



FARRELL AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



MISSION STATEMENT

The Mission of the Farrell Area School District is to work collaboratively within the community to foster a dynamic standards-based curriculum within a safe, educationally-managed environment.

Facilitated by a caring professional staff, opportunities abound for all students to become actively engaged as productive, responsible life-long learners empowered to meet the global changes and needs of a culturally diverse society.

Dear Farrell High/ Upper Middle School Student:

The primary goal of this handbook is to acquaint you with the school policies and procedures, which will apply to you during this school year. The handbook will provide you, the student and your parents, with information that should enhance your school year. Please review the handbook thoroughly in order that you understand what is expected. While this handbook is valuable it is not an all inclusive document. For greater detail on school policies, please contact the school and ask to see the district's code book.

Your cooperation with the contents of this handbook is expected and will be greatly appreciated. Our wish is to maintain an atmosphere of mutual respect and dignity between our students and staff. Best wishes to you for a successful and enjoyable 2009- 2010 school year.

Sincerely,

*Mrs. Lora Adams- King
Farrell High School Principal*

*Mrs. Victoria Latzoo
Farrell High School Assistant Principal*

GENERAL INFORMATION

Accreditation- Farrell High School is fully accredited by the Pennsylvania Department of Public Education.

School Colors- Blue and Gold

Mascot- Farrell Steelers 

School Song- *Hail to the Blue and Gold, hail ever hail,
thy sons with voices bold, thee ever hail.
Our hearts will always be loyal and true,
hail ever hail to thee our Gold and Blue.*

A

Accident Insurance

School accident insurance is available to all students. Each student is urged to take advantage of this program. Any student planning to participate in athletics must be covered by an insurance program or have a waiver signed by his/her parents. While participating in any school supervised activity, if a student sustains an injury, it should be reported immediately to the teacher in charge. Failure to report injuries may result in loss of benefits covered by school insurance. The school district does not carry individual insurance for students or their personal property.

After School guidelines

No pupil is to remain in the building beyond the dismissal time unless under the direct supervision of a staff member. If students are in the building after dismissal and are not attending a supervised event, they will be asked to leave. No practices or meetings of any kind are to be held without first scheduling such with the Principal's office **and** with proper teacher supervision.

Announcements

All announcements of interest to students are made during the first period and can be submitted prior to 8:00 a.m. for reading. Afternoon announcements will be read the last 15 minutes of the school day.

ATTENDANCE

Absences from school are listed as legal or illegal by the Administration. The school has an appeal procedure for parents and students to take into account extended illnesses, injuries, flu epidemics, etc. Parents and students can appeal to the Principal.

Students will receive warning letters after the 3rd, 6th and a final letter after the 9th unexcused absence. After the tenth (10), charges will be filed against the parents, guardians, and the child with the District Magistrate. There is a fine of up to \$300.00 plus court costs. The magistrate may also delay a student from getting their driver's license, or even take it away. Children and Youth Services (CYS) will be contacted on the second citation.

For **all** absences, the parent or guardian of the pupil shall furnish a written excuse to include:

1) Date of absence	2) Reason for absence	3) Signature of parent/guardian
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*This statement must be presented to the secretary upon returning to school. Failure to comply **within two school days** may result in an unexcused absence and after school detention.*

Medical excuses must state "ongoing medical problem" if applicable.

Students missing days with prior knowledge of the absence are responsible for alerting the office and meeting with each teacher prior to the absence to create a make-up plan. **Forms for preapproved absences are available in the office.**

The absence will be recorded in the High School office as excused, unexcused or illegal. The School Code states: *Every child having a legal residence in the Commonwealth, as herein provided, between the ages of eight and seventeen years, is required to attend a day school in which the common English branches provided for in this Act are taught, and every parent, guardian or other person in this Commonwealth, having control or charge of any child or children between the ages of eight and seventeen years, is required to send such child or children to attend such school continuously through the entire term during which the public secondary schools in their respective districts shall be in session.* (Section 1327). This is also in conjunction with regulations of the State Board of Education of Pennsylvania (12.1). Failure to comply with the provisions of this act regarding compulsory attendance is a summary offense and on conviction thereof before an alderman, magistrate, or district justice parent/. Guardian shall be sentenced to pay a fine. A student must be in class at least four periods to get credit for attendance that day.

Attendance may be considered in relation to a student's participation in extra-curricular activities and/or events. In accordance with P.I.A.A. regulations, Farrell High School will adhere to the following statement: ***"If you are absent from school during a semester for a total of 20 or more school days (unexcused), you will lose your eligibility until you have been in attendance for a total of 45 school days following your 20th day of absence."***

Absences and Make-Up Work (vacation, illness, etc.)

Students are to be given the same amount of days as they were legally absent to make up all missed assignments and work. For any absence over five (5) days, students will be given a maximum of five (5) consecutive days to turn in all work and assignments.

When missing days for vacations, class trips, etc., students are responsible for gathering assignments and working out a make-up schedule with their teachers prior to departure. Failure to take proper responsibility may result in receiving no credit for missed work.

Note: Students missing ten (10) or more consecutive days will be handled on an individual basis as they may qualify for homebound instruction.

Makeup Credit

If a student's work is incomplete due to excused absences from school, it is his/her responsibility to make arrangements with his/her teacher to complete given work. Since students are responsible for work missed while out of school we suggest you contact the Guidance Office to get assignments in the subject areas that concern you. Please allow for a 24-hour period for assignments to be picked up.

The subject teachers will give homework assignments via the Guidance Office where you as a parent are responsible for picking them up. (724-346-6585 extension 1258). In addition, it is also helpful to have students contact classmates to learn of missed work/assignments.

Early Dismissal and Appointments

If a student wishes to be dismissed from school early, or arrive late from an early morning appointment he/she is required to bring a **verification slip from the medical office upon return to school that day or next morning.**

It's also helpful to if prior to the appointment the students brings a written statement that includes:

1. Date and time dismissed
2. Length of time required
3. Name and location of doctor or appointment information
4. Signature of parent or guardian

*Acceptable early dismissals are limited to medical, dental and legal appointments, and those rare and extenuating circumstances deemed acceptable by the administration. Parents/ guardians must enter the building and sign-out the student in the sign-out book.

Tardiness to School

Any student not in their first period assignment by the 8:00 tardy bell will be considered tardy or absent and should only be admitted into the classroom with a pass from the attendance office. The Administration reserves the right to require a medical excuse for excessive tardiness.

Chronic tardiness will result in a parent conference. The first four offenses in a given semester (2 nine week periods), in which a student is tardy will result in the student receiving a single detention. On the fifth time a warning letter will be sent to the parent. The

sixth through the ninth offenses will result in double detentions being issued. On the tenth and eleventh tardy, students will receive a suspension and a warning letter. On the twelfth and all incidents thereafter, students will receive a suspension and charges will be filed with the local magistrate.

NOTE: Students who arrive late, but before 4th period will be deemed tardy. Students arriving after 4th period will be considered absent for the full day. (Times apply to our regular, full-day schedule and may be adjusted for modified days.)

Tardiness to Class

If a student is tardy (unexcused) to class they will receive a detention. If the student is tardy to the same class (3) three or more times a semester during the school year, it will result in a double detention. If the tardiness continues, student will be referred to Administration.

3 rd Offense	One double detention (60 minutes)
4 th Offense	Two double detentions (120 minutes)
5 th Offense	Three double detentions (180 minutes)

Authority

There is no division of authority among the faculty members at Farrell Area School District. **All** teachers are responsible for the supervision of **all** students at **all** times and in **all** places in the building or on school property during school hours. Your teachers, counselors, and administration are available at all times to assist you and help make your school year a pleasant educational experience.

