

Fall River Elementary School  
24977 Curve St., Fall River Mills, California 96028  
(530) 336-5551 / FAX (530) 336-6892 / [www.frjUSD.org](http://www.frjUSD.org)

## **Welcome to Fall River Elementary**

At Fall River Elementary, we are dedicated to building a safe, exciting, and healthy environment where every Bullpup is encouraged to reach their full potential. Our school utilizes Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS), a research-based framework that focuses on teaching and recognizing positive behaviors. By living our BARK values, our students lead the way in both academic excellence and strong character.

To make this a successful year, we invite you to be our partners in your child's education. This handbook is designed to help students and parents stay on the same page regarding the guidelines and expectations that keep our campus a great place to learn. We are honored to work alongside our families to make this the best year yet.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Bucher Principal, Fall River Elementary



The B.A.R.K. Bullpup Pledge

I am a proud Bullpup! I have **B.A.R.K.** and I know what it means:

**B** is for **BRAVE**, I'll stand up and speak,  
**A** is for **AMBITIOUS**, the goals that I seek.  
**R** is for **RESPONSIBLE**, I'll own what I do,  
**K** is for **KIND**, I'm a friend through and through!

I will keep my school safe, try my best every day, and show Bullpup pride in every way.

Once a Bullpup, always a Bullpup! **WOOF, woof, woof!**

### **VOLUNTEERS AND VISITORS**

**\*\*\*Please remember volunteers and visitors are welcome, but ALL people who are not employees MUST check in through the office and wear a visitor's badge. This is to help insure your child's safety.\*\*\***

Individuals who regularly (at least once a week) perform specific volunteer service with or around students shall: Complete an application, fill out a loyalty oath, take a tuberculin test, pass DOJ fingerprint clearance, and be approved by the Governing Board. During the school year we receive requests from students to bring a friend to school to visit. This must be pre-approved by the Principal and classroom teacher. If preschoolers are brought on campus they must stay with their parents at all times.

### **SCHOOL HOURS**

FRE office opens at **7:45 AM** each morning.

#### **Morning Schedule:**

- **7:30 AM:** Supervision begins (Students should **not** arrive before this time).
- **8:00 AM:** Breakfast is offered.
- **8:25 AM:** Students report to class.

#### **Dismissal Times:**

- **2:45 PM:** TK and Kindergarten
- **2:50 PM:** 1st–2nd Grades
- **2:55 PM:** 3rd–6th Grades
- **3:00 PM:** Buses depart

School supervision ends at the dismissal times listed above unless your child is attending school-sponsored tutoring, a club, or Project SHARE.

### **DROPPING OFF/PICKING UP STUDENTS**

If a student is to be checked out of school for appointments or due to illness, the parent/guardian must go to the office and sign the student out of school. Your child will be called to come to the office at that time. Only persons listed on the emergency card may pick a child up from school. Please do not ask to sign your child out after 2:00 unless it is an emergency. To repeatedly sign your child out of school early is a violation of the state attendance law. If someone else will be picking your child up, the child must have a note signed by the parent(s) listed on the emergency card. That note is to be given to the teacher and on file in the office. This is for the safety of all children, so no unauthorized person can pick up your child. **ALL PARENTS & VISITORS MUST COME ONTO CAMPUS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR AT ALL TIMES.**

Please use the PikMyKid app to make any after school dismissal changes. You may not get your child off the bus at school after 2:30 pm Monday–Thursday. You may pick them up at FRHS. Please contact the office so we can inform the bus driver to drop them off there.

### **GO-HOME INFO/TELEPHONE USE**

Please handle all pick-up or other arrangements with your child **BEFORE** he/she comes to school. Please do not ask to speak to your child unless it is of extreme importance. All telephone use by students must be approved by the child's teacher, the principal or office staff. We ask that you don't call to speak to your child's teacher during class time as this takes valuable classroom instruction time from the students. The secretary or clerk typist will be happy to leave a message for your child's teacher to call you. If you need to change your child's after school plans, please use the PikMyKid app. Students may only ride the bus to and from their home. No student may leave the campus after arriving at school unless checked out by a person listed on the emergency contacts or a note from the parent, or permission from the Principal or office personnel. The student must be checked out through the office when leaving early.

