

2021-2022

Fishers Island School

STUDENT-PARENT HANDBOOK



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Fishers Island School...cultivating and honoring the gifts and talents of ALL students

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***These forms are to be signed and returned to the School Office on September 1st**

TO: Students and Parents,

September 2021

Welcome to the 2021-2022 school year at Fishers Island School. This handbook was prepared as a reference to find answers to commonly asked questions about our school. It is important for both parents and students to read this document and to be familiar with its contents.

After you have reviewed this handbook, **please sign the acknowledgement form on page 40 and return them to Mrs. Mrowka in the school office on or before Wednesday, September 1, 2020.**

The handbook includes information about grading, school guidelines, and behavioral expectations. It was developed to help answer your questions, such as: What grades do I have to earn to be on the Honor Roll? What do you do when you are absent? Who do you talk to when you want extra help?

During these unprecedented times, we will continue to make special precautions to protect our students and staff. I hope that this handbook will answer any COVID-19 related questions, however, please feel free to reach out to me at any time for further discussion.

It is my hope that this handbook will be helpful to you and your child/children in making this a very successful and engaging school year. If you have further questions, please contact our main office, school counselor and/or your child's classroom teacher.

In your service,

Christian Arsenault
Superintendent/Principal



GENERAL INFORMATION

Fishers Island School Colors: Blue and Gold

Fishers Island School Mascot: Viking

FISHERS ISLAND SCHOOL ALMA MATER

Above the roar of crashing breakers,
Above the wild gull's piercing cry,
We raise our youthful voices
As we praise Fishers Island High.

Hail to Alma Mater, guardian of the light
May your lamp of learning, burn forever bright
Beaming truth to guide us,
Through the fog of fear, Lead us ever onward, Alma Mater dear.

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Jamie Doucette, President
William Bloethe, Vice President
Robin Toldo, Board Member
Matthew Edwards, Board Member
Catherine Edwards, Board Member

Members of the Board of Education are district residents who are elected by the voters to set policy and provide financial oversight for the operations of the school. They provide leadership for the welfare of district students.

In accordance with state law, the Board holds regularly announced business meetings. Parents, students and community are encouraged to attend. Public participation is encouraged at the appropriate times on the agenda.

MEETING DATES AND TIMES

Wednesday, September 15, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Wednesday, October 20, 2021 at 6:00 PM

Wednesday, November 17, 2021 at 5:30 PM

Wednesday, December 15, 2021 at 5:30PM

Wednesday, January 19, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 5:30 PM

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 Budget Hearing at 6:00 PM

Tuesday, May 17, 2022 Annual Meeting at 6:00 PM
Budget Vote 2:00 PM-8:00 PM

Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 6:00 PM

Fishers Island School

2021-2022

Faculty/Staff List

Mrs. Julie Arcelus	School Counselor
Mr. Christian Arsenault	Superintendent/Principal
Ms. Margaret Atkin	PreK3 and PreK4 Teacher
Mr. Adam Baber	P.E./Health Teacher
Mrs. Jennifer Burns	3 rd and 4 th Grade Teacher
Mr. Christopher Dollar	Music Teacher
Mr. James Eagan	Business Manager
Mrs. Tawnya Eastman	5 th and 6 th Grade Teacher
Mrs. Yaritza Gello	Elementary Spanish
Mr. Michael George	Social Studies Teacher
Mrs. Carol Giles	Science Teacher
Ms. Jessica Hall	English Teacher
Mrs. Alysanne Horn	Administrative Assistant
Mr. Miguel Mego	Custodian
Mrs. Alexandra Mesite	Special Education Teacher
Mrs. Julie Mrowka	School Secretary
Ms. Michele Murphy	Computer Technology Teacher
Ms. Krystal Murray	Part-Time Custodian
Mr. Adam Murray	Agriculture Technology Teacher
Ms. Ashley Nintean	Special Education Tutor
Mrs. Sarah Pantalone	World Language Teacher
Mrs. Gina Roehrig	Special Education Teacher
Mrs. Carrie Sawyer	Art Teacher
Mr. Scott Stanton	Math Teacher
Mrs. Heidi Whipple	K- 2 nd Grade Teacher

