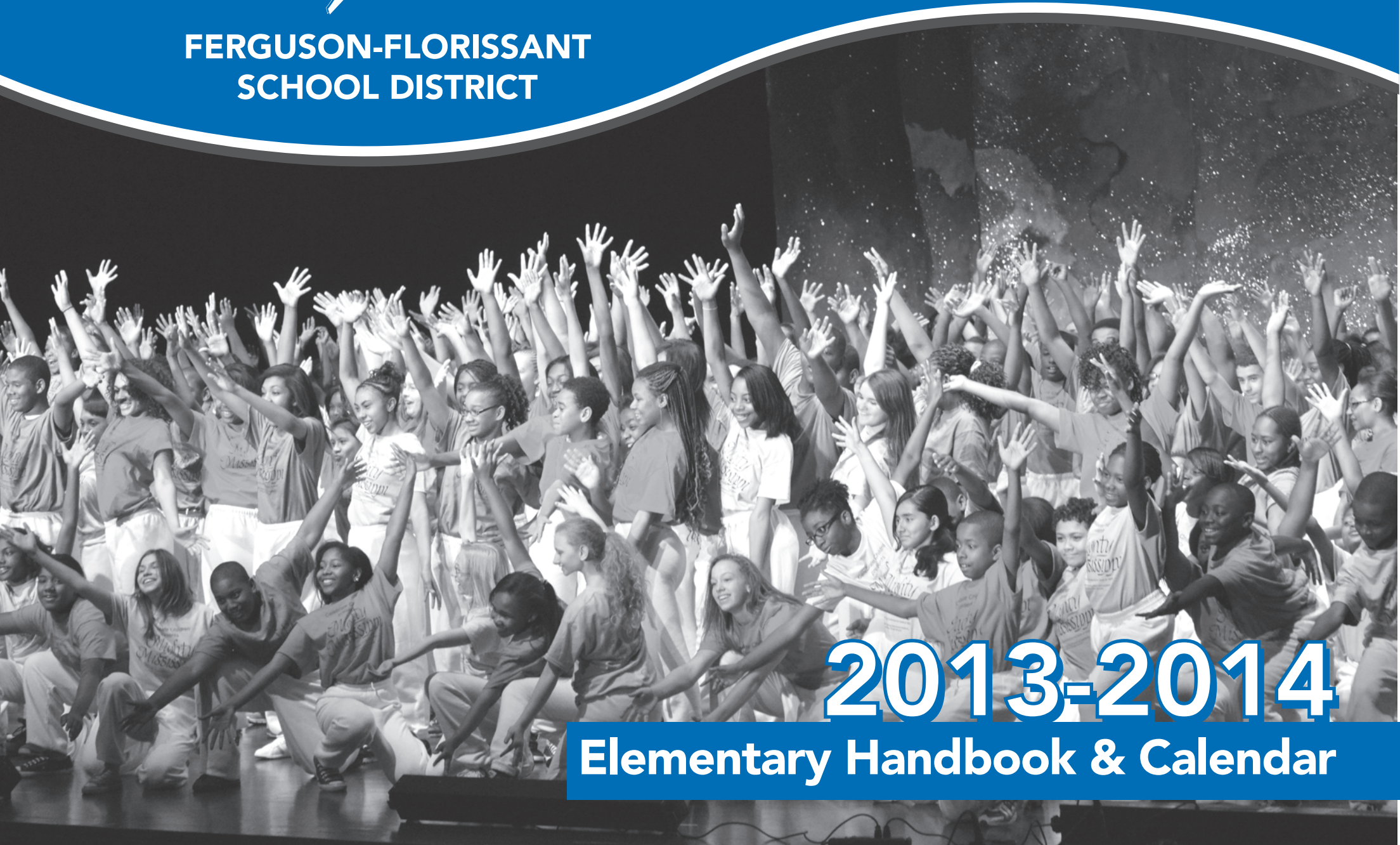




**FERGUSON-FLORISSANT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

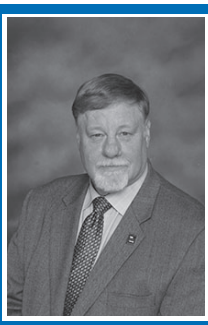


2013-2014

Elementary Handbook & Calendar

2013-2014 Board of Education

The Ferguson-Florissant School Board is comprised of seven members who serve without compensation. Board members serve three-year staggered terms in office. Each year, in the April election, voters select candidates to serve. The Board meets at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month and on other dates determined by the Board. Meetings are held at the Administration Center, located at 1005 Waterford Drive, unless otherwise specified on the District website. Community members are encouraged to attend the monthly meetings where the board recognizes the accomplishments of students and staff, takes action on financial matters and reviews instructional programs. For more information about the Ferguson-Florissant Board of Education, visit our web site at fergflor.org.



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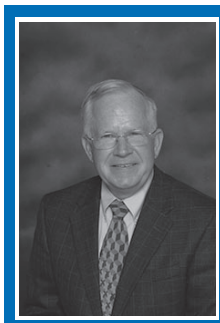
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A Letter From the Superintendent



Welcome to the Ferguson-Florissant School District, where we strive to ensure educational excellence and equity every day. I thank you for entrusting your children to us and for being a positive partner and caring citizen of this strong community. We greatly value your involvement, knowing that it plays a crucial role in your child's academic success.

We are proud to offer this Parent Handbook & Calendar to you as a valuable resource for family participation in the educational process. There is a lot of helpful information contained in this calendar to help you support your child and the District. Inside, you will find answers to questions ranging from "How do I find out about school closings for inclement weather?" and, "What are the names and phone numbers for my child's principal and school office professional?" to "What are the new Missouri Learning Standards?" and "How can I get involved in my child's school?"

Some tips for starting the academic year off right are included on page 5. Information about attendance can be found on page 7, some key District policies are listed on page 23, and information about some of the District's unique programs and resources can be found on page 21 and 25. Finally, we have marked key dates during the 2013-2014 school year on the calendar pages to help you plan each month.

We hope you find this handbook and calendar useful. Thank you for your engagement and commitment to your child's success.