### **ABSENCES**

When your child is absent, we ask that you call each day or send a message via Remind to the school secretary or send a note within **2 days** of his/her return to verify the absence. Attendance is very important in the learning process at all grade levels. If your child has three unexcused absences or ten excused absences, you may receive a letter informing you of the District Policy and School Attendance Review Board (SARB) guidelines. It may be necessary for us to make a home visit. If your child is going to be absent from school because of a serious illness or injury, please contact the school and we can arrange home/hospital teaching with a teacher from our district.

### **TARDINESS**

If your child is tardy, he/she needs to report to the school office for a late slip before going to class. If tardiness becomes a habit, the school will contact parents/guardians. Your child misses valuable learning time and disrupts others when he/she is late. Unexcused tardiness may also constitute truancy and may be referred to the SARB committee. Please note, any tardy that is thirty minutes or more, or early pickup of a student thirty minutes or more on more than three occasions during the school year is subject to the School Attendance Review Board process.

### **PROGRESS REPORTS AND REPORT CARDS**

Your child's progress is important to you and to us. We have a trimester reporting system for grades, which means your child will bring home an official report card three times a

year. You and your child's teacher will meet for a conference before the end of the first trimester so you will know how your child is progressing before you receive the first report card. If your child is "at risk" of failing, his/her teacher will contact you either by phone or with a written notice to let you know. Progress reports will be sent home at least once at the midpoint of each trimester. Teachers are expected to keep confidentiality in mind in public places and not discuss your child's progress off the school site. Please also keep in mind that your child's teacher is available from 2:55 - 3:15, Monday through Thursday and 1:30 - 3:00 on Friday if you need to contact him or her. They are happy to schedule conferences with you in person or over the phone at any time during the year. Remember, all students can become responsible for their learning, but it takes the home/school team to help with guidance.

#### **FLOWERS, BALLOONS, AND GIFTS DELIVERY**

Gifts sent to students during the school day will be kept in the office until the teacher can send the student to pick up the delivery. The teacher will be notified to let the student know the gift is there, but he/she may not be able to pick the gift up until the end of the day. Balloons, breakable, and glass items are not allowed on the bus, so please arrange to have the balloons picked up at school.

#### **CALIFORNIA COMMON CORE STANDARDS**

California educators have joined a national movement to adopt common standards and assessments for English language arts and mathematics. Common standards allow for collaboration among states on best practices and professional development. Common learning goals help ensure that students meet college and work expectations, are prepared to succeed in a global economy and society, and are provided with rigorous content and application of higher knowledge thinking. Benchmarked against international standards, the Common Core Standards assist students in their preparation to complete the requirements for enrollment at a California public university.

#### **STUDENT INSURANCE**

Parents may purchase student accident insurance through myers-stevens.com. Payment of medical bills for students injured on school property, or when engaged in school-sponsored activities, shall be the responsibility of the parent or the student's insurance company.

#### **HEALTH SERVICES**

Children entering school need to have proof of immunizations, an oral health assessment, and a physical. There are also requirements for Hepatitis B Series shots and MMR. Please check with the district nurse for further information. Any student who is ill should stay home. If there is a fever or your child is vomiting, please keep him/her home to recuperate. Your child should not be at school if he/she is not well enough to play outside when the rest of the children are out. Fresh air is important for growth and development.

#### **MEDICATION**

Education Code 49423 states that any medications that a child may need, including **ALL over-the-counter** medications, may **not** be brought to school or given to your child unless there is a "School Medication Authorization Form" signed by you **AND** your doctor giving us permission to have the medication at school and administer that medication to your child. Any medications that your child brings to school **MUST** be kept in the office unless the prescription states that the medication must be in the student's possession at all times. This is for the safety of all students. Forms are available in the office.

