

July 15, 2016

Dear Parent/Guardian,

Welcome to the 2016-2017 school year at Fayetteville High School. We are excited about you and your child being part of an exciting year that will yield new relationships and authentic learning experiences to prepare our students to be college and career ready.

**Important dates:**

August 3 & 4 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. 9<sup>th</sup> grade Student Orientation based on alpha split. Busses will run modified routes for FHS 9<sup>th</sup> graders. If your child needs bus transportation to this event go to the FHS website, look under “Parents & Students” tab then click on “9<sup>th</sup> grade Orientation Bus Signup.” Parents may also call Mark White at 479-445-1504 (if no answer leave voicemail ).

Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> graders: Last names A-L attend  
Aug. 4<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> graders: Last names M-Z attend

August 17 First day for all 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade students. All students will pickup a new schedule beginning at 8:00 a.m. (Zero block students pickup 6:45 a.m.-7:15 a.m.) as follows:  
9<sup>th</sup> – Café Lobby, 10<sup>th</sup> – Arena Lobby, 11<sup>th</sup>-PAC stage, 12<sup>th</sup>- Gym floor

August 17-19<sup>th</sup> Wednesday and Friday are “B” days this week; Thursday is an “A” day this week  
September 5 Holiday-No Students  
September 23 Teacher In-service Day- No Students  
September 28 Homecoming Parade  
September 30 Homecoming Football Game at Harmon Field vs. Bentonville West @ 7:00 p.m.  
November 21-25 Holiday-No Students  
December 20 Last day of fall semester for students and teachers  
January 4 Students return to school

**COMMUNICATION TO STUDENTS/PARENTS**

We continue to work on ways to make our communication to students and parents more efficient and effective by using a few types of communication and being clear about what types of communication student and/or parents receive. Our intent is **not** to communicate all information by all of the types. This is a list of some of the main categories of communication along with the type(s) we will use for each:

- Calendar items, events, and dates Student Announcements, EDGE, & FHS newsletter
- Student events/information/details Student Announcements, EDGE, & FHS newsletter
- Emergencies (safety concerns, dismissals, etc.) Text/email, FHS/district websites, intercom

Additional “helps” to FHS communications:

FHS Website – The FHS website (also the FPS district website) will have a new look. You will also soon see on the FHS website main page a place to click for information from our Counseling Department.

FHS Student Announcements- These announcements will be sent by 8:00 a.m. each school day to the primary guardian address FHS has on file as well as to each student’s FHS email address. This will allow parent and student to stay informed of events and new information. If after the school year begins you are not receiving the email with FHS Announcements please email Michelle Miller at michelle.miller@fayar.net

Twitter – You can follow my Twitter “tweets” @chadscottfhs for school reminders, information, and celebrations. You can also receive my tweets via text message by texting “follow @chadscottfhs” to 40404.

FHS Calendar – You can find this on the FHS website. On the right side of the website’s front page you will see “Upcoming Events”. Scroll down to see the purple button labeled “Full Calendar”. Click on the button to see a full month view.

FHS E-newsletter- We will email monthly to parents. The intent of this communication is to provide helpful and timely information FHS students and/or parents may need.

Important information/details:

