

# Franklin Community Middle School Proposed Changes

2025-26	2026-27
Mrs. Tina Jobe: Executive Director of Finance	Mr. Steve Ahaus: Executive Director of Finance
Mr. Matt Sprout: Director of Technology	Mr. Doug Kirby: Director of Technology
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<b>GENERAL INFORMATION</b>	
<b>PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION</b> Our P.T.O. has been formed to help assist with many of the fun activities we put on each year for our students and staff. We welcome any parent who would want to donate time and energy towards providing fun events for FCMS. Watch the calendar for meeting dates and events. All parents are encouraged to come and be a part of their child’s middle school experience.	<b>PARENT TEACHER ORGANIZATION <b>Remove</b></b> Our P.T.O. has been formed to help assist with many of the fun activities we put on each year for our students and staff. We welcome any parent who would want to donate time and energy towards providing fun events for FCMS. <b>Watch the calendar for meeting dates and events.</b> All parents are encouraged to come and be a part of their child’s middle school experience.
<b>INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA CENTER</b> The IMC offers current, popular and classic reading books and magazines for student use. Also, computers are available for student use during school hours. All students may check out library materials from the library – maximum of two items.	<b>INSTRUCTIONAL MEDIA CENTER <b>Remove</b></b> The IMC offers current, popular and classic reading books and magazines for student use. <b>Also, computers are available for student use during school hours.</b> All students may check out library materials from the library – maximum of two items.
<b>STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS</b> We encourage students to find a way to “plug in” during their time at FCMS - clubs are a great way to do that! Opportunities for students change from year to year based on student interest and club sponsorship, but some clubs that have been offered in the past include: Hammocks for the Homeless, Journalism/Student News Crew, Aquarium Club, Drama Club, Art Club, Interact Club, Game Club, FFA, Book Beat, Student Council, Robotics, Solar Car Club, True Colors and Academic Teams.	<b>STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS</b> We encourage students to find a way to “plug in” during their time at FCMS - clubs are a great way to do that! Opportunities for students change from year to year based on student interest and club sponsorship, but some clubs that have been offered in the past include: (updated list) <b>Paw Post Student Journalism, CNN Student News, Drama Club, Art Club, Interact Club, Agriculture Club, Student Council, Chess Club and Robotics.</b>
<b>SCHOOL SPONSORED DANCES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only FCMS students may attend school dances.</li> </ul>	<b>SCHOOL SPONSORED DANCES <b>Change</b></b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only FCMS students may attend school dances.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All dances are chaperoned by staff members.</li> <li>• Students are expected to arrive on time for the dance and to remain inside the school until the end of the event. If a student needs to leave early, we ask that the parent come inside to meet their child.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All dances are chaperoned by staff members.</li> <li>• Students are expected to arrive on time for the dance and to remain inside the school until the end of the event. If a student needs to leave early, we ask that the parent pre-arrange this with Administration.</li> </ul>
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**HEALTH SERVICES**

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**ACADEMICS AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