Sincerely,

Dr. Art McCoy, Superintendent

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About Ferguson-Florissant

Founded in 1867, the Ferguson-Florissant School District began as a one-room public school built on the top of a hill on the south side of Wesley Avenue, just a short distance west of Florissant Road. Today, we are 24 schools spread out across nine municipalities in north St. Louis County: 17 elementary schools, three middle schools, three high schools and one alternative school.

Our District's unique and valuable resources for children and families include a nationally-recognized early education program, the "Probe" gifted education program, the award-winning Challenger Learning Center space education facility and the 97-acre Little Creek Nature Area preserve.

We find our strength in the vision, mission and philosophy that we share with our students, families, staff and the surrounding community:

Vision

School is a community where people come together for learning experiences that develop responsible and successful world citizens.

Mission

All students of the Ferguson-Florissant School District will have the knowledge, skills, abilities and attitudes to become productive citizens and lifelong learners in a changing global society.

Philosophy

The Ferguson-Florissant School District will provide an educational program for students that will prepare them to be citizens in a democratic society. We recognize that the communities and the country they eventually will lead will be complex and constantly changing. As a result, it is incumbent upon us to help students develop the ability to think, a sense of responsibility and a love of learning. The district is responsible for offering educational opportunities that recognize and celebrate diversity. This requires a curriculum that looks to the future as well as the past and accommodates a variety of learning styles, interests and talents. We want our students to experience success that is the result of giving their best efforts to meaningful work. Above all, we believe that every student we teach is valuable and deserving of an education that will help him or her to live a happy, fulfilling life.

Learn more by visiting us online!



www.fergflor.org



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FergusonFlorissantSchoolDistrict](https://facebook.com/FergusonFlorissantSchoolDistrict)



[twitter.com/
@FergFlorSchools](https://twitter.com/FergFlorSchools)



Ways to Get Involved

There are so many ways you can get involved in your child's education through the schools. Opportunities exist for everyone – from stay-at-home caregivers to busy working parents. Whether you can attend every event at your child's school or just a few, know that your involvement matters. Every contribution is valuable. Some of the ways you can participate include:

Joining your child's school's parent-teacher group

Parent-teacher organizations meet regularly at each of our schools to discuss topics of interest to parents. They also sponsor special school events and fund-raising activities to benefit the schools.

Volunteering at your child's school

Parents, grandparents and other volunteers perform a broad range of services from assisting in the library to tutoring students and sharing their talents and skills. To learn more about how you can help in your child's school, contact the principal. Contact information for each school principal can be found at the back of this Calendar & Handbook on pages 29 and 30.

Attending parent-teacher conferences

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled regularly to discuss each child's progress. It is a time to learn about areas that your child does well in and talk about any difficulties he or she may be having in school. Conferences also give the teacher a chance to learn more about your child outside of school. Most of all, conferences enable parents and educators to work together to help children achieve success in school. In addition to the regularly scheduled conferences held twice each school year, parents may request a conference at any time during the year by contacting your child's teacher.

Communicating regularly with your child's teacher

Whether by e-mail, handwritten notes tucked into your child's homework folder, or by phone, you are encouraged to get in touch with your child's teacher any time you have a question, concern, or just want an update on your child's progress. Your child's teacher can let you know the best time reach him or her.

Scheduling classroom visits

Parents are always welcome to visit school and observe their child at work in the classroom. Please schedule visits with the teacher prior to arriving at school so you do not disrupt the instructional process or violate student privacy. Scheduled visits are also important for student safety and security. Remember to always report to the main office immediately upon entering your child's school for any visit.

Keeping up-to-date on school and district news

Stay informed of the latest news from the Ferguson-Florissant School District on our website at fergflor.org, on Facebook at: [FergusonFlorissantSchoolDistrict](https://www.facebook.com/FergusonFlorissantSchoolDistrict) and on Twitter [@FergFlorSchools](https://twitter.com/FergFlorSchools).

Checking your child's backpack for school notices every night

Frequently, your child's school will send home permission slips, notes, flyers, information about District events or other information of interest to parents in your child's backpack. Look for these notices each night and be sure to promptly respond to requests.

Donate Needed Items

Another way you can participate in events at your child's school is to donate items needed for classroom projects, celebrations and special events. Your child's teacher or school can let you know what kinds of items may be needed.

Voting in all school elections

Casting your ballot in all school elections shows your interest in our schools and programs, and sets an important example of civic responsibility for your children.



Starting Off Right

Make A Commitment To Excellent Attendance

School attendance is closely tied to student achievement. Through regular attendance, students can best develop the skills and knowledge necessary to function in a modern democratic society. Make sure that your child comes to school each day on time and ready to learn. More information about our attendance policies, the school day schedule and more can be found on page 7.

Establish Good Homework Habits

Most children will have homework assignments throughout the school year. Normally, these do not exceed 30 minutes for any subject and will consider age and grade-level appropriateness. Longer projects are usually assigned in advance, so students may schedule the work over a period of time. The following tips can help your child get the maximum benefit from homework that is assigned:

Establish a schedule for homework. In some households, the best time to complete their homework assignments may be immediately after school. For others, a quieter time may be just after dinner. Spend time determining with your child when he or she should work on assignments at home each day.

Set aside time for homework. Every day after school, your child should spend at least an hour doing homework and/or reading or otherwise preparing for the next school day. To ensure academic success, be sure your child has sufficient time in their daily schedule to devote to studying.

Create a designated space for doing homework. Identify a place in your home where your child can have the space and peace needed to complete their homework assignments. The best location will be quiet, well-lit and free from distractions such as video games, TV, radio, visitors, texting or phone calls.

Have homework supplies on hand. Be sure your child has all the necessary supplies at home to do school work (paper, pencils, pens, construction paper, erasers, markers, crayons, rulers, pencil sharpener, scissors, tape, paper clips, hole puncher, stapler, index cards, folders for reports, calculator, dictionary and thesaurus). Help your child use online resources to help him or her with homework.

Read At Least 15 Minutes Every Day

Good reading skills are essential for learning. Children are encouraged to read for pleasure at home at least 15 minutes every day. You can help encourage your child to love reading

by modeling reading behavior yourself, so try taking a nightly reading break as a family each night!