- Parents should verify contact/emergency information on a form each student will receive 7<sup>th</sup> period on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Parents should complete this form. Students will return it, along with the other required forms in the packet, to their 7<sup>th</sup> period teacher ASAP. It is important to update this personal information to ensure you will receive communication in the form of phone calls, emails, and snail mail to the correct numbers and addresses. We also use the information you provide in the Student Profile to create parent accounts in the Home Access Center (HAC), which will allow you to view your student's grades, attendance, and schedule information.
- Parent Grade Viewer – Also known as Home Access Center (HAC) allows the student/parent to see the class schedule, monitor grades, etc. Parent Grade Viewer/HAC may be accessed by using the “Grades” Button at the top right of the District Website (also available on all school pages). Parents will be sent an email from District Tech on August 4<sup>th</sup> to remind them of their HAC login information. This login information does not change so if you previously had a login you may continue to use the same login information. Currently, you will not be able to see anything in HAC as we have taken it offline in order to complete scheduling. If you have trouble accessing HAC after August 8<sup>th</sup> please complete the “Grade Viewer Help Request” form located under the Parents tab on the District Home Page.
- Bus Transportation General Information- Parents who need general information about bus routes/times can go to the district website, click on “Departments” then click on “Transportation.” If you need additional help you may call the Transportation Dept at 479-444-3095.
- FHS does not have lockers in the academic buildings. Many students carry a backpack each day. We encourage students to pack class materials each day by “A” day or “B” day.
- Students who purchased a 2016 – 2017 parking permit may pick up their decal from the Parking Office (1st floor phase 2) during the following dates and times:  
Monday, August 8 through Friday, August 12 @ 8:30 am – 11:30 am, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
Monday August 15 and Tuesday August 16 @ 8:30 am – 11:30 am, 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm  
\*Parking at FHS is a challenge on school days and at school-hosted events. Arrive early to school and events. Parking in U of A areas/spaces may result in a U of A citation.
- The FHS administration structure and roles will be different for the 2016-17 school year, which may impact whom students and parents speak with concerning school matters. FHS administration will include the Principal, Assistant Principals, and Dean of Students, each with defined roles and responsibilities. The enclosed “Fayetteville High School FAQ” will help you regarding who to contact for matters involving your child.
- FHS administration will implement the use of a “10-Step Plan” document when dealing with individual student discipline. Once a student's behavior has initiated use of the year-long step process he/she moves down the steps of the document with each disciplinary incident, resulting in increasingly severe consequences. This document is designed to maintain the frequency and severity of individual student incidents, and to establish a systemic common language the student, teacher, and parent will understand for the purpose of supporting student behavior.

- Advanced Placement (AP) summer assignments- Summer assignments can be found on the new FHS website: Click on banner “Departments & Programs” then on left-hand side of page “Advanced Placement.” On the right hand side of the page click on “Summer Assignments”.
- Students may eat in the cafeteria or in areas designated by administration. Prices are as follows: Breakfast \$1.70, Lunch \$2.90. Reduced meal prices will be determined before school begins. Parents may create an online meal account for their student at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com). This allows a parent to add money to their child’s account via Debit/Credit Card at any time. There is a \$2.50 fee per transaction. They may also send payment to the FHS Cafeteria with their student or mail in payments to the Child Nutrition Office at 2233 W. Stone Fayetteville, AR. 72701. As a reminder – we do not allow FHS Students (9th – 12th grade) to charge meals.

We encourage all households to turn in a meal benefit application. A student’s meal benefit will carry over from the previous year for the first 30 days of school, at which time (approx. Oct. 1), if a current application has not been processed, they will revert to full pay. Meal Benefit Applications will be in the school packet each student will receive on August 17<sup>th</sup>. If you wish to take advantage of this opportunity please complete the application and turn into the student’s 7<sup>th</sup> period teacher.

- Counselors: Our counselors are focused in early August with the huge task of getting student class schedules completed so all students are served in the best way possible. We establish processes and timelines that require all of our counselor’s full attention. We appreciate your patience and understanding as you may experience longer than usual callback response time and/or meeting request timelines.
- Student schedules & schedule change requests: Students will receive a hardcopy of their class schedule (see next bullet of information below). Parents/students may also begin to see their class schedule via the Home Access Center (HAC) beginning August 8<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. Schedule change requests can be submitted by completing and submitting the online form via the FHS website: Click on “Parents & Students” tab then click on “Student Forms & Links” to see the “Schedule Change Request Form”. You may also obtain a hardcopy “Schedule Change Request Form” from the Purple Office the week Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> -12<sup>th</sup> from 1:00-4:00 p.m. Schedule change requests will be prioritized when the request meets one or more of the criteria outlined in policy: 1. There is a gap in the class schedule, 2. I need a specific course in order to graduate this year, 3. I must re-take a course this year in order to graduate this year, 4. I have not completed the pre-requisite course for a course on my schedule, and 5. I have already received credit for a course currently on my schedule. All requests are considered and requests are granted if possible.
- All students will pickup new/revised class schedules as follows:
  - 9<sup>th</sup> graders-Pick up your schedule as you leave your August 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> session. All students-Pick up a current schedule at least 15 minutes before your first scheduled class on August 17. Schedule pickup locations will be as follows: 9<sup>th</sup> grade – Café Lobby, 10<sup>th</sup> grade – Arena Lobby, 11<sup>th</sup> grade- PAC stage, 12<sup>th</sup> grade- Gym floor