B

Book/Supplies

Textbooks and supplies are the property of Farrell Area School District and are loaned to a student for his/her use. Lost, stolen, or damaged materials are the responsibility of the student to whom the article was loaned. The report card may be withheld until the responsibility is met. Obligation forms are to be issued to students by faculty with duplicate copies submitted to the office.

NOTE: Payment of obligations must be in the form of a certified check, cash or money order, made payable to the "Farrell Area School District". **Personal Checks will NOT be accepted.**

Bullying

Bullying is defined as an intentional written, electronic, verbal or physical act or actions against another person. Bullying is characterized by a real or perceived imbalance of power, and intent to harm or disturb, and repeated occurrences. Types of bullying can include by is not limited to:

1. Psychological and emotional (spreading rumors or excluding others with the intent to embarrass).
2. Verbal (name calling or threats).

3. Physical (pushing or hitting).
4. Placing a person in reasonable fear of harm to his or her emotional or physical well-being or property.
5. Creating a hostile, threatening, humiliating or abusive educational environment due to the pervasiveness or persistence of harmful actions.
6. Perpetuating bullying by inciting, soliciting or coercing an individual or group to cause physical and/or emotional harm to another.

Any cases of bullying, intimidation, or harassment should be reported to the building administrator. Proven cases of bullying/harassment/intimidation can result in warnings, detentions, parent phone calls, suspensions, board hearings, and even police reports.

C

CAFETERIA REGULATIONS

Dining Etiquette

1. All students will eat lunch in the cafeteria only.
2. There will be no cutting or saving places in the cafeteria line.
3. Students who wish to buy milk will only do so at the milk cooler in the serving line.
4. Students will return their own tray to the proper area after eating. Paper and waste food should be placed in the garbage can.
5. Students are to conduct themselves at the tables as ladies and gentlemen.
6. Students should not leave the cafeteria until properly dismissed by the teachers.
7. Push chairs up to the table when leaving the lunchroom.
8. **No food or drink is to leave the cafeteria.** Students having food or drink outside the cafeteria will be required to throw it away and receive a detention. Students are not permitted to have commercial or other deliveries arranged of commercially prepared food items to them at the school. The delivery of outside food items by vendors will be confiscated and may result in additional disciplinary action.
9. Energy drinks (ie., Amp, Monster, Jolt, Red Bull) are **NOT** to be brought to school. They will be confiscated during school hours.

Federal Lunch Program

Under guidelines set up through Public Law 91-24B all Farrell students are eligible for free lunch and breakfast.

Cell Phone Use

Cell phone use is **NOT** permitted in the school building before or during school time. Any use of a cell phone during school hours by a student will result in the cell phone being confiscated and a double detention being issued. **Note:** "Forgetting" to turn off the cell phone is not an excuse.

Use of a cell phone during a test (i.e. text messaging) will be considered cheating and proper action will be taken.

No use of cell phone photographs is permitted during the school day. No cell phone photographs are permitted in the **restrooms** or **locker room** areas at any time.

If a student is using a phone or a phone rings during class, the teacher will confiscate the cell phone and give it to an administrator. The student will be instructed to see the Principal to make arrangements for the return of the cell phone. If a student has a cell phone taken by a teacher more than once, the Principal will contact a parent, the student will receive two double detentions and the parent will be contacted. If there is a third offense the parent must retrieve the phone at school. Remember, the school will not be held responsible for lost devices such as cell phones, iPods, CD players, etc.

Change of Address/ Phone Number

It is the responsibility of the parent/ guardian to promptly notify the office in the event of a change in address, phone number, or withdrawal of student from Farrell High School.

Cheating

Honesty is a value we encourage. Cheating on student assignments will be viewed as a serious matter that will result in the following measures:

1st Offense	0 on project, test, quiz, etc.
2nd Offense	F for the nine week grading period
3rd Offense	Administrative referral

D

Dances and Prom

Farrell High School Dance Guidelines

The following procedures and guidelines have been established:

1. Dances will end by 10:30. Doors close and lock 45 minutes after the dance starts.
2. Once admitted to the dance, students are not permitted to leave the inside of the school building for any reason unless they are leaving for the evening in which case parents will be notified of their early departure. No re-entry will be permitted.
3. Admission to dances is limited to Farrell students unless previously approved by the Principal.
4. When permitted, guests must be registered at least two days prior to the dance. If a student brings a guest to the dance, he/she is responsible for the behavior of that guest and will suffer the reprimand should that guest be guilty of misbehavior.
5. If a student is guilty of destroying any decorations, he/she will face disciplinary action
6. Appropriate school attire is required at all dances.
7. Any incidence or rule infraction such as fighting, profanity, inappropriate dancing, inappropriate physical contact, poor behavior or anything disruptive will result in immediate dismissal from the dance and will be handled by the chaperons and/or

- security personnel. Illegal acts will necessitate contact of parents and police by the club advisor or administration and result in removal from the dance.
8. The only part of the school open to students during a dance is the cafeteria and the rest rooms adjacent to the cafeteria.
 9. Incidences of misbehavior shall be noted and reported to the administration on the next school day.

Prom Guidelines

Farrell High School prom is an event for junior and seniors. Farrell sophomores may attend as a guest of a Farrell junior or senior student. Male/female couples may attend grand march and purchase tickets. Proper attire is expected for the event. This includes a suit or tuxedo for males and formal dress attire for females.

The prom is an extra-curricular privilege provided to upper-class students. Inappropriate behavior and/or attire will not be tolerated. Furthermore, any student who is suspended from school or has received a school disciplinary hearing relinquishes their privilege of attending the event. Money will not be refunded once tickets are purchased.

DISCIPLINE

This code of conduct applies to any student: 1) on school property; 2) in attendance at school; 3) traveling to and from school; 4) at any school sponsored activity; or 5) whose conduct at any other time or place has a direct and immediate effect on maintaining order and discipline, or protecting the safety and welfare of the students or staff of the school.

TO BE HANDLED BY THE TEACHER (T)

- **T1** teacher/student conference held in private with discussion of consequences for next time
- **T2** 30 minute classroom detention before or after school with a special written assignment (such as: a letter of apology or a "Think Sheet")
- **T3** phone call, letter or e-mail to the parent / guardian

TO BE HANDLED BY ADMINISTRATION (A)

It is important to note that discipline will be handled by the administration on a progressive basis, depending on the severity of the infraction.

Final decisions are left to the discretion of the principals.

Detentions

If a student's behavior warrants a teacher detention, that student must serve the detention with the assigning teacher the same afternoon it is issued. If there are extenuating circumstances that prevent the student from attending, they are to inform the teacher immediately, and if valid, the student will be permitted to serve the detention the next day. If a student receives both a teacher detention **and** an office detention, the student must attend the teacher detention first, ask for a written pass from the teacher that includes the time student was release from detention. The student is then expected to attend other detentions that same day by submitting the pass. Students have two days to serve an office single detention before it converts to a double and two days to serve an office double detention before it converts to a Saturday detention and possible suspension. If a student becomes a chronic offender of detention, they will be subject to a suspension.

Some reasons for which detention may be assigned, but not limited to, are as follows:

- Late to school
- Forged hall pass
- Late to class
- Leaving class or assigned area early or without teacher permission
- Out of assigned area within the school
- Late to detention
- Failure to serve after-school detention
- Talking in detention
- No work in detention
- Misconduct in school
- Horseplay
- Dress Code Violation
- Willful destruction of school property
- Unacceptable language in school
- Willful disobedience to open defiance of school personnel

Saturday Detention- Saturday detentions may only be assigned by the building principal.