#### **HEAD LICE**

Head lice are not a pleasant experience, but anyone may get them. We have information about recommended treatment procedures and sources of further information will be sent home. Please notify the school if your child has head lice, so we can properly disinfect areas.

#### **SAFETY**

Safety is a prime concern. The school safety plan is updated annually and addresses everyday safety as well as emergency situations. The safety plan information is available at the school if you want more details. Information will also be sent home in school bulletins throughout the year. We ask parents to support our efforts to provide a safe environment by reinforcing school rules with your children regarding behavior at school, on buses, and walking to and from school. We ask parents to follow safe driving practices around our school and drop off and pick up students only at safe crossing areas. **ALL VISITORS MUST COME ONTO CAMPUS THROUGH THE FRONT DOOR AND SIGN IN.**

#### **PERSONAL POSSESSIONS**

Label your child's possessions so that lost items may be returned. If your child has lost an item, please check as soon as possible. We send out regular reminders about claiming the mounds of clothing items that have been left behind. Every few weeks on Friday our lost & found items are cleared out and donated to those who are in need. Personal electronic items such as tablets, cellphones, Smartwatches, etc. are allowed at school at your own risk and as long as they remain in the student's backpack during school hours. Teachers, at their own discretion, may authorize the individual use of such devices on a case-by-case basis under the teacher's supervision. Any material accessed must be age appropriate for the age of the student accessing the material. Tablets may be used for educational purposes at the discretion of the teacher. None of the above mentioned items are allowed out during lunch time or at recess, as the purpose of lunch is to eat a healthy meal and recess is to get some physical exercise. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items. Toys are not to be brought to school except for sharing. Students are not to give personal items away during school due to misinterpretation of the act of giving by young children.

#### **ELECTRONIC DEVICES**

Many of our students have personal electronic devices (i.e. smartphones and smartwatches). While these can serve many useful purposes, students occasionally abuse the privilege of having them. "Students may possess or use on school campus personal electronic signaling devices..., provided that such devices do not disrupt the educational program or school activity and are not used for illegal or unethical activities such as cheating on assignments or tests." (Board Policy 5131) If this policy is disregarded, the device may be confiscated. Students should go to the office if it is necessary to make a call during class time.

Students should not have phones out in class or on the playground without teacher permission.

#### **SCHOOL SITE COUNCIL**

School Site Council is made up of parents, classified staff, certificated staff and an administrator. School Site Council is an advisory board that is responsible for creating our School Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA), reviewing programs under the SPSA and advising how to spend some categorical funds. This group meets once a month, usually the third Wednesday of each month. These are public meetings and we always welcome anyone who would like to attend.

### **TEXTBOOKS AND LIBRARY BOOKS**

Each student is responsible for textbooks issued to him/her. Lost or damaged books must be replaced or repaired through payment for new books or repairs. If library books that a student checks out are not returned, the cost of the books must be paid. Students may not check out additional library books until they have returned or paid for lost books.

### **DRESS AND GROOMING**

A student's clothing shall not be unsafe either for the student or those around the student. Clothing may not be disruptive to the school operations or the educational process. Students must dress appropriately for school and the physical activity required of them. According to Administrative Code Title 5, Section 302, "A pupil who goes to school without proper attention having been given to personal cleanliness or neatness of dress, may be sent home to get properly prepared for school, or shall be required to prepare him/herself for the school room before entering." Shoes must be worn at all times. Fully enclosed shoes may be required in classes for safety reasons. Clothing and other personal items shall be free of writing, pictures, etc., which are crude, vulgar, and profane or indicate prejudice. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. See-through fabrics, halter-tops, skirts or shorts shorter than mid-thigh are not allowed. A good guideline for shoulder straps is two inches. Shorts or skirts should be long enough that when the student stands upright with arms at the side, the skirt or shorts should be at least long enough that the middle finger touches the bottom hem. Shirts need to be long enough to cover the stomach area. Gang related apparel is banned at all school activities. Hoodies and hats must be removed when entering the school building. (Board Policy and Regulation 5132)

