

Fall River Jr. Sr. High School

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McArthur, CA 96056

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frhs.frjUSD.org



Home of the Bulldogs

Blue & Gold

Founded in 1911

*Accredited by
The Western Association
Of
Schools and Colleges*

Student Handbook 2026-2027

This handbook belongs to

The Vision (Our Goal) of Fall River Junior Senior High School is to provide a challenging and inclusive education that gives our students the tools and knowledge they need to be prepared, self-assured, and inspired to pursue their dreams in a complex and changing world.

Our Mission (Our Purpose) is for our staff and community to collaborate in a challenging educational program that will require critical thinking, creativity, citizenship, and communication to prepare all students for any post-secondary option.

SCHOOL SONG

**Oh hail to Fall River High
Our school, our alma mater
The beauty of our country
We'll always love you true
Ol' memories of fellowship
Always will remain
We love our alma mater
Fall River School's our name
FIGHT! FIGHT! FIGHT!**

FALL RIVER JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
SLO'S
(SCHOOLWIDE LEARNER OUTCOMES)

Upon graduation, students at Fall River High School will have developed into:

- Effective Communicators who have the ability to clearly and persuasively synthesize and convey ideas in written and oral form in conversations, interviews, phone calls, and presentations, and have the social awareness skills to make a positive personal impression so their ideas will be well received,
- Critical Thinkers and Problem Solvers who will have the ability to make informed decisions and take appropriate action,
- Collaborating Team Members who are present and work effectively amongst diverse groups while maintaining high standards of character and citizenship, and
- Creators and Innovators who have the ability to visualize possibility and implement action to improve society.

Rule of Respect and Student Priorities

RESPECT

1. Yourself

2. Your Peers

3. The Adults Around You Who Are Helping You

PRIORITIES

1. Family

2. School

3. Everything Else

**FALL RIVER JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
2026-2027 BELL SCHEDULES**

JUNIOR HIGH			SENIOR HIGH		
PERIOD	TIME	MIN	PERIOD	TIME	MIN
1	8:04 - 9:00	56	1	8:04 - 9:00	56
2	9:05 - 9:55	50	2	9:05 - 9:55	50
3	10:00 - 10:50	50	3	10:00 - 10:50	50
LUNCH	10:50 - 11:30	40	4	10:55 - 11:50	55
4	11:35 - 12:30	55	LUNCH	11:50 - 12:30	40
5	12:35 - 1:25	50	5	12:35 - 1:25	50
6	1:30 - 2:20	50	6	1:30 - 2:20	50
7	2:25 - 3:15	50	7	2:25 - 3:15	50

BLUE FRIDAY			GOLD FRIDAY		
JR & SR HIGH			JR & SR HIGH		
PERIOD	TIME	MIN	PERIOD	TIME	MIN
1	8:04 - 9:15	71	4	8:04 - 9:10	66
2	9:20 - 10:30	70	5	9:15 - 10:15	60
TUTORIAL	10:35 - 11:15	40	6	10:20 - 11:20	60
3	11:20-12:30	70	7	11:25 - 12:30	65
LUNCH	12:30 - 1:05		LUNCH	12:30 - 1:05	

MINIMUM DAY SCHEDULE

Minimum Day Schedule will follow either a Blue or Gold Friday schedule, except the last week of school. A Finals Schedule will be determined at a later date for the last three days of school.

SNOW DAYS: LATE START PROCEDURE AND SCHEDULE

Shortly after 6:00 A.M., notification will be sent to each student and employee's household, indicating our district is either having a Snow Day or a Late Start Day.

If a Late Start Day is called, everything will be delayed by two hours. Schools will begin shortly after 10:00 A.M. and end at the conclusion of their "normal" school day. Buses will pick up students two hours later than normal—if a student normally boards the bus at 7:20 A.M., they will be picked up at 9:20 A.M. Students will return home using their normal mode of transportation and arrive at the same time as other days.