Saturday detention rules will be the same as those for reassignment. A student who is assigned a Saturday detention will be expected to report to the school site by 9:00 a.m. and serve in a designated classroom to 12:00 p.m. The student will provide his or her own transportation. Each student is to have sufficient material to study. Failure to serve a Saturday detention will result in two (2) Additional Saturday assignments for the first offense and out-of-school suspension/board disciplinary committee review on the second and all other offences.

Suspension – In-school and Out-of-school Suspensions may only be assigned by the building principal.

The following offenses are examples, but the list is not all inclusive:

- Possession, use, being under the influence or selling of alcoholic beverages on or about the school premises or school busses before, during, or after school. Violators will also be turned over to law enforcement authorities and will be scheduled for a discipline hearing.
- Possession, use, or being under the influence or selling dangerous drugs or narcotics on or about school premises before, during, or after school. Violators will also be turned over to law enforcement authorities including the scheduling of a discipline hearing.
- Willful disobedience to school personnel.
- Habitual truancy from school or classes.
- Refusal of in-school suspension.
- Repeated suspensions.
- Possession of a dangerous weapon.
- Physically attacking a student or school employee.
- Willful or threatened destruction, damage, defacing of school property or property of school district employee.
- Actions or threats that endanger the lives or well being of students and faculty (i.e. terroristic threats, false fire alarm, etc.)
- Willful disobedience of school directions and regulations.
- Use of profanity or obscene language or offensive behavior at school or school-related activities.
- Sexual misconduct.
- Repeatedly being late for school.
- Stealing school property or property of students or school district personnel.
- Violations of dress code.
- Improper or forged signatures on school papers.
- Any other infraction deemed serious enough by the administration to warrant a suspension.

Dissection Rights - State Bill 727

Language from S.B. 727, amending P.L. 30, No. 14, regarding Student Rights

Section 2. Adding a section to read amends the act:

Section 1522. Pupil's Right of Refusal; Animal Dissection.

- a) Public or nonpublic school pupils from kindergarten through grade twelve may refuse to dissect, vivisection, incubate, capture or otherwise harm or destroy animals, or any parts thereof, as part of their course of instruction.
- b) Schools shall notify incoming pupils and their parents or guardians to assert the rights of their children to refuse to participate in those projects. Notice shall be given not less than three (3) weeks prior to the scheduled course exercise, which involves the use of animals.

- c) A pupil who chooses to refrain from participation in or observation of a portion of a course of instruction in accordance with this section shall be offered an alternative education project of the purpose of providing the pupil an avenue for obtaining the factual knowledge, information or experience required by the course of study. If tests require harmful or destructive use of animals, pupils shall be offered alternative tests. A pupil shall not be discriminated against based upon his or her decision to exercise the right afforded that pupil by this section and lowering a grade because of pupil has chosen an alternative education project or test is strictly prohibited.

Dress Code

Students and parents are reminded that any clothing that interferes with the educational process of the school shall be restricted. The following guidelines apply:

1. Dress or adornment must contribute to prudent health interests and safety procedures.
2. Slogans or symbols worn and designed to be provocative to other students are unacceptable. Shirts or other wear that violate Title IX (sexual harassment) are prohibited.
3. Adornments, which tend to mar or damage school property, are banned.
4. Shorts are permitted: However, cut-off short, FHS gym shorts, and short shorts are **not** appropriate. Shorts should reach the tip of the wearer's middle finger and should be loose fitting.
5. Girls should not wear halter, midriff, spaghetti straps, bare-shoulder tops, open-belly shirts, tube tops, backless tops or low cut tops, absolutely **no cleavage exposed.**(shirts should be no lower than the width of one's hand from the collar bone)
6. Boys may not wear undershirts, hand cut-off or homemade cuts off shirts, nor sleeveless shirts.
7. All males and females must wear pants near or at the waist area. This includes sweat pants. **No drooping, baggy pants are permitted.**
8. Skirts are to be no shorter than the tip of the wearer's middle fingertip.
9. Pants, skirts and shirts must meet by at least 1 inch allowing absolutely NO skin showing at the waist/hip area.
10. No student is to show any undergarment, such as bras, boxers, briefs or panties.
11. No sleepwear pants are to be worn to school.
12. Students may not wear outdoor clothing such as heavy coats, parkas, hats, etc. in the school unless otherwise notified due to cold classrooms.
13. No tear away or snap pants.
14. Nothing advocating alcohol, violence, tobacco, drugs or sex/sexual harassment is permitted. Likewise, no inappropriate "double-meaning" shirts or clothing should be worn.
15. No see-through clothing is acceptable.
16. Flip-flops and athletic shower shoes are not permitted.
17. Any "heelie shoes" or shoes with wheels of any sort are prohibited for safety reasons.
18. Any backpacks/briefcases should be kept in student lockers at all times. They are not to be carried to classes while school is in session.

Teachers or staff members will send students to the office if they are in violation of the above named items included in the dress code. The final judgment of suitability of attire will lie with the school administration. The parents of students wearing disruptive patterns of dress or adornment will be called at home or work and informed about their children's dress. Parents may be expected to bring proper clothing to school for their children as soon as possible.

First Offense	Warning issued, student will change into appropriate attire
Second Offense	Parent notified, detention issued
Third Offense	Parent notified, two double detentions, compliance, and /or 1 – 3 days in ReAssignment.
Fourth Offense	Parent notified, Saturday detention, compliance, and /or 1-3 days Out of School suspension

DRIVING POLICIES and Bus Guidelines

Transportation Conduct

Coaches, bus monitors and the bus drivers shall have entire authority while students are on the bus. The Administration and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania support any rules and regulations established by the driver. This includes rules governing over-seating, opening and closing windows, use of undesirable language and any other controls that the driver sees fit to put into effect. Problems concerning bus behavior should be directed to Mrs. Mack the Transportation Coordinator at 724-509-1102.

Students who violate bus regulations will receive warnings, detentions, a suspension of transportation services and possible school suspension. At any time that the offense is deemed serious enough, the above will be waived and punishment will be at the discretion of the Administration.

Student DRIVING and Parking

The Following rules govern students that drive to School:

- 1) Student vehicles must not be on school property prior to 7:30 AM unless you are a band student or special arrangements have been made.
- 2) Student vehicles must be off school property by 3:00 PM unless involved with an academic or extracurricular activity.
- 3) Motor vehicles must be parked immediately upon arrival and remain parked until dismissal. No student is permitted to remove his vehicle during school hours without consent of the administration.
- 4) The speed limit on the school parking lot and property is 15 miles per hour.
- 5) *Student Parking: All vehicles must be parked in "ASSIGNED" PARKING SLOTS.* Student parking areas are in the general football stadium parking lot and the last 5 slots in the North lot facing Golden Dawn. Parking along Roemer Blvd. is prohibited students may however park at their own risk.
- 6) Vehicles without tags will be reported to the police and may be towed at the driver's expense.

- 7) Student vehicles on school property may be searched by school personnel with reasonable suspicion that the vehicle contains alcohol, drugs or weapons.

NOTE: Driving Registration Forms are available in the secondary Family Center from Security Officer Mr. Caputo. Violations of driving regulations will result in the revoking of school driving privileges and/or other action deemed necessary.

E

Emergency Drills

The students are expected to leave the building in a quiet, orderly, and expedient manner. Fire drill exits, tornado safety zones and lock down procedures are posted in each classroom. Be sure you know where your exits are for each classroom. In the case of a blocked exit, you must choose the best alternate route available. ***Drills will be conducted on a regular basis. Students are expected to cooperate/ participate in all drills.***

Employment Certificates and Work Papers

These certificates are obtained in the Guidance Office. The office must be notified of student employment while school is in session. Guidelines are available on the back of the applications.