\* If a schedule change is needed please use a schedule change request form.
- 11<sup>th</sup> grade students/parents...Each year we are required to provide each 11<sup>th</sup> grader an opportunity to “opt out” if they do not want FHS to release their directory information to military agencies. Email Kathy Shaw at [Kathy.shaw@fayar.net](mailto:Kathy.shaw@fayar.net) if you would like to opt-out.

- Calculators for math courses- Math teachers will be sharing the expectations and options regarding calculators. Many of our math courses require the student to use a calculator regularly. If a student does not own an appropriate calculator they can see their math teacher about options.
- Student Use of FPS WiFi network & Classroom Use of Personal Devices- We encourage teachers to effectively use technology and technology resources in class lessons. Individual teachers will establish classroom protocols for student use of personal devices during classtime. All enrolled students have access to WiFi on their own devices by using their network login credentials. Use the "Hive" SSID (not WLAN-Guest or WLAN-BYOD). All FPS policies apply to use of electronic resources inside the campus, whether school-owned or personal.
- For the 2016-17 school year “SMART Block: Students Maximizing Achievement with Resources and Time” will be implemented within two time periods on “B” days.
  - The EDGE Program (9<sup>th</sup> -Educate, 10<sup>th</sup> -Develop, 11<sup>th</sup> -Grow and 12<sup>th</sup> -Empower) will serve as an advisory. Students will be assigned to a grade level advisor and remain with their EDGE group throughout their stay at FHS. The focus of EDGE will be grade appropriate while targeting graduation and post-secondary planning.
  - The A&E Program (Academics and Enrichment) will encompass time dedicated to clubs, organizations, Teacher Guided Study, tutoring and classroom extension, promoting student success and providing opportunities for academic growth.
- PTSO – The FHS Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) would like your support by becoming a PTSO member and/or signing up to volunteer at FHS. More information from PTSO will be sent to you in the FHS newsletter and in FHS Announcements. A “PTSO Membership Form” is enclosed.
- Arkansas Sales Tax Holiday: Beginning at 12:01 a.m. on Saturday, August 6, 2016, and ending at 11:59 p.m. on Sunday, August 7, 2016, the State of Arkansas will hold its’ sales tax holiday allowing shoppers the opportunity to purchase certain School Supplies, School Art Supplies, School Instructional Materials, and clothing free of state and local sales or use tax.

A recent article concerning parental involvement said some of the ways we have conventionally thought parents should be involved in their child’s education may not be the most important. This article states, “The essential ingredient is for parents to communicate the value of schooling, a message that parents should be sending early in their children’s lives and that needs to be reinforced over time.” We acknowledge and appreciate the partnership with our parents in supporting our students.

At Fayetteville High School, we believe all students can learn and we are willing to work to make sure our students achieve high standards of learning. If your child is experiencing challenges meeting FHS expectations please seek support. The Fayetteville High School FAQ document is a great resource.

The following documents are enclosed for your information:

- Fayetteville High School FAQ
- FHS 2016-17 Bell Schedule
- FHS Campus Map
- FHS Traffic Flow Diagram
- PTSO Letter & Membership Form

We look forward to working with you and your child this year!  
 Dr. Chad A. Scott, FHS Principal