**FALL RIVER JUNIOR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL
2026-2027 ASB & CLASS OFFICERS**

ASB OFFICERS

President	Tayte Watkins
Vice President	Caoihme Biehle & Isaiah Cordova
Activity Directors	Alexis Hutchings & Kymber Aselson
Secretary	Lauren Giessner
Treasurer	Miranda Tingle
Social Media Director	Isabella Magno
Board/Booster Rep	Maci Gonzalez

CLASS OF 2027 – SENIOR CLASS OFFICERS

President	Chris Harris and Delaney Kern
Vice President	Bryan Mejia
Secretary	Mariana Hiser
Treasurer	Ernesto Fuentes
Student Representative	Katie Hawkins

CLASS OF 2028 – JUNIOR CLASS OFFICERS

President	Shasta Hendrix
Vice President	Rayna Roark
Secretary	Gabriel Jimenez
Treasurer	Joshua Venegas
Reporter	Tucker Hammack
Student Rep	Dinah Laughlin

CLASS OF 2029 – SOPHOMORE CLASS OFFICERS

President	Megan Smith
Vice President	Maci Gonzalez
Secretary	Brylee Small and Anneliese Alvarez
Treasurer	Delani Santos-Navarro
Historian	Hadley Estes
Class Representative	Kaedin Schottel

CLASS OF 2030 – FRESHMAN CLASS OFFICERS

President	Taylor Dietle
Vice President	Camila Vargas
Secretary	Jared Schopflin
Treasurer	Benelli Blue
Student Rep	Juliete Alvarez & Yamilette Martinz

CLASS OF 2031 - 8th GRADE CLASS OFFICERS

President:	Jesus Alvarez
Vice President:	Jordyn Hutchison
Secretary:	Aurora Balistreri
Treasurer:	Whitlee Pearson
Student Rep:	Sebastian Lupercio and Guy DeGarmo

CLASS OF 2032 - 7th GRADE CLASS OFFICERS

President:	Vanessa Sanchez
Vice President:	Jorge Robledo Jimenez
Secretary:	Carmen Utterback
Treasurer:	Phoebe Booker
Student Rep:	

FFA Officers

President	Caoihme Biehle
Vice President	JD Bucher and Lauren Giessner
Secretary	Alexa Iniguez
Treasurer	Rayna Roark
Reporter	Azenet Perez
Sentinel	Hunter Bruning

HOLA

President	Ernesto Fuentes
Vice President	Joana Reynoso
Secretary	Marianna Hiser
Treasurer	Rayna Roark
Social Media	Kymber Asleson
Historian	Delaney Kern

GENERAL SCHOOL POLICIES**STUDENT RIGHTS**

- Students, within legal constraints, may exercise their constitutionally protected right of free speech, expression, and assembly so long as they do not interfere with the operation of the regular school program.
- Students have the right to fair, consistent, and respectful treatment by staff members and by other students.
- Students have the right to due process. When a student is referred for disciplinary action, the student has the opportunity to offer his/her version of the incident to school authorities.
- Students 16 years or older, or under 16 with parental/guardian consent, have the right to see their personal files, cumulative folders, transcripts, and other school records during school hours. Students have the right to insert rebuttals to information and opinions in their files.
- Students have the right to present complaints or grievances to school authorities and to receive authoritative replies within a reasonable time regarding the disposition of their complaints or grievances.

Students have rights regarding privacy while at school. With the advent of digital devices, watches, as well as video & picture-capable cellular phones, we are concerned that students may have their picture taken without being aware of it. For that reason, cameras, including film, video, and digital, are not permitted at school without permission from an administrator. If a student is found to be using a cell phone or any electronic device in an improper manner, the device will be confiscated. Disciplinary measures may also be taken in certain cases.

STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

- Students have the responsibility to maintain regular school attendance, submit to authority of the school, make a conscientious effort in classroom work, and adhere to school rules and regulations. Students share with the administration and faculty a responsibility to develop a climate within the school which is conducive to learning. No student has the right to disrupt the education of fellow students.
- Students have the responsibility to protect property and to assist the school staff in operating a safe school for all the students.
- Students have the responsibility to respect the rights of fellow students, teachers, administrators, and all others who are involved in the educational process.
- Students have the responsibility to attend class with all the required materials, to be prepared to work, and to stay on task for the class period.
- The school will not be responsible for damage to or loss of a student's personal property.