Provide The Support Your Child Needs

Behind every great student is a supportive adult helping them along the path to success. Some of the ways you can support your child include showing respect for school as a positive place to learn, having high expectations for your child's academic performance and helping your child prepare for all of the tests he will take at school. Finally, if your child is struggling, talk with his or her teacher about how you can help him or her improve.

Reading Oath by Debra Angstead

I promise to read each day and each night. I know it's the key to growing up right. I'll read to myself. I'll read to a crowd. It makes no difference if silent or loud. I'll read at my desk, at home and at school, on my bean bag or bed, by the fire or pool. Each book that I read puts smarts in my head 'cause brains grow more thoughts the more they are fed. Come rain or come shine, snow, wind or sleet, each day of the week reading's a treat. So I take this oath to make reading my way of feeding my brain what it needs every day.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6 Election Day Proposition A	7	8	9	10 Back to School Fair Administration Center 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
11	12  FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL	13	14 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 1/2 Day Student Attendance	31

AUGUST 2013

Attendance Policies

School attendance is closely tied to student achievement. Through regular attendance, students can best develop the skills and knowledge necessary to function in a modern democratic society. Attendance is reported and recorded for each student, each day.

All elementary schools in the Ferguson-Florissant School District begin the school day at 8:45 a.m. Dismissal is at 3:30 p.m. Students should arrive no earlier than 8:30 a.m. to ensure adequate adult supervision. All children are under adult supervision from 20 minutes before classes begin until 10 minutes after school is dismissed.

Absences

If your child will be absent from school, please call the school as soon as possible. If you are unable to call, please send a written note upon your child's return to school. All absences are recorded on the student's permanent attendance record.

Your child's school may require verification from a physician for absences due to reasons of health or for physical restrictions. If your child is absent because of injuries or communicable disease, he or she may be required to see the school nurse before returning to class and school activities. If your child must be absent from class for a month or more due to illness or injury, write a letter regarding this extended absence to the school's principal. Your child may be eligible for a home teaching service provided by the Special School District in cooperation with individual schools. If this service is needed, contact your child's school for additional information.

A conference between the parent, student, principal and staff is required after five days of unexcused absences (those without school notification within a quarter) to develop a plan for better school attendance. Failure to attend the scheduled conference and or failure to improve attendance may result in the involvement of legal agencies.

Tardies

Arriving to school on time is another important part of good school attendance. Help your child develop good morning habits that will help him or her arrive to school each day on time. In the event your child must arrive late to school, please send a note with him or her that describes the reason he or she is tardy.

Leaving school early

If you wish for your child to be excused from school for any period of time, you must send a note or place a phone call to the school with an explanation for the planned absence. When your child is picked up, he or she must be "signed out" in the main office by an adult. Please note, the principal will not release a child to an unauthorized person without parental consent. The chart below provides information on how arriving late or leaving school early is recorded on the student's attendance record:

Daily Attendance Guidelines - School Hours 8:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.							
Attendance marked as follows if a child enters school between:							
School Start Time	Tardy	One Hour Absent	Two Hours Absent	Three Hours Absent	Four Hours Absent	Five Hours Absent	Six Hours Absent
8:45 a.m.	9:01 - 9:20 a.m.	9:20 - 10:20 a.m.	10:20 - 11:20 a.m.	11:20 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.	12:20 - 1:20 p.m.	1:20 - 2:20 p.m.	2:20 - 3:30 p.m.
Attendance marked as follows if a child leaves school between:							
One Hour Absent	Two Hours Absent	Three Hours Absent	Four Hours Absent	Five Hours Absent	Six Hours Absent		
2:20 - 3:30 p.m.	1:20 - 2:20 p.m.	12:20 - 1:20 p.m.	11:20 a.m. - 12:20 p.m.	10:20 - 11:20 a.m.	9:01 - 10:20 a.m.*		

*A child who never arrives at school is six hours absent.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 NO SCHOOL - Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8 International Literacy Day Grandparent's Day Parent & Family Involvement Week 8-14	9	10	11 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m. at Vogt Elementary School 9/11 Remembrance Day Patriot Day	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20 POW/MIA Recognition Day	21
22	23 Family Day	24	25	26	27 1/2 Day Student Attendance	28
29	30					

SEPTEMBER 2013

Safety & Transportation

The safety and security of our students is our top priority. Each of our district's facilities has a comprehensive safety plan that includes student safety practices, controlled access to buildings and regular practice drills.

Drills

To ensure student safety, fire, tornado, earthquake and shelter-in-place emergency drills are held regularly during the school year to familiarize students and teachers with appropriate procedures.

Bicycle Safety

Bicycle riding is not allowed on school property. Students who ride to school should walk their bike to the racks, park and lock it immediately. Bicycle riding is not permitted after the child has arrived at school. The school cannot assume responsibility for theft or damage of bicycles.

Crossing Guards

Adult guards and student patrols trained under AAA standards are stationed at busy thoroughfares near all schools. Children must obey their signals and observe traffic safety rules. Parents should tell children the route to travel between home and school. Adults who drive children to school should reduce speed and drive carefully as they approach the school, and follow all school rules for safe pick-up and drop-off locations.

Building Security

Each school in the Ferguson-Florissant School District has a comprehensive building security system. Please help

our staff by always adhering to our security procedures when visiting your child's school. Enter the building's main entrance and proceed directly to the main office, where you will be directed to sign in and will be issued a visitor's identification badge. When you exit the building, again visit the main office and complete the school's sign-out procedures.

Except for uniformed custodial, maintenance, cafeteria and security personnel, all District employees and secondary students wear photo I.D. badges. If an unauthorized person is encountered in a building, employees will direct the individual to the office and/or report the unauthorized person to the principal or building security, who will take steps to ensure the safety of all students and staff.

Transportation

For the safety of all, children are expected to behave in an orderly manner on the bus. Please make sure that your child understands the importance of good behavior while riding the bus and understands that repeated behavioral offenses will result in suspension of bus privileges. Transportation is provided free of charge for students who live more than one mile from school.

Under specially approved conditions, students who live less than one mile from school may be transported for a fee. For more information about transportation services, please call (314) 506-9370.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS AND EMERGENCY EARLY DISMISSALS

Classes are canceled when weather conditions pose a threat to the safety of children. This includes high heat index as well as dangerous winter weather conditions such as ice and snow.