Equal Rights and Opportunities Policy

With the aim of assuring equal rights and opportunities within our community and to comply with Federal Laws (including Title IX of Education Amendments of 1972), State Laws, and State Departments of Education regulations concerning these, the Farrell Area School District reaffirms itself to be an Equal Rights and Opportunities School District. As an Equal Rights and Opportunities School District, it does not discriminate against individuals or groups because of race, color, national origin, religion, age, marital status, or non-relevant handicaps and disabilities. The school district's commitment to nondiscrimination extends to students, employees, prospective employees, and the community.

Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be made to Equal Rights and Opportunities Director, or to the Director of Civil Rights, Department of Health, Education, Welfare, Washington, D.C.

Issues dealing with Title IX should be brought to the attention of the Title IX Coordinator at 724-509-1300 in the district's central office where copies of the policy may be obtained.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Extracurricular Eligibility Policy

Attendance:

Student attendance will be closely monitored by the attendance officer to ensure that the regulations as written in the **PIAA Constitution and By-Laws** are strictly enforced. Students who are not in attendance for a full day of school (by 9:30 a.m.) cannot practice or participate in athletics on that day. If a student arrives after 9:30 a.m., he/she becomes ineligible on that day. This is defined as being signed in at the office after 9:30 a.m. Exceptions will be made only if the student has a written or otherwise confirmed medical, dental, or counseling appointment with a qualified professional. A student who has been absent from school during a semester for a total of **(20)** or more school days, shall not be eligible to participate in an inter-school practice, scrimmage, or contest until the student has been in attendance for a total of forty-five (45) school days following the student's 20th day of absence. (Section **3 pg. 11 PIAA By-Laws**)

Student Misconduct:

Students must display proper conduct while at school, on the way to and from school, and while participating in or attending any school related activity or function.

Students will be ineligible to participate in Athletics if:

Detention (behavioral) on the day of an event	cannot participate that day
Detentions are not served before the extracurricular day	cannot participate in next game/activity
The student has been suspended, either in-school or out-of-school	cannot participate in next game/activity or any practices, meetings, travel or additional games/activities during the suspension
The student has a <i>Behavior Intervention Plan</i>	to be determined by the Intervention Team and written in the plan and must be approved by the principal
The student is placed in an alternative education program	will not be permitted to participate in any athletic programs without special permission from the principal

Students must obtain permission from the Principal or Executive Director of Athletics to have their privileges reinstated. The length of suspension will be determined by the nature and severity of the infraction.

Parental requests to withhold athletic activities will be obliged.

Involvement in delinquent, gang affiliation or criminal activity outside of school will result in ineligibility or dismissal from the team.

Academics:

Teachers will update their grades on Friday. An eligibility list will be distributed to the Coaches on Monday. If a student is not passing a class, the coach will be notified. Students earning one or two F's will be given one week to bring the grades up to passing. This is a district rule more stringent than the PIAA regulations for athletes. If in the event the grades are not brought up by the next Friday, the student will become ineligible from the immediately following Sunday through the Saturday immediately following the next Friday as of which the student's cumulative work from the beginning of the grading period meets the standards provided for in this section. Grades reported by the teacher shall be cumulative from the beginning of a grading period. **All other rules will follow the PIAA Constitution.**

***Any Student-Athlete receiving a D or F must attend a mandatory study table from 3-4 PM after school. Students not attending will be ineligible for the following week.**

The **PIAA** states that students must be passing at least four full-credit subjects, or the equivalent. Any student not meeting this requirement is ineligible from the immediately following Sunday through the Saturday immediately following the next Friday. In most cases this will be any student receiving three F's.

Coaches are encouraged to consult the teacher for any athlete ineligible due to grades, to learn the reason and measures necessary for the student to become eligible.

The athletic director will collect the weekly roster on Friday and determine who is academically ineligible. Written notification will be sent to the coach and the high school principal no later than Monday listing athletes who are ineligible. In the event that there is a competition on Sunday, the coach and high school principal will be notified by Friday. **It is the coach's responsibility to notify the athlete and parent/guardian and see to it that the student complies.**

PIAA By-Law Article X Section 2 states: To be eligible for interscholastic athletics, a student must have passed at least four full-credit subjects, or the equivalent, during the previous grading period. If the standards are not met, the athlete shall be ineligible for 20 school days of the next grading period. At the end of the school year, the student's final credits, rather than the grade for the final grading period, will be used to determine eligibility for the start of the next school year. A student who corrects his/her deficiencies sufficiently by attending summer school would regain eligibility once the summer school records are verified.

Students may file an appeal, verbally or in writing, with the Principal or AD if they are declared ineligible. This must be done within the first three days of ineligibility. Parents, guardians and/or coaches may accompany or support students with their appeals, but may not make the appeal for them. The AD or his/her designee will investigate the concern and make a final ruling in a timely manner.

F

Field Trips

In cases where the field trip is a school sponsored trip, all school regulations will be in effect. Students must check with teachers for assignments before leaving. All assignments are due the first day back from field trips unless the trip is more than one day. Students who have been suspended, truant, or display excessive absenteeism will have their field trip privileges revoked. All money paid in advance will be forfeited.

Fighting Policy

This policy includes the normal school day involving buildings and grounds, walking to and from school, while riding on school transportation and while at school-sponsored activities. The Administration will investigate and evaluate to determine if a fight and/or severe physical altercation exists. When such is determined, the students involved will receive a ten (10) day out of school suspension and charges will be filed with the S.W.R. Police Department.

NOTE: 1) The Administration reserves the right to regulate suspension time depending on the seriousness of the offense.
2) A student can be taken to a Board hearing at any time, depending on the severity of the offense.

Fundraising

No soliciting or selling of any kind is permitted on school property without prior approval of the Administration.
All School sponsored fundraising must be related to a specific student organization and the advisor must gain School board approval.

G

Grading Key

S- Satisfactory is a passing grade

NI- Needs Improvement is a passing grade

U- Unsatisfactory is a failing grade

I - Incomplete grade. During the first three grading periods, students have five days to make-up incomplete grade. At the end of five school days, if the incomplete grade is not made up, the teacher will issue an "F" for the nine-week grading period or refer to the Administration. During the final grading period, a student may receive an "F" for the final grades if all course requirements are not met.

The final grades are recorded on the student's permanent record card and transcript.
Final grades determine pass or failure for the year.

Grading System

Grades are based upon test results, homework, projects, and participation. The basic guideline for daily grades will be as follows:

GRADE	PERCENT	GRADE	PERCENT
A+	96.5-100	C+	76.5-79.49
A	92.5-96.49	C	72.5-76.49
A-	89.5-92.49	C-	69.5-72.49
B+	86.5-89.49	D+	66.5-69.49
B	82.5-86.49	D	62.5-66.49
B-	79.5-82.49	D-	59.5-62.49
		F	0-59.49

Final Grades: Final grades are determined by using the point conversions:

GRADE	POINT	GRADE	POINT
A+	4.3	C+	2.3
A	4.0	C	2.0
A-	3.7	C-	1.7
B+	3.3	D+	1.3
B	3.0	D	1.0
B-	2.7	D-	0.7
		F	0

Weighted Grades

All courses NOT listed below will receive a value of 1.0 when calculating a WGPA.