### **BREAKFAST & LUNCH**

Fall River Joint Unified School District offers lunch and breakfast FREE for all students. Milk alone is currently 50 cents, subject to change. If your child isn't eating school lunch, please make sure he/she comes with a nutritious lunch to get him/her through the day. Sharing of lunches is not acceptable due to health and safety issues. Students are required to sit quietly at their tables in the cafeteria and raise their hands to be excused. We ask that they clean up after themselves and be courteous to staff and students. Check school rules for expected cafeteria behavior.

### **FALL RIVER ELEMENTARY SNACK POLICY**

Although snack time is not mandated, the primary teachers of Fall River Elementary feel that due to long bus rides it is beneficial for students to have a mid-morning snack time. To reinforce healthy nutrition and help student concentration, Fall River Elementary primary teachers request that students choose foods that are low in sugar and high in nutrition for their snack. Since the policy is not to restrict parental control of their child's nourishment, no such request is made at lunch when students have time to run off sugar levels.

### **BULLYING POLICY**

It is hereby the policy of the FRJUSD to prohibit harassment or bullying based on real or perceived race, color, religion (creed), national origin, marital status, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or on the basis of association with others identity and expression, disability, or on the basis of association with others identified by these categories. This policy is intended to comply with state as well as federal requirements. The school shall act to investigate all complaints of harassment, formal or informal, verbal or written and to discipline or take other appropriate action against any member of the school

community who is found to have violated this policy.

The FRJUSD recognizes bullying as someone trying to take power over another. Any word, look, sign or physical act that harms a person's body, feelings or personal possessions is bullying. We also recognize bullying as unwanted harassment and attacks or provoking harassment and attacks on others. Every act of bullying is aggressive behavior, but not every aggressive act is bullying behavior.

As noted in our *FRJUSD Elementary School Progressive Discipline Matrix*, FRJUSD takes bullying seriously but recognizes that younger students often need to be taught what bullying is. For students in TK through 3rd grades, staff should provide an opportunity to correct the behavior. During this time, teachers or staff should clearly and positively explain the expected behavior and why the student's actions may be considered bullying. If the behavior continues after a documented intervention (noted in AERIES under discipline) and positive communication, a referral should be written and submitted to the administrator. Students in grades 4th and above are expected to understand what bullying is and which behaviors may be considered bullying. If a student engages in bullying, a referral should be submitted. The administrator will document the incident in AERIES under Assertive Discipline.

### **LAW ENFORCEMENT ON CAMPUS**

Law enforcement officials are welcome on our campus. State Law and District policy allows law enforcement officers to conduct interviews on campus, and does not require the school to notify the parent that an interview is taking place. In the event that law enforcement officers remove a student, the school will attempt to notify the parent(s). If your child is removed by Child Protective Services, it is their responsibility to notify parents in a timely manner. This is only done to protect the safety of the children.

### **CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT**

School employees are mandated reporters. It is a felony to fail to report suspected child abuse to the proper authorities. Our school will report suspected child neglect and abuse as required. Law enforcement and Child Protection Services are responsible for investigation of such reports.

### **THE BARK BLUEPRINT (SCHOOL RULES)**

At our school, we believe in teaching and reinforcing positive behaviors rather than simply listing prohibitions. We utilize PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports), a proactive approach that establishes a social culture and the behavioral supports needed for all students to achieve social, emotional, and academic success. Our school-wide BULLPUP expectations are summarized by the acronym BARK:

- **Brave**
- **Ambitious**
- **Responsible**
- **Kind**

We explicitly teach students what these values look like in every area of the campus—from the cafeteria to the classroom. When students meet these expectations, they are recognized and celebrated. When they struggle, we use these moments as opportunities for "re-teaching" to ensure every student understands how to be a successful member of our community.

