis?

If it is diagnosed early and treated promptly, the majority of people make a complete recovery. In some cases it can be fatal or a person may be left with a permanent disability.

How is bacterial meningitis spread?

Fortunately, none of the bacteria that cause meningitis are as contagious as diseases like the common cold or the flu, and they are not spread by casual contact or by simply breathing the air where a person with meningitis has been. The germs live naturally in the back of our noses and throats, but they do not live for long outside the body. They are spread when people exchange saliva (such as by kissing, sharing drinking containers, or utensils).

How can bacterial meningitis be prevented?

There are vaccines available that offer protection against some of the bacteria that can cause bacterial meningitis. The pneumococcal conjugate vaccine (PVC), pneumococcal polysaccharide vaccine (PPSV), meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MCV4), meningococcal polysaccharide vaccine (MPSV4), and *Haemophilus influenzae* Type b (HIB) vaccine can assist in preventing infection from certain bacteria that can cause bacterial meningitis.

Maintaining healthy habits, like getting plenty of rest and not coming into close contact with people who are sick can also help prevent infection. Using good health practices such as covering your mouth and nose when coughing or sneezing and washing your hands frequently with soap and water can also help stop the spread of the bacteria.

What you should do if you think you or a friend might have bacterial meningitis?

Seek prompt medical attention

For more information

Your school nurse, family doctor, and the staff at your local or regional health department office are excellent sources for information on all communicable diseases. Additional information may also be found at the website for the Center for Disease Control and Prevention: www.cdc.gov and the Texas Department of Health: www.dshs.texas.gov

State Required Screenings

Texas law requires Vision, Hearing, Acanthosis Nigricans (AN), and Spinal screenings to be conducted on all students. Vision and Hearing screens are conducted in K, 1st, 3rd, 5th, and 7th grades. AN screenings are conducted on 1st, 3rd, 5th and 7th grades. Spinal screenings for girls are conducted in 5th and 7th grade, boys are screened in 8th grade.

6th Grade Physical Education/Wellness Program

Appropriate footwear must be worn or Wellness class. Coaches will inform students of proper footwear.

Girls Physical Education/Wellness/Conditioning Information

The purpose of the Physical Education/Wellness/Conditioning Program is to instill in each student the importance of physical activity and fitness as a lifelong habit. By using self-motivation and self-responsibility, we will help guide each individual in developing and obtaining goals to raise their fitness level. This class involves daily physical activity during class time and health lessons once a week.

Materials

- Dress out attire
- PE/Health folder with paper

Dress Out

All attire is required to be 100% dressing out!

- PE attire consists of:
 - white/gray t-shirt
 - blue/black shorts with at least a 3-inch inseam (no cheer shorts or points will be deducted)
 - athletic shoes
 - socks and jogging bra is recommended
 - Hair in ponytail or pulled back with a soft headband (if hair is too short for ponytail).
- Students must dress out everyday unless otherwise told by instructor. **If a student has a note excusing her from PE, she still must dress out.**
- Warm ups may be worn in cool weather (blue jeans are not considered warm ups).
- Athletic shoes are required. No flip-flops, slip on shoes, or bare feet will be allowed!
- **Not dressing out will result in a detention after the first warning. Continuously choosing to not dress out will result in more severe consequences.**

Locker Room Information

- There are small lockers provided in the locker rooms for the girls to secure any valuables they

might wear to school that day. We encourage the girls not to wear expensive jewelry or bring expensive items to locker room.

- The locker room door is locked each period of the day for security and safety reasons. Students are not allowed into dressing room without permission during class time so that the locker room is monitored more efficiently.
- **Students will not be allowed into locker rooms before school, during any PE period except their own, or lunch.** Lunch, lunch money, and homework should not be in the locker room in the first place, so student will not disrupt other classes for their irresponsibility.
- A Lost and Found is provided for those items left in locker room. The teacher is not responsible for the lost and missing items.
- No electrical items such as curling irons, hair dryers, propane items, etc. They will be picked up and not returned until the end of the year.

Boys' Physical Education/Wellness/Conditioning Information

Dressing Out:

Athletic shorts and shirts are required. These are separate from the clothes you wear for school. The shorts need to be blue or black and the shirt should be a white or gray t-shirt with sleeves. School appropriate lettering is o.k. Please be sure to label both your shorts and shirts with your first and last name with a permanent marker. This will help us identify clothes that are left in the gym and locker room. You may wear sweat suits, wind pants, etc., (of any color) during the winter as needed.