1.3—Calculus, Chemistry, Physics, Foreign Language IV

1.2—Foreign Language III, Trigonometry

1.1—Algebra III, Foreign Language II, Honors English 11,12

1. The courses of transfer students will be given a weight of 1.0 unless their district indicated a different weighting system.
2. A weighted grade point average is used to determine class rank and National Honor Society.

Calculation of WGPA

Class	Grade	GPE	Credit	Weight	WGPE
History	A	4.0	1.0	1.0	4.0
Chemistry	B	3.0	1.4	1.3	5.46
Calculus	C	2.0	1.0	1.3	2.60
Total			3.4		12.06

12.06/3.4 = 3.55 WGPA

Graduation Requirements

Farrell High School Graduation Requirements 09-10

For the class of 2013

- 4 English credits
- 4 Social Studies credits
- 4 Math credits
- 3 Science credits
- 1 PE credits
- .5 Health credit
- .5 Computer Applications/Technology credit
- 1 Arts/Humanities
- 5 Elective credits
- 1 Graduation Project credit

***24 Total Credits Required for Graduation**

The Classes of 2010 – 2012 will be guided by the graduation requirements from 08-09, as modified to reflect any changes in curriculum that has occurred. Students in these classes will be required to meet PA and Farrell Area School District standards required for graduation.

For the classes of 2010 -2012

- 4 English credits
- 4 Social Studies credits
- 4 Math credits
- 3 Science credits
- 2 PE credits
- .5 Health credit
- .5 Arts/Humanities credit
- 1 Graduation Project credit
- 5 Elective credits

24 Total Credits Required for Graduation

Failures

Any student receiving three (3) F's during any of the marking periods of a yearlong course will automatically fail that particular course. Likewise, any student receiving F's during the third and fourth marking periods of a yearlong course will fail the course. Students shall not have more than 1.5 credits of failure on their transcripts at graduation.

Guidance Department

The following services are available through the guidance office:

- A. Registration and orientation of new students to Farrell High/Upper Middle School.
- B. Aiding students and parents in making decisions as the student's life work.
- C. Adjustments of conflicts in school programs of students.
- D. Referral of students with emotional problems for special services.
- E. Aid students in solving any personal problems he/she may have.
- F. Counseling of individual students and aiding the student to evaluate himself/herself from all assembled information.

- G. Organization and supervision of testing.
- H. Individual conferences, parent/teacher conferences to discuss school problems.
- I. Guidance information of students available to all appropriate school staff and parents on a "need to know" basis.
- J. Class standing and method of determining available to students and parents.
- K. Transcripts and records to post secondary school armed forces and employers.
- L. Collection and distribution of vocational material.
- M. Job placement, college selection, vocational schools selection, armed services selections are available.
- N. Information pertinent to a survey including graduates and dropouts.
- O. Follow up services available.
- P. Career awareness.
- Q. Scholarship, loan and state and federal aid information.

H

Hallway Conduct

Proper Hallway conduct should be adhered to at all times, you should refrain from:

- running in the halls
- excessive noise
- being in halls during class time, without a pass
- blocking traffic
- using vulgar language
- loitering
- public displays of affection
- no food/bottles in the hallways or in classrooms.

No students are to be in the halls before **7:30 a.m.** or after **3:00 p.m.**

Hallway Passes

Students are not permitted in the halls and restroom during the time classes or homerooms are in session without a signed hall pass from the teacher. The hall pass entitles the student to be in the hall for a reasonable period of time until his errand is performed. Any teacher (teacher's aide) has the authority to ask to see a pass at any time a pupil is out of a room.

Homerooms

Each pupil will report to his/her first period class on a day-to-day basis for normal homeroom purposes. When the need arises, students may be required to report to their alphabetical homeroom. This will be made known by the absentee/office slip and public address system.

Homework

Homework is considered an integral part of the learning process at Farrell High School. Students can expect to receive homework assignments, on average, three times per week

in each of their classes. For every day a student is absent, they will be given one day to make up the assignments.

Honor Roll

High Honor Roll status will be awarded each nine weeks to those students who achieve a grade point average (GPA) between 3.7 and 4.0 and do not have any U's or NI's. *Honor Roll* status will be awarded to those students who achieve a GPA between 3.3 and 3.69 and who do not have any U's or NI's. *Honorable Mention* will be awarded to those having a GPA between 3.0 and 3.29 and without any U's or NI's.

HEALTH SERVICES

Students who are ill or need minor first aid should be sent to the Nurses' Office with a pass. Only in case of severe emergency will the student be permitted to stop between classes. Students with over the counter medicines should submit those to the Nurse's office immediately upon their arrival to school with a notice from the parent/ guardian. **No** drugs are to be taken by any student without the explicit knowledge and distribution from the nurse.

Medication Distribution Guidelines (during school hours)

1. No medication can be given until the parent/guardian completes and signs a request form for the administration of medication at school.
2. Your child's doctor must complete the bottom of the request form or provide a signed medication order. If this is not done, we confirm the order by contacting the doctor's office by phone or fax. This usually results in a delay in starting the medication at school.
3. Morning medication doses are to be given at home before the child leaves for school.
4. The school nurse or other designated person will administer prescribed medications during the school day.
5. An adult must deliver all medication to school. Do not send any medication to school with your child.
6. Medication brought to school must be in a pharmacy bottle with clear labeling and directions. Do not bring unlabeled medications to school since we cannot administer unidentified medication.
7. It is the parent's responsibility to provide adequate supplies of your child's medication. Please be aware of how many doses you are providing and how long it will be before you need to supply additional medication. Take into account the time needed to get a new prescription from the doctor.
8. You will be called or a note will be send with your child three days before a new supply of medication is needed.
9. On delayed start days, give your child's morning dose at the usual time to avoid timing problems with the lunch dose. If you change the time of the morning dose, it is your responsibility to notify the nurse on that day so the time of the lunch dose can be adjusted.
10. Any changes in medications or dose must be reported by you to the school nurse immediately. We cannot accept the word of a child on medication changes.

Required Examinations and Screenings

<i>SERVICE</i>	<i>GRADE</i>					
	7	8	9	10	11	12
Physical Examination					✓	
School Nurse Services	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Dental Examination	✓					
Vision Screening	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Growth Screening	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hearing Screening	✓				✓	
Scoliosis Screening	✓					
Health Counseling	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
School Follow up	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Possession and Use of Asthma Inhalers

Students WILL be permitted to carry and self-administer medication via short-acting asthma inhalers (metered doses of prescribed medication to treat an acute asthma attack) if the following conditions are met:

1. A written request is required from the parent or guardian that the school complies with the order of the physician.
2. Student must demonstrate the capability for self-administration and show responsible behavior in its use thereof, i.e., restricts availability of the inhaler from other children of school age. (An agreement contract will be signed.)
3. Student must notify the School Nurse immediately following each use of an asthma inhaler.
4. A written statement is required from the physician that provides the name of the drug, the dose, the times when the medication is to be taken and the diagnosis or reason the medication is to be taken. The physician shall indicate the potential of any serious reaction and necessary emergency response and shall state whether the student is qualified and able to self-administer the medication.
5. If/ when a student uses their inhaler, they must notify the nurse immediately.

Immediate confiscation of both the asthma inhaler and the medication and loss of privileges will occur if the school policies are abused or ignored.

Emergency Forms/ Passes to Nurse’s Office

Students who find it necessary to go to the nurses' office must obtain permission from their teacher. Students are not to report to the nurses' office between classes. All illness excuses for early dismissal must be processed through the nurse. All students must complete and return an **Emergency form to the nurse's office annually in order to be treated for by the nurse.** (Serious emergencies are an exception)

I

INTERNET and TECHNOLOGY USAGE POLICY

The use of technology resources shall be consistent with the curriculum adopted by the District, as well as the varied instructional needs, learning styles, abilities, and developmental levels of students.