### **FALL RIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS TEACHING MATRIX**

#### **1. The Cafeteria**

- Brave: Raise your hand bravely if you need help with a package, need water, or have a problem. Be a "brave eater" by trying at least one bite of every item on your tray.
- Ambitious: Manage your time so you finish your meal and clean your space without rushing. Enter and exit quietly in a straight line. Challenge yourself to leave your table cleaner than you found it.
- Responsible: Own your mess by double-checking your "square" (seat and floor) before standing. Keep a safe body with feet under the table. Protect health by eating only your own food.
- Kind: Use a quiet "Restaurant Voice." Respect personal space and "elbow room." Show gratitude and use manners with the cafeteria staff.

## 2. The Playground

- Brave: Be brave enough to report injuries or unsafe situations to staff. Have the courage to say "hello" to new friends and try new games or skills.
- Ambitious: Use recess time to stay active and move your body. "Freeze" immediately on the signal. Lead by following all game rules, even when no one is looking.
- Responsible: Use all balls, ropes, and structures properly. Stay in designated safe zones where teachers can see you. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself at all times.
- Kind: Invite those standing alone to play. Use "Social Sparkle" (kind words) with teammates and opponents. Use manners when winning or losing and always encourage others.

## 3. The Restrooms

- Brave: Report broken equipment, messes, or misbehavior to an adult immediately. Be a leader by speaking up to keep restrooms safe.
- Ambitious: Follow the "Go, Flush, Wash, Dry, Return" goal to get back to learning quickly. Treat the restroom as a "pit stop," not a place to hang out. Walk at all times.
- Responsible: Ensure all trash goes in the bin and water stays in the sink. Avoid wasting soap or paper towels. Keep hands and feet in your own "bubble" to respect others' privacy.
- Kind: Leave the space clean for the next student. Use quiet voices and move quickly so others do not have to wait in line.

## 4. Classroom & Library

- Brave: Have the courage to say "I don't know yet" and raise your hand for help. Ask "why" or "how" questions to clarify. Remember that mistakes are proof of growth.
- Ambitious: Arrive with tools ready and your brain switched on. Participate fully in lessons and stay on task to reach your learning goals.
- Responsible: Do not enter the room if an adult is not present. Manage your focus by ignoring distractions. Respect school tools, books, and tablets so they stay in great shape.
- Kind: Use a kind tone and helpful body language. Respect the quiet during independent work. Include neighbors who may be struggling or feeling left out.

## 5. The Hallways

- Brave: Be a leader by sharing a friendly smile with others. Show courage by following directions the first time and staying focused on being a great walker even if others are distracted.
- Ambitious: Go directly to your destination without wandering. Stay on the correct side of the hallway

so traffic flows smoothly. Move with purpose.

- Responsible: Use walking feet at all times. Help keep the school tidy by picking up stray paper. Stay in your "personal bubble" by keeping hands and feet away from walls and others.
- Kind: Keep your voice at "Level 0" (silence) to respect classes that are learning. Use polite phrases like "Excuse me" or "Thank you." Move gently to maintain a focused building.

## 6. Assemblies

- B – Brave (Self-Control) Enter and exit the assembly in a quiet, straight line. Keep your hands, feet, and objects to yourself. Stay in your assigned seat until dismissed.
- A – Ambitious (Be Attentive) Keep your eyes and ears on the speaker. Follow all instructions quickly. Participate only when invited.
- R – Responsible (Stay Focused) Stop talking immediately when the "quiet signal" is given. Leave all toys and distractions in the classroom. Use the restroom before the assembly starts.
- K – Kind (Show Respect) Use polite applause; no whistling or shouting. Listen quietly so others can hear. Show respect to all guests and performers.