You will need athletic shoes that relate to the activity we are involved in during the year. You may wear rubber-cleated shoes for outside activities (flag-football, soccer and softball). Court shoes will be for activities held in the gym. Make sure you have a pair of P.E. shoes in addition to your school shoes. Students are reminded to take their clothes home at the end of each week to be washed.

Do not wear any jewelry during dress-out time.

***Be sure to lock up all valuables in your locker.**

***Students who do not bring P.E. clothes are still expected to participate in class.**

Participation:

Each student must participate the entire period to get full credit for the day.

This includes health assignments, exercise, running, skills tests and tournament play. Participating in activities outside of school is not an excuse for failure to dress out or participate.

Illness or Injury:

Each student is to take a doctor's note to the nurse before coming to P.E. She will give you a P.E. excuse to give to your teacher. Any note from a parent is to be given to your P.E. instructor at the beginning of class. Remember, a parent note is good for a maximum of 3 CONSECUTIVE days. Students without a doctor or parent excuse are expected to participate. Failure to bring an excuse may result in a written assignment and reduction in grade. Be sure to tell your teacher if you become sick or injured during class.

Students not in squad lines at the tardy bell are tardy for both boys and girls P.E.



Friendswood Junior High School Cheerleading By-laws

Our Mission: To support FJH athletics and promote school spirit.

Mandatory eligibility requirements as follows:

- No failing grades on 7th grade report card for semester averages
- No more than 5 office referrals
- Overall satisfactory conduct report from all teachers (core and electives)
- Attend mandatory information meeting
- Submit all paperwork
- Attend all cheer clinics
- Attend uniform fitting
- Attend summer camp
- Turn in all money by due date

Reasons for immediate dismissal from squad:

- Failing any class on 8th grade report card
- Assigned ISS or DAEP
- Inappropriate behavior

Reasons for suspension from squad:

- Failing grade on progress report
- Failing grade at UIL grade check times
- 3 unexcused absences from games/practices
- Inappropriate behavior

National Junior Honor Society

The Friendswood National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is governed by the national organization. To qualify for membership in the Friendswood Chapter of the national Junior Honor Society, a student must meet the requirements in the areas of scholarship, service, leadership, citizenship, and character. Candidates for NJHS must be members of the 7th or 8th grade classes and must have been in attendance at Friendswood Junior High for at least one full semester. Candidates must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 90 or above, determined by averaging all academic and elective course grades. In addition, candidates will also be considered for membership on the basis of outstanding citizenship, service, leadership and character by a faculty evaluation. All qualifications should be given equal weight in the evaluation process of the candidate; therefore, students must meet the evaluation criteria by ranking in the 90th percentile. Additional requirements apply and may be found in Article XVII, Section 6 of the By-Laws, which can be found online under Important Documents on the following website: www.teacherweb.com/TX/FriendswoodJrHigh/NJHS/. Students and parents may also want to view the FAQ on the webpage for information regarding eligibility for candidacy. NJHS meets approximately ten times a year, sponsors the 8th grade dance, and often participates in community service projects. Membership is offered in the spring of each year to qualifying students.

Severe Weather

Friendswood Independent School District

302 Laurel Drive

Friendswood, Texas 77546

Dear Parent:

Occasionally, the threat of severe weather makes it necessary to dismiss school earlier than usual in order for buses and cars to be able to travel the normal routes. Examples of such problems are rapidly approaching hurricanes, or rapidly dropping temperatures that make freezing rain and road glazing a distinct possibility.

Please be assured that when severe weather is a threat to this area, your school officials maintain a constant watch on changing weather conditions and stand ready to take the necessary actions for the dismissal of school and the immediate return of students to their homes if and when such circumstance warrant.

You, as a parent, can contribute to the welfare and safety of your children by observing the following recommendations:

1. Keep yourself well informed about the development, location and movement of threatening weather.
2. Recognize the possibility of an early school dismissal which would result in your child's return to home at an earlier time than usual and be prepared for such an eventuality.
3. If during a severe weather threat you know that you will not be at home and you have a young school child requiring adult supervision, please contact your principal regarding other arrangements you have made for the child's care in case of an early dismissal.
4. If the severe weather poses a definite threat, feel free to pick up your child at school without telephoning in advance. Unnecessary phone calls will only tie up the lines and delay the process of getting all students safely to their homes. Do be sure, however, that your child is checked out through the school office.
5. Listen to radio stations KIKK, KTRH, KILT, and TV Station KTRK, local Network affiliated TV station, for announcements concerning the dismissal or cancellation of school or the time when classes will be resumed if such dismissal or cancellation becomes necessary. You can also listen to the local radio station, 1650 AM.