The electronic information available to students and staff does not imply endorsement of the content by the District, nor does the District guarantee the accuracy of information received on the Internet. The District shall not be responsible for any information that may be lost, damaged or unavailable when using the network, or for any information that is retrieved via the Internet.

A network account will be used only by the authorized owner of the account for its authorized purpose. All communications and information accessible via the network should be assumed to be private property and shall not be disclosed. Network users shall respect the privacy of other users of the system. This does not prevent District access or disclosure to accounts in order to monitor appropriate use.

The District reserves the right to log network use and to monitor fileserver space utilization by District users, while respecting the privacy rights of both District users and outside users. It is often necessary to access student accounts in order to perform routine maintenance and security tasks. Student accounts are therefore the property of the Farrell Area School District. The system administrator has the right to access student accounts to uphold this policy and maintain the system. The District reserves the right to remove a user account from the network to prevent further unauthorized or illegal activity if such activity is discovered.

The Board establishes that use of the Internet and the District's technology resources is a privilege, not a right. Inappropriate, unauthorized and illegal use will result in the cancellation of those privileges and other appropriate disciplinary action.

The District shall make every effort to ensure that all technology resources are used responsibly by students, employees and other individuals. Students and staff have the responsibility to respect and protect the rights of every other user in the District and on the Internet.

Administrators shall have the authority to determine what constitutes "inappropriate use" and their decisions are final.

Prohibitions

Students and staff are expected to act in a responsible, ethical, and legal manner in accordance with District policy, accepted rules of network etiquette, and federal and State law. Specifically, the following uses of any technology resources are prohibited:

- To facilitate illegal activity.
- For commercial or for-profit purposes.
- For non-work or non-school related work.
- For product advertisement or political lobbying.
- For hate mail, discriminatory remarks, and offensive or inflammatory communication.
- For unauthorized or illegal installation, distribution, reproduction, or use of copyrighted materials.
- To access obscene or pornographic material.
- For inappropriate language or profanity on the network.
- To transmit material likely to be offensive or objectionable to recipients.
- To intentionally obtain or modify files, passwords, and data belonging to other users.
- Impersonation of another user, anonymity, and pseudonyms.
- For fraudulent copying, communications, or modification of materials in violation of copyright laws.
- Loading or use of unauthorized games, programs, files or other electronic media.
- To disrupt the work of other users.
- For the destruction, modification, or abuse of network hardware and software.
- For quoting personal communications in a public forum without the original author's prior consent.

Additionally, individually identified photographs of students will not be placed, nor made available for use, on any district sponsored Internet site without the expressed, written consent of the student's parent or guardian. The proper consent form will be provided upon request.

Security

System security is protected through the use of passwords. Failure to adequately protect or update passwords could result in unauthorized access to personal or District files. To protect the integrity of the system, the following guidelines shall be followed:

1. Employees and students shall not reveal their passwords to another individual.
2. Users are not to use a computer that has been logged in under another individual's name.
3. Any user identified as a security risk or having a history of problems with other computer systems may be denied access to the network.

Safety

To the greatest extent possible, users of the network will be protected from harassment or unwanted or unsolicited communication. Any network user who receives threatening or unwelcome communications shall immediately bring them to the attention of a teacher or administrator.

Network users shall not reveal personal addresses or telephone numbers to other users on the network.

Consequences for Inappropriate Use

The network user shall be responsible for damages to the equipment, systems, and software resulting from deliberate or willful acts.

Illegal use of the network, intentional deletion or damage to files or data belonging to others, copyright violations or theft of services will be reported to the appropriate legal authorities for possible prosecution, and result in a loss of usage privileges.

General rules for behavior and communications apply when using the Internet, in addition to the stipulations of this policy. Loss of access and other disciplinary actions shall be consequences for inappropriate use.

Vandalism will result in cancellation of access privileges. Vandalism is defined as any malicious attempt to harm or destroy data of another user, network connections, computer hardware and software, and any other form of technology. This includes but is not limited to the creation, uploading or downloading of computer viruses.

L

LEARNING SUPPORT SERVICES

Special Education Programs

To meet the special needs of eligible students, the following options are available. These programs may be operated by the District or the Midwestern Intermediate Unit IV. **Within the District:** Gifted Support, Learning Support, Itinerant Emotional Support, Itinerant Hearing Support, Itinerant Vision Support, Speech/Language Support, Language Support, Language Impaired Support, Occupational Therapy, Limited Life Skills Support, Multi-Handicapped Support, and Physical Therapy. Any questions can be directed to the Special Education Department at 724- 509- 1278.

Special Education: 342,23; 14.25 (b); 14.21 (a)

The Farrell Area School District seeks to identify any handicapped child, ages 3-6, and a resident of the Farrell Area School District. The specific purpose is to engage the parent/guardian and child in early identification and to institute the appropriate education interventions. Confidentiality of information is guaranteed. Parents/guardians of identified special education students are afforded specific rights by law. These rights are, but not limited to, annual program review, request for evaluation/re-evaluation, records review and specific procedural rights in matters of dispute over education programs/planners. For

information regarding services, activities, programs and facilities that are accessible to and usable by handicapped persons, contact Special Education Director at 724- 509- 1278.

Chapter 16: Gifted Education

The Farrell High School offers an enrichment program for students who are mentally gifted. Parents may obtain information about evaluation for “thought to be gifted” students from the Special Education Director.

Procedures Regarding Handicapped Students

The Farrell Area School District assures all handicapped students will be provided with an equal opportunity to participate in extra-curricular programs and activities as are non-handicapped students. Handicapped students will be provided with reasonable support services or accommodations in accordance with individual needs. If you feel a handicapped student is in need of additional support services, or if you have any questions concerning this, please contact the Special Education Director.

Chapter 15 Protected Handicapped Student

A protected handicapped student is a school age student with a physical or mental disability that substantially limits or prohibits participation in or access to any aspect of the school program. In compliance with State and Federal Law, the Farrell Area School District will provide to each protected handicapped student without discrimination or cost to the student or family, those related aids, services, or accommodations which are needed to provide equal opportunity to participate in and obtain the benefits of the school program and extra curricular activities to the maximum extent appropriate to the student’s abilities. These services and protections for “protected handicapped student” are distinct from those applicable to all eligible or exceptional students enrolled (or seeking enrollment) in special education programs.

Leaving Building during School Hours

When it becomes necessary for a student to leave the school during regular school hours he or she must secure a hall pass from the teacher and report to the High School Office for a permit to leave school. Sign out sheets must be appropriately signed when office permission is granted. All students must have parent/guardian approval or administrative approval. Students are **NOT** permitted to leave the school building without permission. Failure to follow these rules will result in suspension. No one is permitted to go to his/her car, for any reason, once they enter the building.

LIBRARY SERVICES

The following rules apply to fines and overdue books.

- A. Books will be loaned for a period of two weeks.
- B. Overdue books will accrue five cents per school day fine.
- C. Books not returned to the library on the day they are due will collect a fine
- D. All books will naturally be stamped with the due date so there will be absolutely no excuse for overdue books.

- E. Each person is responsible for paying his/her own fine in person, failure to do so will result in the student's report card being withheld until the obligation is met.
- F. Students will be required to pay for lost and/or damaged books at the end of each grading period.
- G. The Internet Usage Policy must be signed by parents/guardian before students use the Internet in the library.
- H. New students should meet the librarian for an overview of available resources in the library.