## DISCIPLINE

A discipline matrix has been adopted by the district to provide a progressive approach to disciplinary issues with an emphasis on education, accountability and safety. It is a comprehensive and lengthy document. As such, a copy is available on our district website <https://www.frijusd.org/>, or paper copies will be provided on request.

## BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS AND RESPONSE

**Minor Offenses:** Minor offenses are low-level misbehaviors handled "on the spot" by staff in the classroom, playground, or common areas. These moments are treated as opportunities to re-teach our **BARK** expectations. Staff will document these incidents and the interventions used in the **Discipline** section of **Aeries**. \*TK-3rd Minor Offenses start over at the midpoint of the school year (DAY 90).

**Referrals: Please note the two types of referrals:**

**-Cumulative Referral:** These are issued once a student has reached four documented minor offenses in Aeries. This type of referral may not be a direct violation of the Education Code, but it serves as a "Step" on our Progressive Discipline Matrix.

## Process for Referrals

- First Offense- Written referral sent home for parent signature.
- Second Offense - Written referral and parent/teacher conference.
- Third Offense - Written referral and Student Study Team Meeting.
- Fourth Offense - refer to PDM Ed. Code 48900(K)

**-Major Offenses Referral (Ed Code):** These are issued for serious incidents defined by the California Education Code (such as physical injury or dangerous objects). These require immediate administrative action and are recorded under Assertive Discipline in Aeries by the administrator.

## ON THE BUS

B – Brave (Stay Safe)

- Keep head/arms inside and aisles clear.
- No balloons, glass, or breakable items.

- Cross only in front of the bus at the driver's signal.
- A – Ambitious (Follow Directions)
- Sit promptly and stay seated facing forward.
  - Be silent at railroad crossings and when the driver speaks.
  - No eating, drinking, or gum chewing.
- R – Responsible (Care for our Bus)
- Do not throw objects or damage the bus.
  - Keep noise levels low.
  - Follow all rules in the Student Handbook/Planner.
- K – Kind (Respect Everyone)
- Be courteous to the driver and fellow passengers.
  - No fighting, arguing, or inappropriate language.
  - Use your "classroom behavior" at all times.

## IMPLEMENTATION AND ENFORCEMENT

### Bus Ticket Cumulative Discipline Procedures

#### 1. Grades TK-3

- A. Tickets are issued to the student for first, second, and third infraction. A copy of the ticket is sent to the parents to be signed and returned to the Principal.
- B. Upon the fourth infraction, the student may be suspended from transportation. (The number of suspension days is determined by the Principal depending on the student's past behavior and the infraction).
- C. Upon the fifth infraction, the student may lose his/her riding privileges for the remainder of the school year. A mandatory conference is required before privileges resume.

#### 2. Grades 4 - 8

- A. Tickets are issued to the student for first and second infractions. A copy of the ticket is sent to the parents to be signed and returned to the Principal.
- B. Upon third infraction, the student may be suspended from transportation. (The number of suspension days is determined by the Principal depending on the student's past behavior and the infraction).
- C. Upon the fourth infraction, the student may lose his/her riding privileges for the remainder of the school year. A mandatory conference is required before privileges resume.
- \*Depending on the seriousness of the offense, immediate loss of district transportation privileges may occur.

### Suspension or Expulsion Ed. Code 48900

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

- (a) (1) Caused, attempted to cause, or threatened to cause physical injury to another person. (2) Willfully used force or violence upon the person of another, except in self-defense.
- (b) Possessed, sold, or otherwise furnished a firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object, unless, in the case of possession of an object of this type, the pupil had obtained written permission to possess the item from a certificated school employee, which is concurred in by the principal or the designee of the principal.
- (c) (1) Unlawfully possessed, used, sold, or otherwise furnished, or been under the influence of, a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind. (2) Pupils who voluntarily disclose their use of a controlled substance, alcohol, or an intoxicant of any kind in order to seek help through services or supports shall not be suspended solely for that disclosure.