CLASSROOM BEHAVIOR STANDARDS

All students shall behave appropriately in the classroom. Teachers have the right to teach and students have the right to learn. Here is a list of basic classroom rules adopted by our school. Teachers may add their own specific rules for their classroom settings.

- Be respectful, considerate, and courteous to peers and adults.
- Be prompt and bring appropriate materials.
- Do not bring food or drinks into the classroom.
- Follow directions and stay on task for the assigned time.
- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Do not disturb or annoy others.
- Keep the classroom environment neat, clean, and safe.

No hats, head coverings, or hoods on in classrooms, library, and school office.

LAW ENFORCEMENT ON CAMPUS

The 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. As a courtesy, the administration will attempt to contact the parent, unless directed otherwise by law enforcement. In the event that a student is removed by a law enforcement officer, the school will attempt to notify the parent, unless suspected child abuse is involved. Law enforcement officials are always welcome on our campus and are often present at athletic events.

ADMISSIONS POLICY

When a new student arrives to register, an introductory interview with the parent and student is held in order to obtain a profile of the student's academic history. FRHS requires a 48-hour waiting period in order to contact the previous school and make arrangements for the student's schedule. If the records are not obtainable or indicate that there is cause to not allow the student to attend, enrollment may be further delayed.

CELLULAR / SMARTPHONE USAGE

Students are not to use office telephones except for school business and with the approval of office staff. Classroom phones are also restricted to school business, and student use must be authorized by the teacher. If a student is sick, he/she must report to the office, and a staff person will assist the student in calling the parent/guardian. Students will be called out of class to speak on the phone only in an emergency. Only messages from parents/guardians will be delivered to students. Please limit the calls to messages of a very urgent nature. **Student cell phones are to be off and out of sight during school hours while on school property. Students may not use cell phones between classes. Students may only use cell phones during their lunch break in the lower foyer and outside the school building.**

DANCE AND ACTIVITY GUESTS

Written requests for guest passes for dances must be submitted to the office no later than the deadline posted in the bulletin. **Guests must be under 21 years of age on the day of the activity.** The principal shall approve or deny the request. Junior high students may not attend high school dances and high school students may not attend junior high dances. High school students may "DJ" at junior high dances subject to the advanced approval of the principal. 9th grade students may attend the 8th grade promotion dance. Only appropriate and acceptable dancing is permitted.

DRESS CODE

The District has a dress and grooming policy for all students that applies to all regular school activities. It is listed below.

- Shoes must be worn at all times. Fully enclosed shoes may be required in classes for safety reasons such as in PE, lab classes, shop classes, etc.
- Clothing, jewelry and personal items (backpacks, phone cases, gym bags, water bottles etc.) shall be free of writing, pictures or any other insignia which are crude, vulgar, profane or sexually suggestive, which contain alcohol, tobacco, & drug company advertising, promotions and likenesses (i.e. "Cookies"), or which advocate racial, ethnic or religious prejudice.
- Hats, caps, and other head coverings shall not be worn in classrooms.
- Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. See-through or fish-net fabrics, halter tops, off-the-shoulder or low-cut tops, bare midriffs and skirts or shorts shorter than mid-thigh are prohibited. Excessively ripped jeans are prohibited.
- Hair shall not cover a student's face.
- Gang-related apparel is banned at school & all school activities.
- Belt-to-wallet chains may not exceed 6 inches in length. The wearing of other chains is prohibited.
- No "bro tanks" or sleeveless, cut-off shirts that expose the under arms and sides.

Any student wearing clothing that does not support student safety, health and hygiene, and does not establish a learning environment focused on education shall be referred to the principal or designee. The student's parent or guardian shall be contacted and the student sent home to change clothing if necessary.

FEE INFORMATION

Student Body Card: The \$20 purchase of a Student Body Card allows you free admission to all home games, plus discounts at participating merchants. You should carry your card at all times.

