

Fairfield Public Schools Walter Fitzgerald Campus
2016-2017
Student and Parent Addendum

Introduction:

The mission of the Fairfield Public Schools is to inspire students to acquire the knowledge and skills needed to be life-long learners, responsible citizens, and successful participants in an ever-changing global society by providing, in partnership with families and community, a comprehensive, rigorous educational program.

Fairfield High Schools Walter Fitzgerald Campus (WFC) is an alternative program of Fairfield Public Schools. Students attending Walter Fitzgerald Campus are recognized as members of their home high school and, as such, are eligible for all extracurricular activities at their home high school. This addendum, in conjunction with the FHS handbook, encompasses the policy and procedures for Walter Fitzgerald Campus.

Integrity/Respect/Responsibility = IR²
The WFC Way

IR²: At WFC we believe in positive choices and behavior supports as a way to motivate learning and to provide a safe and supportive school community. The IR² daily point system is designed to help students monitor progress while achieving the WFC values of IR² (Respect, Responsibility and Integrity).

Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate the WFC IR² skills throughout the school day.
 - Carry a daily point card to help monitor points earned.
 - Discuss the point card at the end of the day Advisory.
 - Earn points daily for weekly incentives and motivational events.
 - Earn points daily to be on LEVEL A (the level where cell phones are permitted).
 - Hand in cell phone to staff upon arrival to school if on Level B or Level C.
- IR² and the WFC Staff Roles and Supports:
 - The WFC School Student Support Center: IR² is reviewed and reinforced in classes and on campus all day long. For students having difficulty choosing to use their skills, the Student Support Teacher will assist students and will provide plans and prompts to help them to learn these important skills. The Student Support Teacher is a trained PBIS teacher and encourages positive choices and pro-social behaviors in the Student Support Teacher and through co-teaching in classes as needed.
 - The School Social Worker and School Psychologist: Our clinical staff work with individuals and groups of students to support positive decision making, conflict resolution and positive relationships in the school setting. The School Social Worker and School Psychologist work with parents as well as outside agencies and providers to support students in achieving success in school and in the community.
 - Effective School Solutions: Intensive support through daily group counseling, weekly individual counseling, parent meetings and monthly parent groups to help students who exhibit the need for more clinical intervention in the school setting.

ESS Coordinator also works with parents as well as outside agencies and providers to support students in achieving success in school and in the community.

- All Teaching Staff: Through ongoing communication and integrated planning, the WFC instructional staff provides instruction that is using a Project Based Learning methodology. Project Based Learning helps to ensure that student engagement is encouraged through creative and innovative approaches to make coursework dynamic and relevant to improve student performance. IR² is embedded in class instruction and teachers provide feedback and prompting of pro-social skills to increase student participation and scholarship.

IR² Defined:

- Respect
 - Speak with kind words and act with care for self and others
 - Accept and appreciate differences
 - Seek to learn not judge others
 - Treat school property and others in the school responsibly
- Responsibility
 - Attend school and class on time and prepared
 - Keep yourself and the school drug free, bully free and weapon free
 - Keep cell phones off during class
 - Set goals and earn IR² points and grades that reflect your goals
- Integrity:
 - Positive contributions to the others, the school and community
 - Setting goals and working to achieve them
 - Make and keep commitments
 - Spread peace!

Student Incentives:

- **IR² Positive Behavior Incentives and Motivation:** Students are recognized weekly/monthly for academic achievement and positive social skills as evidenced by points achieved.

Cell Phones:

- Students earn points to be on either Level A, B or C. A student must be on Level A to carry their cell phone all day long.
- Levels will be assigned for the first two weeks of school and will be evaluated each week after September 16th.
- Any student who has not earned points required for Level A will not be permitted to have a cell phone during the school day.
- All cell phones will be locked in a secure cabinet with each student's cell phone in a separate and secure file.
- Students not compliant with cell phone expectations will be expected to leave cell phones at home (with parents or guardians).

Suspension:

Out of School Suspension: We strongly encourage pro-social positive behaviors to help students to be successful learners and members of the WFC community. The guidelines for out of school suspension may be found in the high school handbook provided. In the rare instance that an Out of School Suspension be necessary, upon return to the WFC, a parent conference will be convened and a WFC Level drop for a specified time frame will be determined.

In School Suspension (ISS) : In School Suspension at the WFC may be warranted due to the following issues:

- Ongoing and/or highly disruptive behaviors
- Leaving school grounds without parent/administrative permission
- Insubordination, disrespect or disregard for school-wide expectations despite teacher prompts, interventions and conferences

Process of referral for ISS:

- Teachers or administration may refer student due to above issues
- In-school suspension can range from 1 period to the full day (at the discretion of the teacher in charge of student refocus and/or principal)
- Expectations include appropriate behavior in ISS, completion of academic work, referring teacher conference and possible parent conference
- Multiple ISS's will result in a parent conference. Multiple incidents of I.S.S. may also result in additional alternative assignments to make up for lost time in class, Out of School Suspension and/or a Planning and Placement Team meeting.

Attendance requirements:

Attendance is expected in every class, every day.

A student who is 20 or more minutes late to class will be marked absent from that class

More than 4 absences in a marking period will result in loss of credit.

Three (3) Tardies = 1 absence. (Tardy = 2-19 minutes late to class).

Graduation requirements:

At the WFC the academic and achievement standards are the same as Fairfield High School. Please refer to the attached FWHS or FLHS student handbook. All grades and credits will be awarded on a quarterly basis which provides students with greater opportunities for credit attainment.

Credit Appeals:

For loss of course credit due to the above attendance issues, an Appeals Process is provided. Appeals Packets are reviewed quarterly and students must fully complete an Appeals Request Packet to be scheduled for Appeals.

Smoking Policy:

Students are not allowed to smoke cigarettes (including E-cigarettes) anywhere on school grounds or at any school activity, as per the Board of Education policy. This is further explained in the student and parent handbook.