When the decision is made to close District schools because of inclement weather, we will use various procedures to notify the Ferguson-Florissant School District community. Notification announcements for school closings will normally be made by 5:30 a.m., and afternoon and evening activity cancellations will normally be announced by 3 p.m.

The District notifies four local broadcast outlets in the event of school closings: KMOX (1120 AM), KTVI (Channel 2), KMOV (Channel 4) and KSDK (Channel 5). These radio and television stations have reliable procedures to broadcast information on inclement weather. School closing notifications may also be sent via the District's telephone notification system, posted on the District's web site, Facebook page, Twitter account, and on the main telephone line at (314) 506-9000.

Because parents may be away from home, the district generally will not dismiss classes once the school day has begun. However, due to other emergencies that occur during the school day, such as a power or plumbing failure, individual schools may be forced to dismiss classes early, modify schedules or change locations for the safety of students and staff. In these instances, the cooperation and understanding of parents is greatly appreciated. School personnel will make efforts to notify parents of any early dismissal or change of plans that occurs during a school day.

It is important that parents make arrangements with their children in the event of an emergency early dismissal. Plan ahead to identify a safe place your child can go in an emergency situation, such as the home of a friend or neighbor. Second, always make sure that your child or your child's school has a current phone number at which you or another responsible adult can be reached in the event of an emergency.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 FFSD Health Fair at the Administration Center 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	5
6 Fire Prevention Week 6-12	7	8	9 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m. at Wedgwood Elementary School	10	11	12
13	14 Columbus Day	15	16 Missouri Day	17	18 NO SCHOOL	19
20	21 NO SCHOOL - Fall Holiday	22	23	24	25 1/2 Day Student Attendance	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Disability History and Awareness Month
National Principals Month
UNICEF Month

OCTOBER 2013

Our Curriculum & Grading Scale

The purpose of elementary school is to develop the total child. Our curriculum is designed to meet the Missouri Learning Standards and provide our students opportunities for growth in self-esteem and their own personal responsibility, as well as to address the aesthetic and physical development of our students through offerings in fine arts and physical education.

Curriculum guides that identify student learning guidelines by grade level are posted under the Parents section of our website at fergflor.org, or are available from your child's school.

About the Missouri Learning Standards

The Missouri Learning Standards define the knowledge and skills students need to succeed in college, other postsecondary training and careers. The standards include the Common Core State Standards, a set of academic expectations for English language arts and mathematics. The Common Core State Standards were created through a state-led initiative and have been adopted by more than forty states, including Missouri.

The standards were developed by a diverse team of educators, researchers and parents from across the country to be academically rigorous, attainable for students, and practical for teachers and school districts to implement. They establish consistent learning goals for all students – regardless of where they live; provide a clear roadmap of academic expectations at each grade level; are relevant to the real world, and prepare students for post-secondary education and a globally competitive workforce.

Instructional Materials & Instructional Technology

All books and materials, technology and other supplies needed to support the curriculum are provided by the District. Students supply their own

notebooks, paper, pencils, crayons and similar items. Children or their parents are responsible for all items provided for use and are expected to pay for lost or damaged books, supplies and equipment.

Field Trips

Field trips help connect schoolwork with the world, making lessons more tangible and memorable to students. Field trips stimulate questions and ideas and provide an experiential "text" for students to study and interrogate. Educational study trips that support the curriculum are scheduled throughout the school year. Prior to the field trip, parents are informed of the place, time, date, transportation plans and cost,

if applicable. Written permission is required in advance in order for your child to attend a field trip.

Academic Assessment

An ongoing assessment program, beginning at preschool and kindergarten, measures your child's progress throughout his or her academic career. This information, combined with other forms of assessment, helps our teachers develop the best possible learning program for each child. If you wish for your child to take additional assessments beyond those offered to all students, you must complete a Permission for Testing form, available through your child's school, to request additional tests.

Grading System and Student Progress Information

Student progress reports for first through sixth graders are issued four times a year. Kindergarten reports are issued twice a year and pre-kindergarten reports are issued at the end of the year. Teachers will provide parents with written comments in addition to the following grading scales:

Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten	Grades 1-2	Grades 3-12	Skill Level
Checklist format	X = Consistently able to do G = Good progress S = Satisfactory progress M = More progress needed	A = 90-100% B = 80-89% C = 70-79% D = 60-69% F = 59-0%	4 = Advanced progress 3 = Proficient progress 2 = Basic progress 1 = Below basic

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 NO SCHOOL - Professional Development Day	2
3	4	5 Election Day	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veteran's Day	12	13 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22 1/2 Day Student Attendance	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
			← NO SCHOOL ——— Thanksgiving Break ——— District Closed ———→			

DECA Month

NOVEMBER 2013

Student Health Services

Physical well-being plays an important role in the ability of children to reach their greatest potential for academic achievement. Registered nurses at each of our schools provide a range of helpful services that help our students feel their best so that they can perform their best in the classroom. In addition to caring for the daily needs of the more than 11,000 students throughout the District, our school nurses provide valuable health screenings including those for vision, hearing and scoliosis and organize and schedule health education and information programs to help students learn about making healthy choices.

Following is a list of a few of our district's key health policies and procedures that parents should keep in mind:

Medication at School

All medications to be administered at school must be transported to and from the school by a parent, guardian, or another responsible adult. All medication must be kept in the school nurse's office. Please note the following policies governing the administration of medication to children at school:

Children with chronic health problems requiring daily medication must have a written statement from their doctor. Medication must be in a container from the pharmacy with the child's name and instructions listing the time to administer the medicine and dosage.

No over-the-counter drugs may be administered at school unless a statement is received from a doctor.

This includes Tylenol and cough drops. Medicine prescribed by a doctor for administration on a short-term basis during school hours (such as an antibiotic taken four times a day) must be brought to school in the container from the pharmacy with instructions listing the time to administer the medicine, dosage, doctor's name and date. This must accompany a note from the parent.

Immunizations

The following immunizations are required by law: diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, mumps, rubella, hepatitis B, and varicella. Students are not permitted to attend school without proof of immunization. Proof of immunization must show all immunizations received from birth with month, day and year received.