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**STUDENT ATTENDANCE**

<p><b>TARDY POLICY</b></p>	<p>Combine title and info with Arriving Late to School</p> <p><b>ARRIVING LATE TO SCHOOL/TARDY POLICY</b></p> <p>FCMS Entrance doors are locked at 8:05 a.m. Students arriving to school after 8:05 a.m. will be considered tardy to school and must enter through the main office. Any students who are tardy to school will need to sign in with the attendance secretary and get a pass from the office in order to be admitted to 1st period. Consequences will follow our general tardy policy.</p> <p>On the 3rd tardy to school, students will meet with an administrator/guidance secretary. Tardies 4-5 will result in a lunch detention. Tardies 6-7 will result in a 1-Hour after school detention. Tardies 8-9 will result in a 2-Hour after school detention. Tardies 10+ will result in a suspension. Tardies to school reset at semester.</p> <p>Students are responsible for being in the classroom when the bell rings. If a student does not meet these expectations he/she will be considered tardy. To prevent tardiness between classes, students should report to the teacher of their next class on time and then receive permission to take care of any needs such as: clinic, special passes, telephone, guidance, restroom, etc.</p>
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	<p>Tardies to class are considered a minor behavior infraction and will follow our school wide behavior system and be logged in their Student Playbook. Habitually tardy students will be subject to additional disciplinary action as deemed appropriate by an administrator.</p>
<p><b>HABITUAL ABSENCES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon the fifth unexcused absence, a parent/guardian will be given a warning notice informing him/her of the number of absences from school.</li> <li>• Upon the tenth absence and thereafter, failure to provide documentation from a physician will be considered to be in violation of this policy. On the tenth absence from school or a class, a certified letter is issued from the school as verification of the student’s attendance at school. All absences, excused or unexcused, count toward this 10-day limit.</li> <li>• Upon the fifteenth unexcused absence, the school will send a notice to Johnson County Probation/Office of Family and Children and DCS for further action.</li> </ul> <p>Per board policy C175 and guideline C175-R1, excessive absences whether excused or unexcused may result in loss of privileges including not being able to attend field trips, ECA such as band, choir, athletics, dances, club participation restrictions, ineligible to receive credit for the course or disciplinary actions. Repeated instances of unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action up to suspension or expulsion of a student.</p>	<p><b>HABITUAL ABSENCES ADD</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upon the fifth unexcused absence, a parent/guardian will be given a warning notice informing him/her of the number of absences from school. <b>When students reach their 5th unexcused absence in a rolling 10 weeks, a formal attendance meeting with the administration is required.</b></li> <li>• Upon the tenth absence and thereafter, failure to provide documentation from a physician will be considered to be in violation of this policy. On the tenth absence from school or a class, a certified letter is issued from the school as verification of the student’s attendance at school. <del>All absences, excused or unexcused, count toward this 10-day limit.</del></li> <li>• Upon the fifteenth unexcused absence, the school will send a notice to Johnson County Probation/Office of Family and Children and DCS for further action.</li> </ul> <p>Added to bullet point</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Half day absence is recorded when a student misses more than 3 periods in a day.</b></li> </ul> <p>Per board policy C175 and guideline C175-R1, excessive absences whether excused or unexcused may result in loss of privileges including not being able to attend field trips, ECA such as band, choir, athletics, dances, club participation restrictions, ineligible to receive credit for the course or disciplinary actions. <del>Repeated instances of unexcused absences may result in disciplinary action up to suspension or expulsion of a student.</del></p>
<p><b>REPORTING ABSENCES</b></p> <p>When a student is absent, his/her parent or guardian must call the FCMS attendance line by 9:00 a.m. each</p>	<p><b>REPORTING ABSENCES</b></p> <p><del>When a student is absent, his/her parent or guardian must call the FCMS attendance line by 9:00 a.m. each</del></p>

<p>day of the absence: 317-346-8405. For convenience it is available 24 hours a day.</p>	<p><del>day of the absence: 317-346-8405. For convenience it is available 24 hours a day.</del></p> <p><b>ADD:</b></p> <p><b>Attendance Line: 317-346-8405</b></p> <p>Parents are expected to call the FCMS attendance office (317-346-8405) to report their student's absence on the same day as the absence and state the reason the student is not in attendance. There is a 24-hour voice mailbox available at this number. A parent call, however, does not mean that an absence will be excused. Each semester each student is allowed 5 parent calls to be excused. If the parent is unable to call, a note or FAX is acceptable, if approved by the administration.</p> <p>Medical documentation is required in order for the absence to be listed as a medical excuse. If medical documentation is not provided then the absence will count as a standard excused absence as long as other procedures are followed. If the attendance office does not receive a call, note, or FAX within two days of the student's return, the absence will be considered unexcused and marked as truancy.</p> <p>Please make early dismissal calls a minimum of 1 hour prior to the scheduled time to pick up a student. Otherwise, a student may not be readily available for immediate pickup.</p> <p>If a student is receiving ongoing therapy or outpatient services, one-time documentation from the providing facility stating the beginning date, time each day, number of days a week, and ending date should be sent to the attendance office at the beginning of the treatment.</p>
<p><b>STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES AND BEHAVIOR CODE</b></p>	
	<p><b>Extra Curricular/Co-Curricular Activities (ECA)-</b>  <b>Added code of conduct and general guidelines (page 19-20)</b></p>
<p><b>DRESS CODE</b></p> <p>9. Face paint, makeup, <b>costumes</b>, and/or accessories that are determined to be disruptive to the educational environment are not permitted.</p>	<p>9. Face paint, makeup, costumes, and/or accessories that are determined to <b>have the potential to become disruptive</b> to the educational environment are not permitted.</p>

**Cell Phone/Electronic Device**

**Students may use their cell phone, electronic device and earbuds ONLY under the following conditions:**

1. Before or after school hours and during lunch period.
2. Student cell phones are expected to be OFF, not in use for any reason, and out of sight during the school day. Use in the classroom or office is ONLY approved when given direct permission by a faculty member.
3. Earbuds should only be used during the school day for academic purposes, or during lunch when cell phones are permitted. Earbuds are not to be worn in the hallway at any time.