Student Activity Release

To attend field trips or travel for activities, students must be academically eligible, must be members of the specific class or organization traveling for the activity, and must maintain minimum progress toward meeting high school graduation requirements (grades 9-12). The Student Activity Release form will be used when the activity necessitates travel. Club advisors and teachers are responsible for obtaining forms from the office. It is the student's obligation to return the form to their advisor with all information complete (including guardian and teacher signatures) by the return date listed on the form. Students must meet minimum eligibility requirements at the previous grading period of 2.0 gpa with not more than one F. Clubs and organizations may have additional eligibility requirements. Students will be denied permission for travel due to inclusion on the NOPE List, chronic absenteeism, or current failing grade in any class.

FLOWERS, BALLOONS, AND GIFTS DELIVERY

Gifts sent to students during the school day will be kept in the office until dismissal. The student to whom they are sent will be notified.

GUESTS AND VISITORS

Visitors must check into the office, receive a visitor's badge and list the classroom they would like to visit. Other adults may visit subject to the principal's approval. **Students are not allowed to have guests during the school day.**

LOCKERS

Hall lockers will be assigned at the beginning of the school year after students return registration forms. Students are responsible for the locker assigned to them, and for keeping the combination safe. Switching lockers may result in loss of locker privileges. Money or other valuables should not be kept in school lockers. If a student must bring money or valuables to school, please bring them to the main office. Be sure your locker door is kept closed and locked. All lockers must be cleaned for end-of-year checkout. **Lockers are school property, and are subject to inspection at any time for any reason.**

Gym lockers will be assigned in PE classes. In order to protect personal property, students are required to use their assigned locker and keep it locked.

MAKE-UP WORK

Students who are absent with a valid excuse (EC 48205) may make up schoolwork missed within a reasonable period of time. **It is the student's responsibility to contact teachers via email while they are absent, to check Google classrooms, and to ask for make-up assignments or tests from teachers upon their return to school.** Students who are ill or injured and expect to be out of school for a significant period of time should contact the counselor regarding the Home-Hospital Program. Students absent without a valid excuse may or may not be allowed to make up work, depending on the teacher's policy. The teacher of any class from which a pupil is suspended may require the suspended pupil to complete any assignments and tests missed during the suspension (EC 48913).

NON-PARTICIPATION & ELIGIBILITY LIST

(NOPE LIST)

7th - 12th Grades

Students will be considered ineligible for participation in extra and co-curricular activities if the following takes place:

1. Students who receive 2 or more suspensions or commit a suspendable offense that warrants ineligibility per the extra-curricular policy.
2. After the 3rd unexcused absence* in a quarter.
3. Receive more than 6 tardies per quarter.
4. Students who fail to serve detention 4 times in a quarter.
5. Student's conduct warrants ineligibility.
 - a. Drugs / Alcohol
 - b. Fighting
 - c. Weapons on campus
 - d. Profanity and/or threats directed toward an FRJUSD employee

The NOPE List applies to all extra and co-curricular activities including but not limited to off-campus lunch, dances, athletic participation and field trips. The NOPE List will start over each quarter. The ineligibility period will be the remainder of the quarter. If there are less than 14 calendar days remaining in the quarter, the ineligibility will be a total of 14 calendar days.

****By submitting a Pre-Approved Planned Absence Form and completing all assigned work, your child's absence will not impact eligibility for co-curricular or extracurricular activities. The form requires at least two weeks' advance notice so teachers can prepare schoolwork. Per state reporting requirements, the absence will still be recorded as unexcused. Forms are available in the school offices.***

POSTERS & FLYERS

Only posters approved by the administration may be posted in designated areas of the school. Signs should be removed the day after the advertised event is concluded by the student or organization responsible.

ATTENDANCE

The school recognizes its responsibility under the law to ensure that students attend school regularly. Parents and guardians of children aged 6 to 18 are obligated to send their children to school. The school shall abide by all state attendance laws and may use appropriate legal means to correct the problems of excessive absences or truancy. Students will be required to show satisfactory attendance before the school certifies that a child is enrolled and attending on a regular basis. Absences, whether excused or unexcused, have a negative impact on a student's education. Please make all routine medical and dental appointments for after school.