Lockers and Locks

Students are issued lockers each year. However, the lockers remain the property of the school and are only loaned to the students. Lockers may be decorated by the students but must not be a fire hazard and must be in good taste or they will be removed. School personnel may search lockers without student permission, if there is a health, safety, or welfare concern for any student in the school. For security reasons, students are reminded to not share their locker with another student and are expected to use school locks. Combination locks are available for purchase in the office for \$5.00. No other locks may be placed on lockers (all other types of locks will be removed).

Lost and Found

Items found in and around the building should be turned in to the secretary in the office. Any person who has lost an article may take inquiries to the secretary. Unclaimed items will be donated to a local charity at the end of each quarter.

NOTE: Do not bring large amounts of money or other highly valuable items to school. However, if you do bring them to school, lock the items in your assigned lockers, the school is NOT responsible for lost or stolen items.

N

National Honor Society Guidelines

Juniors and Seniors who have a 3.7 GPA average or higher and who have received teacher recommendations may be considered Mary V. Scardina National Honor Society candidates.

P

Physical Education – Excuses and Dress

1. All temporary and long-range excuses from participation in Physical Education must be through the school nurse.
2. Dress – Students are required to dress appropriately for gym. The Phys. Ed. Instructors will outline appropriate dress during the first week of school. Non-compliance with dress code may result in a failure for the report period as well as disciplinary action.
3. Only proper gym shoes are permitted on the gym floor.
4. All visible piercings must be removed for gym class.

PRIVACY RIGHTS OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Privacy:

The ***Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act*** protects the privacy of the student's education records. This legislation also allows schools to release directory information of their students without consent as long as they make notice to parents and eligible students of the release of such information and allow them a reasonable amount of time to request that the school **not** disclose directory information about them.

The school MAY NOT release information to any other persons other than those listed above unless:

- Consent from the student's parent has been obtained indicating to whom the records are to be sent.
- A judicial order has been issued or the agency has the power of subpoena.

Parents or guardians may have access to a student's permanent record file. The school presumes that either parent of the student has authority to inspect and review the education records unless the school has been provided with evidence that there is a legal binding instrument or a state law or court order governing the divorce, separation, or custody providing to the contrary.

All requests by parents/guardians to review student records will be made to the Principal.

The School District and its employees are required by Federal Law and State and Federal rules and regulations to protect the rights of students. The foundation of these rights comes from federal legislation entitled Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (also known as the Buckley Amendment). There are some rules and regulations dealing with regular and special education students' rights and privacy. All students are covered by the state regulations contained in Chapter 12, known as Students' Rights and Responsibilities. The basic premise of these laws, rules and regulations is that information about students cannot be disclosed without written parental consent.

Student Records (confidentiality)

The school may, without parental consent, release a student's permanent record file to:

- A. Teachers within the district who have a legitimate educational interest.
- B. The state superintendent (directors of special education and other departments).
- C. Officials of other secondary school systems in which a student intends to enroll (parents are to be notified of the transfer).

Access to Student Recruiting Information:

Under the ***Family Educational Rights & Privacy Act***, the local educational agency must provide notice to parents of the types of student information that it releases publicly. This type of student information, commonly referred to as "directory information," includes such items as names, addresses, and telephone numbers and is information generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. The notice must include an explanation of parent's right to request that the information not be disclosed without prior written consent. Additionally S 9528 requires that parents be notified that the school routinely discloses names, addresses, and telephone numbers to military recruiters upon

request, subject to a parent's request not to disclose such information without **written consent**. The local educational agency shall notify the students and parents of the option to make such a written request at least 21 days prior to compliance of the list, and shall comply with any request. Again, any junior that does not want their name, address, and phone numbers released to the military or college recruiters must provide the Administration with the request that they be removed from the distribution list at the beginning of the school year. This is in compliance with Act 10 of legislation passed in 1991.

R

Report Cards

Each student is issued a computer report card. All students will receive their report cards the first quarter but if the student owes any monetary or inventory obligations (a fine) subsequent report cards will be withheld until the fines are paid. Student report cards will be carried home by the pupil for the second and third nine-week periods. For the fourth quarter, report cards or fine cards will be mailed home.

Please refer to the report card for further information on grades, comments and attendance. Special attention should be made of comments and attendance. Any inquiries should be made through the Guidance Office at **724-509-1258**.

S

Scheduling

Refer to Program of Studies for scheduling particulars, available in the Guidance Office. Once a schedule is made, student schedules should be viewed as a contract between the student and the school. The second full week of school will be the last date that any changes regarding schedules will be considered.

Additionally, due to the restrictions on scheduling that result from the size of our school, students may not drop a course for a study hall or drop a more challenging course for an easier selection. For example, while Introduction to Art can be challenging, students cannot drop Calculus to take it.

After the second week of school, students are permitted to request course changes **ONLY** for the following reasons:

- Health problems verified by a physician
- Computer errors or conflicts
- Need to earn credit(s) for graduation (seniors only)
- Accommodations to allow students to take college classes
- Emergency situations as deemed appropriate by the principal in consultation with the guidance counselors and teacher(s)

Any other circumstance that results in students dropping a class will result in a W/F (withdrawal/failure) on their report card and transcript. The failure will be calculated into

their final grade point average and class rank. Students must make all schedule changes before the mandated deadline.

Severe Weather - School Closings/Delays

In case of severe weather such as snow, low temperatures, ice, etc. the official announcement for school closings may be heard over the local radio stations. Radio stations include WPIC 790 AM. Television stations to be notified are: TV 21, TV 27, TV 33, WPXI, and KDKA. Please refer to these stations and do not call the school.

Sexual harassment -policy is available for reading in the high school office.

Skateboarding

Skateboarding on all concrete/cemented/pedestrian areas of the school grounds is strictly prohibited. Anyone caught may be charged with trespassing. Students are permitted to ride skateboards to and from school but may not recreationally skate on the school grounds.

Steroid Usage Policy

The Farrell Area Board of School Directors adopts and enforces rules and regulations to prohibit use of anabolic steroids by any pupil involved in school related athletics. A required minimum suspension for the remainder of the season for any pupil found in violation of the rules and regulations; and requires education regarding the dangers of anabolic steroids with any other drug and alcohol courses.

Student Aides

All student aides must be recommended by a member of the faculty and approved by the Administration. A pass / fail grade will be issued to the student based on their performance.

Student Assistance Program (S.A.P.)

The Farrell Area School District wishes to publicly acknowledge our leadership responsibility in addressing adolescent dysfunctional and/or self-destructive behaviors that are serving to block growth and learning in our students. The student assistance team may assist in matters pertaining to these. If questions arise, students/parents may contact the principals or guidance counselors for more information.

ACT 211 and S.A.P.

On December 19, 1990, Governor Casey signed into law Act 211. This law requires that every public school student receive instruction in alcohol, chemical, and tobacco abuse in every grade from kindergarten through grade twelve. This instruction, which is to begin in 1991-1992 school year, shall be integrated within the health course in accordance with State Board of Education regulations. This instruction may also be integrated into other appropriate courses of study. In grades where health is not offered, drug education instruction shall be integrated in another appropriate curriculum requirement as listed in PA. Code 5.4 (b). Curriculum planners in your district should be aware of the law's stipulations regarding the type of instruction offered to students. Under Act 211, the instruction must; be

age appropriate, be sequential in its methods of study, convey a no use message regarding alcohol, tobacco, and controlled substances and communicate to students that the use of illicit drugs and the improper use of legally obtained drugs is wrong.

Act 211 also requires school districts to provide in-service training programs for teachers whose responsibilities include instruction in alcohol, tobacco, and chemical abuse. This pertains to health teachers who are teachers of other subjects in which drug and alcohol instruction is integrated into their planned course of study. In order to satisfy this requirement, districts may utilize in-service training offered by the Department of Education or other appropriate drug prevention agencies.