Physicals and screenings

Physical examinations are recommended for kindergarten, fourth-, seventh-, tenth-grade and new students. The examination should occur within one year prior to entering school.

Illness at School

If your child becomes ill at school, you will be notified and asked to pick up him or her. If the school is unable to reach you, another authorized adult designated on the registration form will be called and asked to pick up your child from school. It is essential to have current emergency phone numbers and contacts on file in the office. The school nurse gives individual consideration to each child's complaints before he or she is sent home.

If your child has an oral temperature of 100 degrees or higher, he or she must be picked up from school and should not return to school until the temperature has remained normal for at least 24 hours without temperature-lowering medication.

If your child is thought to have a communicable condition, school personnel will notify you. Please consult a physician for an accurate diagnosis and help in determining when your child may return to school.

SHOULD MY CHILD STAY HOME?

Be alert for signs of illness in your child such as elevated temperature (100 degrees), inflamed eyes, skin rashes or a flushed, pale or sweaty appearance. If your child shows these or other signs of illness, pain or physical distress, keep him or her home from school and seek an evaluation by a health care provider. District policies on some common childhood conditions are listed below:

Common Cold

Symptoms of the common cold usually include coughing, sneezing and an irritated or runny nose. Other symptoms can include watery eyes, an irritated throat, an elevated temperature of 100 degrees or more, chills, aches, and fatigue. Please keep your child at home if an excessive cough is present. Children with a fever of 100 degrees or more must remain out of school for 24 hours after the fever has remained normal without the use of temperature-lowering medication.

Chicken Pox

Chicken pox begins with the gradual onset of a general tired feeling followed by a red rash that turns into white blisters. The rash usually begins on the trunk. Children diagnosed with chicken pox should remain home for seven days after the rash appears.

"Fifth" Disease

Usually, the only symptom of "fifth" disease is the appearance of a rash; usually on the cheeks. If there is no fever and no other symptoms present, the child may attend school.

Skin Lesions

Children suspected of having impetigo or ringworm should not return to school until lesions are healed or a written note is received from a physician stating that the child is receiving proper medical treatment.

Head Lice

Usually, the only symptoms of head lice are itching of the scalp and the presence of tiny, white eggs or "nits" which cling to the hair shaft. A child with lice must have his or her head treated with a special shampoo, and a small comb must be used to remove as many nits as possible. After these steps are followed, the school nurse must check the child's head and approve the child's return to school.

Conjunctivitis or "Pinkeye"

Symptoms usually include eye inflammation, itching, matting and discharge. The child should remain out of school until symptoms have disappeared or until written permission is received from a physician.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
8	9	10	11 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	12	13	14
15 Bill of Rights Day	16	17	18	19 1/2 Day Student Attendance	20 NO SCHOOL - Teacher Work Day	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p style="text-align: center;">← NO SCHOOL — Winter Break — District Closed — →</p>						
29	30	31	<p style="text-align: center;">NO SCHOOL — Winter Break — District Closed — →</p>			

DECEMBER 2013

Library & Technology Services

Library & Media Services

The Ferguson Florissant School District is host to 23 libraries in each of our schools. Our elementary school libraries are staffed by librarians or library aides a minimum of three days each week.


Libraries are open 30 minutes before school and 30 minutes after school in addition to regular hours during the school day, and provide an array of learning resources for students. Library services include online encyclopedias, films on demand, reference materials, e-books and readers and access to magazines, journals, books and newspapers both online and in print.



Technology Services

Each elementary student in the Ferguson-Florissant School District is provided with abundant technology resources. There are desktop computers in virtually every classroom, and many areas are also equipped with interactive white boards and projectors.

Document cameras are used to allow teachers to display student work and in teaching, and response systems are available for instructors to immediately evaluate understanding. While each building has a dedicated computer lab for group activities, there are also laptops and/or tablets in many locations for project-based learning and individual tasks. These devices connect through a district-wide instructional wireless network.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 New Year's Day NO SCHOOL	2 Winter Break	3 District Closed	4
5	6  Back to School 2nd Semester Begins	7	8 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m. at McCluer North High School	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17 1/2 Day Student Attendance	18
19	20 NO SCHOOL - MLK Day District Closed	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28 Christa McAuliffe Day	29	30	31	

JANUARY 2014

Counseling & Other Services

Guidance Counselors

Since students develop not only academically in school, but also emotionally and socially, each school in the Ferguson-Florissant School District has a highly-qualified guidance counselor on staff who works each day to address our students' total growth and development. Our counselors assist students in learning the skills and attitudes necessary to be successful learners and work with them and their families to address their career, personal, social and educational needs and concerns.

Guidance counselors help students learn that the classroom is their first workplace and that communication, decision-making, interpersonal and career awareness skills are important to their success. Some of the topics our guidance counselors address with students are techniques for school success, self-awareness and working as part of a group, and showing respect for others.

Social Workers

School social workers serve as the link between students, families and school. They work with parents, guardians, teachers, and other school officials to eliminate barriers children may have to learning and attempt to ensure that students reach their academic and personal potential. They also assist students in dealing with stress or emotional problems. School social workers address problems such as misbehavior, truancy, and economic hardship and advise teachers on how to cope with difficult students while providing parents with resources.

Before and After School Care

Before- and after- school child care is available for students through the district's "Adventure Club" or the

Emerson YMCA'S "Y Club" programs. Adventure Club is offered at Commons Lane, Parker Road and Vogt Elementary Schools, and is also available to students who attend Airport, Bermuda, Central, Cool Valley, Duchesne, Griffith, Holman, Johnson-Wabash, Lee-Hamilton and Robinwood Elementary Schools. The program provides care from 7 a.m. until the start of school, and until 6 p.m. after school. To learn more about Adventure Club, contact the Ferguson-Florissant Community Education office at (314) 506-9979.

The Emerson Family YMCA's "Y Club" before- and after-school care program is available at Combs, Halls Ferry, Walnut Grove and Wedgwood Elementary Schools. "Y Club" is available from 7 a.m. until the start of school, and until 6 p.m. after school. To find out more or to enroll in "Y Club," contact your child's school or the Emerson Family YMCA at (314) 521-1822.