VERIFYING ABSENCES

Parents may verify an absence by telephoning the office at 336-5515 between the hours of 7:30 AM and 4:00 PM or by sending a note to the office when a student returns from an absence. Early reporting to the office is necessary to prevent being tardy. The note must contain the following: a) Name of student; b) date(s) of absence; c) reason for absence, d) signature of parent/guardian. **It is the student's responsibility to present a note for an excused absence to the office staff. If an absence is not cleared within 3 days of the student's return to school it shall be considered UNEXCUSED.**

PARTICIPATING & ATTENDING ACTIVITIES / ATHLETIC GAMES

Students must be in school the entire day of an activity, or in school Friday if the activity is on a weekend, in order to attend or participate. The principal may grant an exception if it is requested at least 24 hours prior to the absence, or due to exceptional circumstances. This includes sports, co-curricular, extra-curricular activities, and all dances.

Disruptive students will be required to leave the event if told to do so by an administrator or teacher. All school rules will be enforced at ALL after-school activities. Poor sportsmanship, harassing visiting teams or supporters, disrespectful behavior, alcohol/substance use, gang activity, etc. will not be tolerated at any school event; offenders will be told to leave. Students attending dances may be subject to a breathalyzer test from law enforcement if warranted by reasonable suspicion.

LUNCH

Seventh and eighth graders have a closed campus for lunch; they may not leave the designated areas, including on Fridays and minimum days.

Ninth through twelfth graders have an open campus lunch period; they may leave school grounds. Students may have their open campus privileges revoked for cause, such as tardiness, disruption, driving violations, or other examples of poor behavior. Students are not to be on any other school campus during lunchtime.

It is the student's responsibility to leave and return to campus in an orderly and timely fashion so that the educational process is not disrupted. If a student develops a tardy or truancy problem the privilege will be revoked for one semester.

Section 44808.5 of the Ed. Code further states: *"Neither the School District nor any officer or employee thereof shall be liable for the conduct or safety of any pupil during such time as the pupil has left the school grounds pursuant to this section."*

NOT RETURNING AFTER LUNCH

If a student does not return after lunch and the parent/guardian does not notify the attendance clerk, the absence will result in a truancy.

PE EXCUSES

PE excuses are to be given directly to the attendance clerk. If more than 3 days of non-participation is involved, a doctor's note will be required and filed in the office. In the case of chronic illness, the school counselor should be contacted and arrangements made. PE classes have a grading policy based in part on non-suits; please refer to the individual teacher's grading policy. Too many non-suits without valid reasons will result in removal from the PE class with a drop/fail.

HOME/HOSPITAL TEACHING

This program is provided for students who will have extended absences due to a medical condition, illness, or accident. Contact the FRHS Office for specifics.

SHORT-TERM INDEPENDENT STUDIES

Students who expect to be out of school for personal reasons may request to be placed on short-term Independent Studies prior to their absence. Contact the office for further information.

EXTRA AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please refer to the FRJUSD Policy for ExtraCurricular Activities Handbook.

STANDARD DISCIPLINARY PROCEDURES

Fall River Jr. Sr. High School has developed a code of behavior to help students understand what is expected of them and the consequences which follow violation of the rules. Students are required to respond positively to staff requests to follow the school's code of behavior which has been established to guarantee the right of all students to an education in a safe and orderly environment. A positive school climate derives from an understanding among the total school community that statements and actions which degrade others will not be tolerated. (EC 32051)

In cases where student misbehavior disrupts the educational process, the teacher may suspend the student from class the day of the offense and for the day following. The teacher will contact the parent and set up a parent/teacher conference. A written statement from the teacher will be provided to the parent. (EC 48910)

DETENTION

Detentions may be given for infractions of the discipline policy. The teacher or administrator issuing the detention will contact the parent of the student prior to the detention being served. Failure to serve teacher-assigned detention will result in a referral to an administrator. Failure to serve administrator-assigned detention may result in suspension or structured day for as many days as necessary to clear the student's detentions.

RALLY DETENTION

Students will be excluded from attending rallies and incentive assemblies if they have accumulated excessive tardies, have unserved detentions or have been suspended from the date of the previous assembly.