*\*\*\*Students in violation of the cell phone policy will follow the school policy log that will result in a consequence for each violation. 2 or more violations will require the parent/guardian to collect the phone from school. 5 or more violations will result in office referral for Administration and could result in suspension. Use of electronic devices is a privilege and may be revoked at any time.\*\*\**

**Cell Phone/Electronic Device**

Will change to the official district policy after approved in June.

**Add-**

All personal electronic devices including cellphones, connected smartwatches, or gaming devices must be powered off and kept securely inaccessible per Senate “Bell to Bell” Bill 78.

**Remove-**

**Students may use their cell phone, electronic device and earbuds ONLY under the following conditions:**

1. Before or after school hours.

**ADD-**

Students in violation of the cell phone policy will receive the following:

1. 1-2 violations will result in a lunch detention and the phone will be sent to the office for the remainder of the day. A parent/ guardian will be required to collect the phone from school during office hours when a student receives 2 or more violations.
2. 3-4 violations will result in a 1 hour after school detention and phone will be sent to the office for the remainder of the day. A parent/ guardian will be required to collect the phone from school during office hours when a student receives 2 or more violations.
3. 5 or more violations will result in an office referral for Administration and could result in suspension.

**FCMS STUDENT DISCIPLINE OPTIONS**

**STEPS: CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT SYSTEM-** Teachers all utilize a “STEPS” system to manage student behavior within the classroom.

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**ADD**

Students who move a step within a class period, but do not change their behavior, may be sent to meet with our behavior interventionist as part of a reflective “time out” process.

Steps 2- Parent call and 3-lunch detention, were changed on the image on page 21

## Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion

Add paragraph

11. Possessing, using, transmitting, or being affected by any controlled substance, prescription drug, narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, intoxicant or depressant of any kind, or any paraphernalia used in connection with the listed substances. Also prohibited is the consumption of any of the stated substances immediately before attending school or a school function or event. Low THC Extract as defined by state law is excluded from this rule

Add new number 15.

22. Taking, recording, displaying and/or distributing pictures (digital or otherwise), video or audio recordings without the consent of the student or staff member in a situation not related to a school purpose or educational function.

29. Possessing or using on school grounds during school hours an electronic device, a cellular telephone, or any other telecommunication device, including a

## Grounds for Suspension or Expulsion

Add paragraph:

All students, including those with disabilities, are expected to follow the rules, policies, and procedures outlined in this handbook, except where otherwise specified in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. The Corporation will comply with all applicable federal and state laws concerning students with disabilities and will engage in an interactive process with students and their families to identify and provide appropriate reasonable accommodations. Disciplinary actions involving special education students will be conducted in accordance with the requirements set forth in 20 U.S.C. § 1415 et seq. and 511 I.A.C. 7-1-1 et seq

Remove sentence:

11. Possessing, using, transmitting, or being affected by any controlled substance, prescription drug, narcotic drug, hallucinogenic drug, amphetamine, barbiturate, marijuana, alcoholic beverage, intoxicant or depressant of any kind, or any paraphernalia used in connection with the listed substances. Also prohibited is the consumption of any of the stated substances immediately before attending school or a school function or event. **Remove: Low THC Extract as defined by state law is excluded from this rule**

**ADD: 15. Possessing, using, distributing, purchasing, or selling over-the-counter medications of any kind or in any form. These products include but are not limited to antihistamines, decongestants, pain relievers, sleep aids, etc.**

**23. Taking, recording, displaying and/or distributing pictures (digital or otherwise), video or audio recordings without the consent of the student or staff member in a situation not related to a school purpose or educational function. (remove)**

Add following sentence to same paragraph:

This includes AI created images, videos, or recordings.

**Change wording:**

**30. Possessing or using on school grounds during school hours an electronic device, a cellular telephone, or any other telecommunication device, including a**

<p>look-a-like device, in a situation not related to a school purpose or educational function or using such device to engage in an activity that violates school rules. This rule is not violated when the student has been given clear permission from a school administrator or a designated staff member to possess or use one of the devices listed in this rule. In addition to being disciplined, students who use an electronic device in a manner which is inconsistent with this rule may have the device confiscated by school administration. Such device will be returned to the parent.</p>	<p>look-a-like device, in a situation not related to a school purpose or educational function or using such device to engage in an activity that violates school rules. This rule is not violated when the student has been given clear permission from a school administrator or a designated staff member to possess or use one of the devices listed in this rule. In addition to being disciplined, students who use an electronic device in a manner which is inconsistent with this rule may have the device confiscated by school administration. Such device <b>may</b> be returned to the parent.</p>
<p><b>ACADEMIC INTEGRITY</b></p>	
<p><b>FCMS STUDENT DISC. OPTIONS</b></p>	