Probe Gifted Education Services

Elementary students in first through sixth grade who qualify under state gifted guidelines attend a full day of classes each week at the Ferguson-Florissant School District's Probe Center. Other students identified by their classroom teachers may also be selected to participate in a weekly enrichment program at the Probe Center. Kindergarten students may be recommended by their classroom teacher to participate in an eight-week "Firecracker" program designed to offer exposure to a variety of learning activities, including deductive reasoning, spatial relationships, and patterning using hands-on manipulatives to develop skills in sequencing, similarities, and logical thinking.

The Probe program is designed to meet the specific learning needs of gifted students, providing them with a rigorous, differentiated, and authentic curriculum that challenges them individually and is appropriate for their mastery and extension of basic skills. Probe allows students to extend from the regular curriculum and make individual choices that meet their personal and academic needs. The curriculum includes lessons that place an emphasis on research, technology, problem solving, critical thinking, creative thinking, oral and written communication, and building leadership skills.

Special Education Services

Parents or school district personnel such as a teacher, counselor or principal may request that a child be evaluated to determine if the child has special educational needs. Parents who wish to have their child evaluated should make the request in writing to the child's school. A separate informed written consent form is required from parents before their child can be tested as part of an evaluation. Within 60 calendar days of receiving a parent's informed written consent, testing must be completed and results shared in a parent meeting. Evaluation timelines may be extended for acceptable reasons such as snow days, child illness, summer breaks or school holidays.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 National School Counseling Week 3-7	4 Rosa Parks Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m. Lincoln Day	13	14 NO SCHOOL Valentine's Day	15
16	17 NO SCHOOL President's Day - District Closed	18 George Washington's Birthday Observed	19	20	21	22 George Washington's Birthday
23	24	25	26	27	28 1/2 Day Student Attendance	

FEBRUARY 2014

Food Services

The Ferguson-Florissant School District is committed to offering the healthiest meals possible to our students, and we go above and beyond all state and federal mandated standards for school meals to provide the best possible nutritional support for children during the school day. All meals served are analyzed by our district's registered dietician to ensure they are rich in whole grains, nutrients and fresh produce. In addition, meals served in our schools exceed the standards for set forth by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and meet or surpass standards for the Missouri Eat Smart Guidelines and the silver and gold standards for the Healthy U.S. Schools Challenge.

Students may purchase lunch in the cafeteria or bring their lunch from home.

Free daily breakfast

All elementary schools in the Ferguson-Florissant School District will offer an in-classroom breakfast free of charge to all students during the 2013-2014 school year. Under this program, students will have the opportunity to have a nutritious breakfast in their classroom as each school day begins.

Online Prepayment for School Meals

Starting in 2013, the Ferguson-Florissant School District will offer an online prepayment option for parents to pay for their child's school meals. PayPAMS is a web-based service that allows parents to monitor what their child selects for meals at school, pay for meals online or by phone any time and receive e-mail notifications of your child's meal account balance and schedule automatic payments based on the account balance. To learn more or to sign up for this service, contact your child's school.



Menus

Elementary school menus are sent home with students each month and are posted on the District's website at fergflor.org.

Lunch and milk prices

Elementary-school lunch is \$1.50, and milk is \$.30 for the 2013-2014 school year. Students may pay for their lunch or milk in cash or by check, on a daily or weekly basis, or through the PayPAMS online prepayment system.

Free and Reduced Meals

Children from families whose current income is at or below levels determined by the National School Lunch and National School Breakfast Program are eligible for free or reduced price meals. Applications for free and reduced meals are available at the school office. The information provided on the application is confidential and will be used only for the purpose of determining eligibility. Applications may be submitted any time during the school year.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 National School Counseling Week 3-7 STEM Week 3-9	4	5	6 Principal's Day	7	8
9 STEM Week 3-9	10	11 Johnny Appleseed Day	12 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21 1/2 Day Student Attendance	22
23	24 Spring Break - District Closed NO SCHOOL	25	26	27	28	29
30	31	NO SCHOOL ——— SPRING BREAK ——— DISTRICT ——— CLOSED ———				

American Red Cross Month

MARCH 2014

Little Creek Nature Area

Little Creek Nature Area is a 97-acre outdoor educational facility owned and operated by the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Since 1974, students in our district have received lessons in ecology, environmental science, field biology and living history at Little Creek.

Located at 2295 Dunn Road in Florissant, the Nature Area supports approximately eighteen acres of developed facilities. Included are a residence converted to a museum and office space, a high school classroom adjoined by a pavilion with picnic tables and restroom facilities, and an elementary building with two classrooms. A small farm is comprised of a barn, chicken coop, apiary, a vegetable garden, pastures, and a caretaker's workshop and garage. There is a nineteenth century log cabin, a butterfly garden, a reconstructed prairie, a conservation windbreak, and an arboretum on the property as well. The remaining acreage is largely wooded and preserved as natural areas. It includes five designated trails, two woodland ponds, a field pond, and several tributary streams that drain into the Maline Creek watershed.

The instructional programs offered at the Nature Area both support and enhance the pre-K to 12 curricula in a variety of ways. The pre-K and elementary programs allow students and teachers the opportunity to meet state and local science, social studies and communication arts objectives not easily accomplished in a traditional classroom setting. Hands-on inquiry-based activities provide students with experiences which not only enhance achievement, but cultivate a life-long interest in the natural world.

Little Creek is open Monday through Friday, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Our trails are not open to the public on weekends or after normal business hours, except by reservation. Little Creek hosts annual events that are open to the public each fall and spring.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4 Arbor Day	5
6	7	8	9 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	10	11	12
13 Library Week and Environmental Education Week	14	15 STEM Expo 5pm-7pm McCluer High School Hub	16	17	18 1/2 Day Student Attendance	19 Patriots Day
20	21 NO SCHOOL	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26
27	28 Holocaust Remembrance Day Grade Level Assessment Testing April 28 - May 9	29	30			

Child Abuse Prevention Month

APRIL 2014

District Policies & Procedures

The full 2013-2014 Ferguson-Florissant School District Policies & Procedures Handbook is available under Links on our website at fergflor.org. Following is a list of a few important policies and procedures that parents should keep in mind:

Admissions & Registration

Kindergarten and other student registrations are handled through the District's Admissions Office, located in building B at the Administration Center located at 1005 Waterford Drive in Florissant.