Your consideration and cooperation are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Thad Roher, Superintendent

Friendswood Independent School District

Emergency Dismissal Procedures

On-Campus Evacuation (Fire drill, Bomb threat, etc.)

For the protection of all occupants of the building, it is important that everyone is informed and understands what to do in the event of a fire, bomb threat, or other type of emergency that would necessitate the evacuation of the building. The following evacuation procedures should be discussed with the students:

- The purpose of an evacuation drill is to familiarize building occupants to be able to evacuate the building in case of a fire or other emergency quickly and safely.
- Discuss nearest exits and where to go if the exits are blocked.
- Everyone should clear the building immediately. Do not assume it is a drill.
- Please get as far away from the building as possible in a designated area.
- Exit according to plans.
- After all areas have been reported safe, a principal/designee will give the “All Clear” signal to return to the building.
- If an emergency, the parents can get information from FISD Annex

Off-Campus Evacuation: Walking Distance

For the protection of all occupants in the building, it is important that everyone is informed and understands what to do in the event of an off-campus evacuation. The following off-campus evacuation procedure is as follows:

- An administrator or designee will coordinate the evacuation.
- Classes will proceed to the designated area immediately.
- Once at designated area, take class count and wait for instructions.
- The primary location parents can get information and possible pick up of students is at FISD Annex.

Off-Campus Evacuation Requiring Transportation

For the protection of all occupants in the building, it is important that everyone is informed and understands what to do in the event of an off-campus evacuation requiring transportation. The off-campus evacuation procedures are as follows:

- Superintendent/designee will call the Transportation Director and coordinate the evacuation.
- Class will proceed to the buses when called and load the students.
- Once you have reached the safe place, keep your children together, take a class count, and wait for further instructions.
- The primary location for an off-campus evacuation requiring transportation is at FISD Annex.

NOTICE of RIGHTS and ASSURANCES

Asbestos Statement

Compliance with Federal and State asbestos regulation: Should you desire to review the asbestos management plan for F.I.S.D., a copy is available in the principal's office as well as the school's central Administration office. If you have any questions about this Federally mandated program, please contact our program coordinator at (281) 482-2744.

E.P.A. Regulation

It is the policy of F.I.S.D. to occasionally spray the interior of the buildings for pest control purposes. For information concerning scheduling and chemicals involved, please contact our program coordinator at (281) 482-2744.

Title IX

The Friendswood Independent School District is an equal opportunity employer and offers equal education opportunities, as requested by TITLE IX of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, TITLE IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. The Friendswood Independent School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, or handicapping condition in the employment, assignment, and promotion of personnel nor in the admission of students to any educational program or activity, except as may be authorized by law or regulations. The Friendswood Independent School District will take steps to assure that lack of English language skills will not be a barrier to admission and participation in all educational and vocational programs. The Title IX Coordinator for the school district is Diane Myers, whose office is located at 302 Laurel Drive and who can be reached by telephone by calling 281.482.1267.

Integrated Pest Management Notice

As part of our commitment to provide your child with a safe, pest-free learning environment, the Friendswood Independent School District may periodically apply pesticides to help manage insects, rodents, weeds, or pathogens. Pesticide applications are part of our Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Program, which relies largely on non-chemical forms of pest control.

Pesticide applications on FISD property are made only by trained and licensed technicians. Should you have questions about the district's pest management program or to be notified in advance of pesticide applications, you may contact the district IPM Coordinator, Erich Kreiter, at 281-482-2744 or by email at ekreiter@fisdk12.net.

Asbestos Notice

Friendswood ISD maintains compliance mandated by both Federal and State laws governing asbestos in school buildings. A copy of the Asbestos Management Plan can be found in the main office of each campus. If you have any questions or would like to examine the district's Asbestos Management Plan in more detail, please contact the district's Asbestos Designated Person, Mari Castellanos, at 281-482-2744 or by email at mcastellanos@fisdk12.net.