(d) Unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell a controlled substance listed in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11053) of Division 10 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, or an intoxicant of any kind, and either sold, delivered, or otherwise furnished to a person another liquid, substance, or material and represented the liquid, substance, or material as a controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, or intoxicant.

(e) Committed or attempted to commit robbery or extortion.

(f) Caused or attempted to cause damage to school property or private property.

(g) Stole or attempted to steal school property or private property.

(h) (1) Possessed or used tobacco, or products containing tobacco or nicotine products, including, but not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. However, this section does not prohibit the use or possession by a pupil of the pupil's own prescription products. (2) Pupils who voluntarily disclose their use of a tobacco product in order to seek help through services or supports shall not be suspended solely for that disclosure.

(i) Committed an obscene act or engaged in habitual profanity or vulgarity.

(j) Unlawfully possessed or unlawfully offered, arranged, or negotiated to sell drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11014.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(k) (1) Disrupted school activities or otherwise willfully defied the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.

(2) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 5, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1), and those acts shall not constitute grounds for a pupil enrolled in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, to be recommended for expulsion.

(3) Except as provided in Section 48910, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 6 to 8, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2029.

(4) Except as provided in Section 48910, commencing July 1, 2024, a pupil enrolled in any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, shall not be suspended for any of the acts specified in paragraph (1). This paragraph is inoperative on July 1, 2029.

(5) (A) A certificated or classified employee may refer a pupil to school administrators for appropriate and timely in-school interventions or supports from the list of other means of correction specified in subdivision (b) of Section 48900.5 for any of the acts enumerated in paragraph (1).

(B) A school administrator shall, within five business days, document the actions taken pursuant to subparagraph (A) and place that documentation in the pupil's record to be available for access, to the extent permissible under state and federal law, pursuant to Section 49069.7. The school administrator shall, by the end of the fifth business day, also inform the referring certificated or classified employee, verbally or in writing, what actions were taken and, if none, the rationale used for not providing any appropriate or timely in-school interventions or supports.

(l) Knowingly received stolen school property or private property.

(m) Possessed an imitation firearm. As used in this section, "imitation firearm" means a replica of a firearm that is so substantially similar in physical properties to an existing firearm as to lead a reasonable person to conclude that the replica is a firearm.

(n) Committed or attempted to commit a sexual assault as defined in Section 261, 266c, 286, 287, 288, or 289 of, or former Section 288a of, the Penal Code or committed a

sexual battery as defined in Section 243.4 of the Penal Code.

(o) Harassed, threatened, or intimidated a pupil who is a complaining witness or a witness in a school disciplinary proceeding for purposes of either preventing that pupil from being a witness or retaliating against that pupil for being a witness, or both.

(p) Unlawfully offered, arranged to sell, negotiated to sell, or sold the prescription drug Soma.

(q) Engaged in, or attempted to engage in, hazing. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" means a method of initiation or preinitiation into a pupil organization or body, whether or not the organization or body is officially recognized by an educational institution, that is likely to cause serious bodily injury or personal degradation or disgrace resulting in physical or mental harm to a former, current, or prospective pupil. For purposes of this subdivision, "hazing" does not include athletic events or school-sanctioned events.

(r) Engaged in an act of bullying. For purposes of this subdivision, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "Bullying" means any severe or pervasive physical or verbal act or conduct, including communications made in writing or by means of an electronic act, and including one or more acts committed by a pupil or group of pupils as defined in Section 48900.2, 48900.3, or 48900.4, directed toward one or more pupils that has or can be reasonably predicted to have the effect of one or more of the following:

(A) Placing a reasonable pupil or pupils in fear of harm to that pupil's or those pupils' person or property.

(B) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience a substantially detrimental effect on the pupil's physical or mental health.

(C) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's academic performance.