If your child(ren) have previously attended school in the Ferguson-Florissant School District, you will receive a Student Registration form at the start of each school year. Please complete and return this form immediately, making sure that all information is complete and current — especially e-mail addresses and phone numbers for home, work and emergencies. Please keep this information current throughout the year. If you move to a new residence during the school year, you are required to complete a change of address form at the Admissions Office.

Student Code of Conduct

Helping children learn to develop self-discipline is an important part of the educational process. Cooperation and respect for self and others are key elements to a student's success in school. When a student's actions interfere with the right of teachers to teach and students to learn, corrective measures are taken in accordance with the district's Student Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is contained in your child's registration packet each fall, and can be found in the Students section of the District's website at fergflor.org.



Dress Code

Students should dress comfortably and in good taste to promote a positive learning environment. Make sure your child's clothing is suitable for existing weather conditions and meets the district's Student Dress Code, which is described in the Student Code of Conduct.

Recess

Outdoor recesses are scheduled daily, except in inclement weather. Children are kept inside if the temperature or the wind chill falls below 20 degrees. Parents should make sure their child's clothing is suitable for outside play.

If you wish for your child to remain indoors after an illness, a written request from a doctor is required for him or her to remain indoors for a designated length of time. A written request from a parent will permit a child to remain indoors for one day only.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				Grade Level Assessment Testing April 28 - May 9 →		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Grade Level Assessment Testing April 28 - May 9 National Music Week 5-12 →		Truman Day →				
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mother's Day →	National Music Week 5-12 →		Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m. at McCluer High School			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
				1/2 Day Student Attendance LAST DAY OF SCHOOL		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Better Hearing and Speech Month
National Physical Fitness & Sports Month

MAY 2014

Challenger Learning Center

The Ferguson-Florissant School District is proud to be home to the award-winning Challenger Learning Center-St. Louis. This unique program provides simulated space missions, science education and team-building programs. The core experience at the Center is a two-hour simulated space mission featuring an orbiting space station and a Mission Control center. All programs offered by the Challenger Learning Center provide meaningful and engaging science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) activities as well as a focus on team-building, cooperation, and critical and creative thinking skills. Programs are available for students, educators, corporations, scouts, community groups and the general public throughout the Greater St. Louis region.

The Challenger Learning Center-St. Louis is also part of the Challenger Center for Space Science Education, an international not-for-profit education organization founded in April 1986 by the families of the astronauts tragically lost during the Challenger space shuttle mission. There are over 45 Challenger Learning Centers located throughout the world. Each Challenger Learning Center is organized through its local community. The St. Louis site is operated through a partnership that includes the Ferguson-Florissant School District, the Saint Louis Science Center and the Cooperating School Districts of Greater St. Louis.

Among the many types of programs offered at the Challenger Learning Center is a special program just for elementary students. The "Junior Astronauts" program includes the "Mystery in Space" simulated space mission, where young astronauts travel 230 miles above Earth to the International Space Station to investigate a mysterious object that has been spotted in space. While in space, these astronauts utilize their scientific, math and engineering as well as teamwork skills and are engaged in experiments and activities to help NASA learn more about our world. The program also includes a rocket workshop where students work in teams to design, build and launch their very own rocket.

Through the generous support of The Monsanto Fund, all 5th-grade students and science teachers in the Ferguson-Florissant School District will also participate in the Challenger Learning Center's "Monsanto Sprouting Astronauts" program during the 2013-14 school year. This hands-on, engaging program consists of a teacher professional development workshop, a classroom activity, planetarium program, and a visit to the Challenger Learning Center to participate in the Junior Astronauts program.



Learn more by visiting the Challenger Center online!



www.clcstlouis.org



facebook.com/
Challenger-Learning-Center-St-Louis



Twitter
@clcstlouis

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4	5 World Environment Day	6	7
8	9	10	11 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	12	13	14 Flag Day
15 Father's Day	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

JUNE 2014

Legal Notice and Non-Discrimination

Legal Notice

All responsible public agencies are required to locate, evaluate and identify children with disabilities who are under the jurisdiction of the agency, regardless of the severity of the disability. This includes children attending private schools, highly mobile children (migrant and homeless children) and children suspected of having a disability and who are in need of special education even though they are advancing from grade to grade. The Ferguson-Florissant School District assures that it will provide a free, appropriate public education (FAPE) to all eligible children with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 21 under its jurisdiction. Disabilities include autism, deaf/blindness, emotional disorders, hearing impairment and deafness, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairments, specific learning disabilities, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, visual impairment/blindness and young child developmental delays.

The district assures that it will provide information and referral services necessary to assist the state in the implementation of early intervention services for infants and toddlers eligible for the Missouri First Steps program.

The district assures that personally identifiable information collected, used or maintained by the agency for the purposes of identification, evaluation, placement or provision of FAPE of children with disabilities may be inspected and or reviewed by their parents or guardians. Parents or guardians may request amendment to the educational record if the parent or guardian believes the record is inaccurate, misleading or violates the privacy or other rights of

their child. Parents have the right to file complaints with the U.S. Department of Education or the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education concerning alleged failures by the district to meet the requirements of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

The district has developed a Local Compliance Plan for the implementation of State Regulations for the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). This plan contains the agency's policies and procedures regarding storage, disclosure to third parties, retention and destruction of personally identifiable information and the agency's assurances that services are provided in compliance with the

General Education Provision Act (GEPA). This plan may be reviewed weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1005 Waterford Drive in Florissant. This notice will be provided in native languages as appropriate.