SCHOOL BUS CONDUCT

Students are expected to behave in a responsible manner while riding the school bus. **Safety is a primary concern.** If students distract the driver, the well-being of all students is jeopardized. The same code of behavior expected at school is also expected while riding the bus. Misbehavior on the bus may result in suspension or expulsion from school.

- **1st incident** Bus ticket and parent notification, a detention may be assigned. A serious offense may result in suspension from bus service and/or school.
- **2nd incident** Mandatory bus ticket and parent notification. A serious offense may result in suspension from bus service and/or school.
- **3rd incident** Suspension from bus service and/or school.

MANDATORY RECOMMENDATION AND MANDATORY EXPULSION

The principal, superintendent or designee shall recommend that the Board expel and the board shall expel any student found at school or at a school activity to be: (Education Code 48915(c))

- Possessing, as verified by a district employee, or selling or otherwise furnishing a firearm
- Brandishing a knife as defined in Education Code 48915(g) at another person
- Unlawfully selling a controlled substance listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058
- Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or committing a sexual battery
- In possession of an explosive device

MANDATORY RECOMMENDATION FOR EXPULSION (EC 48915)

Unless the principal, superintendent, or designee finds that expulsion is inappropriate due to particular circumstances, the principal, superintendent or designee shall recommend a student's expulsion for any of the following acts: (Education Code 48915(a))

- Causing serious physical injury to another person, except in self-defense
- Possession of any knife as defined in Education Code 48915(g), explosive or other dangerous object of no reasonable use to the student
- Unlawful possession of any controlled substance, as listed in Health and Safety Code 11053-11058, except for the first offense for the possession of not more than one ounce of marijuana, other than concentrated cannabis

- Robbery or extortion
- Assault or battery, as defined in Penal Code 240 and 242, upon any school employee

CAUSES FOR SUSPENSION AND EXPULSION

It is the policy of the Fall River Joint Unified School District and the State of California that all pupils under the jurisdiction of the school (at school or at a school-related activity, on the way to or from school or any school activity, on school grounds) are prohibited from being under the influence or in possession of, using, transferring, furnishing, or selling any controlled substance, alcoholic beverage, tobacco product/vapes, e-cigarettes, or intoxicant of any kind as defined in Section 11007 of the Health and Safety Code (EC 48900, District Policy 5131.6, 9C).

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Laura Lakey	Principal and Athletic Director
Roxanna Fry	Counselor

FACULTY

Anae Balistreri	Physical Education
Melissa DeAtley	Agriculture
Tess Dobson	Mathematics
Fiona Hickey	Art/Yearbook
Kenneth Howes	English
Season Keepers	Band/Drama
Isaiah Maldonado	Mathematics
Conor McGibboney	Science
Rick Neugebauer	Agriculture
Krisarah Nygren	Agriculture/Science
Ed Romeo	Social Studies
David Rose	Spanish
Kelly Whitehead	Special Education
Cole Wood	English
Eric Zimmerman	Social Studies

AUXILIARY STAFF

Theresa Neugebauer	Secretary
Dixie Giessner	Senior Clerk
Maggie Torres	Librarian/Scholarships
Barbara Carrillo	Custodian
Casey Hubauer	Custodian
Melinda Blue	Indian Education
Remington Blue	PE Paraprofessional
Amanda Hawkins	Paraprofessional
Carla Tingle	Paraprofessional
Rick Neugebauer	Student Council Advisor
Kenneth Howes	Senior Project Advisor
Fiona Hickey	Yearbook Advisor
Rick Neugebauer	FFA Advisor
Melissa DeAtley	FFA Advisor
Krisarah Nygren	FFA Advisor

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PRESIDENT	Megan Estes
TRUSTEES	Rick Dougherty
	Jeanne Norris
	Jack Hathaway
	Ignacio Venegas

CLASS ADVISORS

7TH GRADE: Krisarah Nygren and Cole Wood

8TH GRADE: Anae Balistreri and Eric Zimmerman

9TH GRADE: Melissa DeAtley, Ed Romeo and Kelly Whitehead

10TH GRADE: Tess Dobson and Kenneth Howes

11TH GRADE: Fiona Hickey and Rick Neugebauer

12th GRADE: David Rose and Conor McGibboney