(D) Causing a reasonable pupil to experience substantial interference with the pupil's ability to participate in or benefit from the services, activities, or privileges provided by a school.

(2) (A) "Electronic act" means the creation or transmission originated on or off the schoolsite, by means of an electronic device, including, but not limited to, a telephone, wireless telephone, or other wireless communication device, computer, or pager, of a communication, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(i) A message, text, sound, video, or image.

(ii) A post on a social network internet website, including, but not limited to:

(I) Posting to or creating a burn page. "Burn page" means an internet website created for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1).

(II) Creating a credible impersonation of another actual pupil for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "Credible impersonation" means to knowingly and without consent impersonate a pupil for the purpose of bullying the pupil and such that another pupil would reasonably believe, or has reasonably believed, that the pupil was or is the pupil who was impersonated.

(III) Creating a false profile for the purpose of having one or more of the effects listed in paragraph (1). "False profile" means a profile of a fictitious pupil or a profile using the likeness or attributes of an actual pupil other than the pupil who created the false profile.

(iii) (I) An act of cyber sexual bullying.

(II) For purposes of this clause, "cyber sexual bullying" means the dissemination of, or the solicitation or incitement to disseminate, a photograph or other visual recording by a pupil to another pupil or to school personnel by means of an electronic act that has or can be reasonably predicted to have one or more of the effects described in subparagraphs

(A) to (D), inclusive, of paragraph (1). A photograph or other visual recording, as described in this subclause, shall include the depiction of a nude, semi-nude, or sexually explicit photograph or other visual recording of a minor where the minor is identifiable from the photograph, visual recording, or other electronic act.

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

(B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) and subparagraph (A), an electronic act shall not constitute pervasive conduct solely on the basis that it has been transmitted on the internet or is currently posted on the internet.

(3) "Reasonable pupil" means a pupil, including, but not limited to, a pupil with exceptional needs, who exercises average care, skill, and judgment in conduct for a person of that age, or for a person of that age with the pupil's exceptional needs.

(s) A pupil shall not be suspended or expelled for any of the acts enumerated in this section unless the act is related to a school activity or school attendance occurring within a school under the jurisdiction of the superintendent of the school district or principal or occurring within any other school district. A pupil may be suspended or expelled for acts that are enumerated in this section and related to a school activity or school attendance that occur at any time, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

(1) While on school grounds.

(2) While going to or coming from school.

(3) During the lunch period whether on or off the campus.

(4) During, or while going to or coming from, a school-sponsored activity.

(t) A pupil who aids or abets, as defined in Section 31 of the Penal Code, the infliction or attempted infliction of physical injury to another person may be subject to suspension, but not expulsion, pursuant to this section, except that a pupil who has been adjudged by a juvenile court to have committed, as an aider and abettor, a crime of physical violence in which the victim suffered great bodily injury or serious bodily injury shall be subject to discipline pursuant to subdivision (a).

(u) As used in this section, "school property" includes, but is not limited to, electronic files and databases.

(v) For a pupil subject to discipline under this section, a superintendent of the school district or principal is encouraged to provide alternatives to suspension or expulsion, using a research-based framework with strategies that improve behavioral and academic outcomes, that are age appropriate and designed to address and correct the pupil's specific misbehavior as specified in Section 48900.5.

(w) (1) A suspension or expulsion shall not be imposed against a pupil based solely on the fact that they are truant, tardy, or otherwise absent from school activities.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that the Multi-Tiered System of Supports, which includes restorative justice practices, trauma-informed practices, social and emotional learning, and schoolwide positive behavior interventions and support, be used to help pupils gain critical social and emotional skills, receive support to help transform trauma-related responses, understand the impact of their actions, and develop meaningful methods for repairing harm to the school community. (*Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 840, Sec. 1. (AB 2711) Effective January 1, 2025.*)

**Note: California State law, FRJUSD board policies, and the district's Progressive Discipline Matrix take precedence over the rules listed in this Student Planner.**