Non-Discrimination

The Ferguson-Florissant School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion or disability, in admission or access to, treatment or employment in its programs and activities. If you have questions or concerns about the district's compliance with Title VI, Title IX or Section 504, please call 506-9000.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9 Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JULY 2014

Elementary Schools

AIRPORT

8249 Airport Road
Berkeley, MO 63134-1913
Tangie Oglesby, Interim Principal
Stephanie Bess, Secretary
P: 524-3872 / F: 524-3879

BERMUDA

5835 Bermuda Drive
St. Louis, MO 63121-1361
Matthew Hinzpeter, Principal
Keyisha Watson, Secretary
P: 524-4821 / F: 524-4827

CENTRAL

201 Wesley Avenue
Ferguson, MO 63135-2629
Crystal Isom-Adu, Principal
Erika Richardson, Secretary
P: 521-4981 / F: 521-4983

COMBS

300 St. Jean Street
Florissant, MO 63031-5823
Adrienne Bland, Principal
Joyce Vaughn, Secretary
P: 831-0411 / F: 831-0414

COMMONS LANE

2700 Derhake Road
Florissant, MO 63033-3918
Robert Ricker, Principal
Deborah Define, Secretary
P: 831-0440 / F: 831-0474

COOL VALLEY

1351 S. Florissant Road
St. Louis, MO 63121-1106
Suzette Simms, Principal
Deanna Hemphill, Secretary
P: 521-5622 / F: 521-5624

DUCHESNE

100 S. New Florissant Road
Florissant, MO 63031-6714
Katie Sanders, Principal
Nancy Thompson, Secretary
P: 831-1911 / F: 831-1914

GRIFFITH

200 Day Drive
Ferguson, MO 63135-2252
Rodney Lewis, Principal
Sheronda Mays, Secretary
P: 521-5971 / F: 521-2820

HALLS FERRY

13585 New Halls Ferry Road
Florissant, MO 63033-3054
Lisa Hazel, Principal
Tammy Miller-Smith, Secretary
P: 831-1022 / F: 831-1024

HOLMAN

8811 Harold Drive
Berkeley, MO 63134-3205
Jaime Otto, Principal
Beverly Dugger, Secretary
P: 428-9695 / F: 428-9792

JOHNSON-WABASH

685 January Avenue
Ferguson, MO 63135-1805
Robin Witherspoon, Principal
Sylvia Woods, Secretary
P: 524-0280 / F: 524-1149

LEE-HAMILTON

401 Powell Avenue
Ferguson, MO 63135-1328
Emily Turner, Principal
Kathy Hilliker, Secretary
P: 521-6755 / F: 521-6757

PARKER ROAD

2800 Parker Road
Florissant, MO 63033-3605
Kristy Houle, Principal
Tiffany Allen, Secretary
P: 831-2644 / F: 831-2648

ROBINWOOD

955 Derhake Road
Florissant, MO 63033-5931
Malinda Ice, Principal
Mandy De Krey, Secretary
P: 831-4633 / F: 831-4656

VOGT

200 Church Street
Ferguson, MO 63135-2413
Leslie Thomas-Washington, Principal
Alisa Smith, Secretary
P: 521-6347 / F: 521-5938

WALNUT GROVE

1248 N. Florissant Road
Ferguson, MO 63135-1150
Julie Whyte, Principal
Regina Welsh, Secretary
P: 524-8922 / F: 524-3052

WEDGWOOD

14275 New Halls Ferry Road
Florissant, MO 63033-1607
Elizabeth Raymer-Drury, Principal
Lynn Fuerst, Secretary
P: 831-4551 / F: 831-4607

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Gwendolyn Diggs,
Director of Elementary Education
Michelle Jackson, Secretary
P: 506-9082 / F: 506-9088

Middle Schools

BERKELEY

8300 Frost Avenue
Berkeley, MO 63134-1453
Steven Lawler, Principal
Shirley House, Secretary
P: 524-3883 / F: 524-3885

CROSS KEYS

14205 Cougar Drive
Florissant, MO 63033-1415
Jeremy VanPelt, Principal
Carol Simpkins, Secretary
P: 506-9700 / F: 506-9701

FERGUSON

701 January Avenue
Ferguson, MO 63135-1807
Susan Kelly, Principal
Heike Janis, Secretary
P: 506-9600 / F: 506-9601

High Schools

McCLUER

1896 S. New Florissant Road
Florissant, MO 63031-8311
Gary Spiller, Principal
Jennifer Walbridge, Secretary
P: 506-9400 / F: 506-9401

McCLUER NORTH

705 Waterford Drive
Florissant, MO 63033-3647
Shane Hopper, Principal
Yolonda Davis, Secretary
P: 506-9200 / F: 506-9201

McCLUER SOUTH-BERKELEY

201 Brotherton Lane
Ferguson, MO 63135-3105
Betty Fagan, Interim Principal
Nicole Tate-Ray, Secretary
P: 506-9800 / F: 506-9801

Alternative School

MARK TWAIN STUDENT SUPPORT CENTER

1555 Derhake Road
Florissant, MO 63033-6415
Mark Weller, Principal
Naomia Anderson, Secretary
P: 839-5959 / F: 839-7536

LITTLE CREEK NATURE AREA

2295 Dunn Rd.
Florissant, MO 63033-6421
Eric Hadley, Science Coordinator
Barbra Stephenson, Secretary
P: 831-7386 / F: 831-9049

PROBE

1005 Waterford Drive, Building D
Florissant, MO 63033-3649
Sheila Ward, Director
Amber Sumner, Secretary
P: 506-9106 / F: 506-9160

SECONDARY EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Nicole Whitesell,
Director of Secondary Education
Debie Bowen, Secretary
P: 506-9085 / F: 506-9088

ADMISSIONS/ADMINISTRATION

Aimee Cacciatore,
Director of Student Services
Karen Schultz, Secretary
P: 506-9960 / F: 506-9151

FERGUSON-FLOISSANT ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Art McCoy,
Superintendent
Margie Reale, Secretary
P: 506-9000 / F: 506-9010

Other Programs

CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER

205 Brotherton Lane
Ferguson, MO 63135-3105
Tasmyn Front, Director
Vicki Cotton, Secretary
P: 521-6205 / F: 524-3764

COMMUNITY EDUCATION

1005 Waterford Drive, Building B
Florissant, MO 63033-3649
Pam Dorton, Director
Helen Glenn, Secretary
P: 506-9979 / F: 506-9980

EARLY EDUCATION

1005 Waterford Drive, Building E
Florissant, MO 63033-3649
Joy Rouse, Director
Karen Chapman, Secretary
P: 506-9066 / F: 506-9080





**FERGUSON-FLORISSANT
SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Administration Center
1005 Waterford Drive
Florissant, MO 63033**

**314.506.9000
www.fergflor.org**