In accordance with the above guidelines, the Farrell Area School District has been involved with student assistance programs at both the elementary and secondary levels for several years. In addition, community representatives have worked with the student support teams.

Student of the Month Awards

Students who exemplify what it means to be a great student and citizen are awarded a monetary check and certificate. Students are nominated by the general staff and the "student of the month" committee chooses from the nominations.

Student Spectators at Athletic Events

The following rules and regulations will be in effect and the police, high school administration and faculty will enforce them.

1. Inappropriate/disrespectful behavior will **NOT** be tolerated.
2. Students are to remain seated during the game.
3. Students are not to leave the gym/ stands during the time of competition.
4. Students may go to the lobby and restroom during half times and between games only.
5. Spectators stay off the playing surface.
6. At **NO** time during the athletic events may a student leave the building/stadium and expect to gain reentry. Once you go outside-you must remain out.
7. No loitering in the lobby or in the parking area during the contest.
8. When exiting the gym-please stay as close to the bleachers as possible.
9. All slogans and cheering signs must have school official approval.
10. Please provide our guests with a positive experience and represent Farrell High School in a favorable manner.

Possible consequences could merit a 365 day ban from all extra-curricular events both in participation and as a spectator.

Summer School Program

Farrell High School does not offers summer school courses, however students may attend summer school at neighboring Sharon High School. The cost of summer school is to be paid by the student and only students who have passed 2 quarters of a course are eligible to attend summer school. More information can be obtained through the guidance office.

T

Telephone

Students **will not** be called to the phone during school hours and the office phones are for official use only. Students are **not** permitted to use classroom phones and may **not** use their cell phones while in school. In **serious** emergencies, messages will be delivered to students.

Terrorist Threats/Acts

The Farrell Area School District Policy Number 218.2 defines terroristic threats/acts as follows:

1. A threat to commit violence communicated with the intent to terrorize another.
2. To cause evacuation of the building.
3. To cause serious public inconvenience, in reckless disregard of the risk of causing such terror or inconvenience.
4. An offense against property or danger to another person.

When an administrator has evidence that a student has made a terroristic threat or committed a terrorist act, the following shall be followed:

1. The principal shall immediately suspend the student.
2. The principal shall promptly report the incident to the superintendent.
3. The superintendent may report the student to law enforcement.
4. The superintendent may recommend expulsion of the student to the Farrell Area School Board.

Tobacco, Drug and Alcohol

Tobacco, over the counter and illicit drugs as well as alcohol products are prohibited on school grounds and while being transported to and from school or present at school events. Students found guilty will receive an out of school suspension and a fine. A more detailed version of the policy is available in the high school office for your perusal.

V

Valedictorian and Class Rank

The senior class valedictorian will be the student who has the highest GPA including the weight of the courses at the end of the fourth quarter as designated for the senior class. Salutatorian and class rank will be determined by the same method, at the end of the same period.

Visitors and Guests

All visitors must report to the High School office as soon as they come to the building. They will be given a "Visitor Pass". If a student guide is available, visitors will be shown through the building. Prior arrangements should be made for visitor's passes. Casual visitations are not permitted and trespassers will be prosecuted by the local law enforcement agency.

Vocational Technical Transportation to and from Mercer

1. All students must ride school transportation. Students are **not permitted to drive themselves.**
2. Temporary (one day) driving passes may be approved by the career center, and high school administration provided it is an academic reason and written permission is provided by the parent/guardian. No confirmations by telephone will be granted.
3. Failure to comply with above regulations will result in suspension from school and possible removal from Vocational Technical curriculum.

W

Weapons Policy

It is a misdemeanor of the first degree in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (Act 167, Subsection 1 of 1980), and in violation of the Crime Code of PA (Section 912), for any person to possess a weapon in the building or upon the grounds of any public elementary or secondary school.

Possession of weapons on school property, transportation and/or activities is strictly prohibited.

A weapon is any instrument considered by law or capable of inflicting bodily harm. Anyone found in violation of such will be subject to a ten day out of school suspension leading to a School Board Disciplinary Hearing, which will result in a minimum of a one-year expulsion, and may be cited by the South West Regional Police department.

FARRELL AREA HIGH SCHOOL

Bell Schedules 2009 – 2010

Schedule 1

~~~~~ **Grades 10,11,and12** ~~~~~

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|          |                |
|----------|----------------|
| PERIOD 1 | 8:00-9:00 am   |
| PERIOD 2 | 9:03-9:53 am   |
| PERIOD 3 | 9:56-10:46 am  |
| PERIOD 4 | 10:49-11:39 am |
| PERIOD 5 | 11:42-12:32 pm |
| Lunch B  | 12:35-1:05 pm  |
| PERIOD 6 | 1:08-1:58 pm   |
| PERIOD 7 | 2:01-2:51 pm   |

~~~~~ **Grades7,8,and9** ~~~~~

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| PERIOD 1 | 8:00-9:00 am |
| PERIOD 2 | 9:03-9:53 am |
| PERIOD 3 | 9:56-10:46 am |
| PERIOD 4 | 10:49-11:39 am |
| PERIOD (5) | 11:42-12:00 pm |
| Lunch A | 12:00-12:30 pm |
| PERIOD (5) | 12:33-1:05 pm |
| PERIOD 6 | 1:08-1:58 pm |
| PERIOD 7 | 2:01-2:51 pm |

Students are encouraged to limit locker visits.

FARRELL AREA HIGH SCHOOL
Bell Schedules 2009 – 2010

Schedule 2

~~~~~ **Grades 10,11,and12** ~~~~~

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|                     |               |    |
|---------------------|---------------|----|
| PERIOD 1            | 8:00 - 8:34   | am |
| PERIOD 2            | 8:37 - 9:11   | am |
| PERIOD 3            | 9:14 - 9:48   | am |
| PERIOD 4            | 9:51 - 10:25  | am |
| PERIOD 6            | 10:28 - 11:02 | pm |
| PERIOD 7            | 11:05 - 11:39 | pm |
| PERIOD 5            | 11:42 - 12:32 | pm |
| Lunch B             | 12:32 - 1:05  | pm |
| HR/ Advisory Period | 1:08 - 1:31   | pm |

~~~~~ **Grades7,8,and9** ~~~~~

| | | |
|---------------------|---------------|----|
| PERIOD 1 | 8:00 - 8:34 | am |
| PERIOD 2 | 8:37 - 9:11 | am |
| PERIOD 3 | 9:14 - 9:48 | am |
| PERIOD 4 | 9:51 - 10:25 | am |
| PERIOD 6 | 10:28 - 11:02 | pm |
| PERIOD 7 | 11:05 - 11:39 | pm |
| PERIOD 5 | 11:42 - 12:00 | pm |
| Lunch A | 12:00 - 12:30 | pm |
| PERIOD 5 | 12:33 - 1:05 | pm |
| HR/ Advisory Period | 1:08 - 1:31 | pm |

Farrell High School

STUDENT - PARENT SIGNATURE PAGE

- All students and parents must sign this form.
- Students, please return this form to your first period teacher.

I, _____, parent of _____ grade ____
(*PRINT parent's name*) (*PRINT student's name*)

have received, read, and understand the contents of the Farrell High/ Upper Middle School Student/Parent Handbook for the 2009-2010 school year. This includes Internet usage policy, dress code, student responsibilities, grading procedures, and all other policies and procedures contained within this student handbook.

(Student Signature)

(Parent/Guardian Signature)

(Date)