CONDUCT AT SCHOOL

The Fishers Island School expects a high standard of conduct from its students, faculty, and support staff, as well as visitors to the school. The standards of conduct are based on six pillars of character. The school will enforce a Code of Conduct which governs the conduct of all persons upon any premises or property under the control of the district and used in its teaching, administrative, cultural, recreational, athletic and other programs and activities. **The complete Code of Conduct can be found on the school's website.** The “Six Pillars” are:

Trustworthiness

Be honest • Don't deceive, cheat or steal • Be reliable — do what you say you'll do • Have the courage to do the right thing • Build a good reputation • Be loyal — stand by your family, friends and country

Respect

Treat others with respect; follow the Golden Rule • Be tolerant of differences • Use good manners, not bad language • Be considerate of the feelings of others • Don't threaten, hit or hurt anyone • Deal peacefully with anger, insults and disagreements

Responsibility

Do what you are supposed to do • Persevere: keep on trying! • Always do your best • Use selfcontrol • Be self-disciplined • Think before you act — consider the consequences • Be accountable for your choices

Fairness

Play by the rules • Take turns and share • Be open-minded; listen to others • Don't take advantage of others • Don't blame others carelessly

Caring

Be kind • Be compassionate and show you care • Express gratitude • Forgive others • Help people in need

Citizenship

Do your share to make your school and community better • Cooperate • Get involved in community affairs • Stay informed; vote • Be a good neighbor • Obey laws and rules • Respect authority • Protect the environment

EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS BEHAVIOR

In order to assist the school administration and staff in their efforts to provide a safe, positive, and productive school environment conducive to learning, the student body is expected to:

- Follow all COVID-19 related protocols;
- understand that they are responsible for their actions and that inappropriate behavior will not be tolerated;
- be informed about and abide by School and Board rules and policies;
- participate responsibly in school safety drills;
- behave in a responsible and appropriate manner during all school functions, whether on or off school grounds;
- attend school regularly and be prepared for class by completing daily assignments, homework and make-up work;
- continue to develop a moral and ethical sensibility as well as practice moral and ethical behavior; learn about, understand, and respect diversity and differences among all groups;
- understand, as well as apply, the basic principles of healthful daily living;
- know and follow the law to keep our School a safe environment. Weapons of any kind are strictly forbidden on School property or at School-sponsored events;
- tobacco, alcohol and/or illegal drugs/substances are also strictly forbidden on School property or at School-sponsored events

Anyone who violates any of the provisions of these rules is subject to appropriate consequences, up to and including reprimand, detention, suspension, expulsion, arrest, and/or prosecution.

DETENTION HALL

Due to COVID-19, detention will be assigned in the Principal's office during lunch.

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Fishers Island School is committed to safeguarding the rights given to all students under state and federal law. To promote a safe, healthy, orderly and civil school environment, all district students have the *right* to:

- Take part in all district activities on an equal basis regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, religion, gender, sexual orientation or disability;
- Present his/her/their version of the relevant events to school personnel authorized to impose a disciplinary penalty in connection with the imposition of the penalty;
- Access school rules and, when necessary, receive an explanation of those rules from school personnel.

All students have the *responsibility* to:

- Maintain a safe and orderly school environment that is conducive to learning and to show respect to other persons and property;

- Be familiar with and abide by all district policies, rules and regulations dealing with student conduct;
- Attend school every day unless legally excused; be in class on time and prepared to learn;
- Work to the best of their ability in all academic and extracurricular pursuits and strive toward their highest possible level of achievement;
- Take direction from teachers, administrators and other school personnel in a respectful, positive manner;
- Work to develop mechanisms to control anger;
- Ask questions when directions or concepts are not understood;
- Seek help in solving problems before they lead to disciplinary action;
- Dress appropriately for school and school functions;
- Accept responsibility for their actions;
- Conduct themselves as representatives of the district when participating in or attending school-sponsored extra-curricular events and hold themselves to the highest standards of conduct, demeanor, and sportsmanship.

DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT (DASA)

Students are expected to treat one another with respect at all times. Bullying and/or harassment of students or staff is not tolerated at Fishers Island School. Students and/or parents are encouraged to report concerns to one of our DASA coordinators, Mrs. Julie Arcelus (School Counselor) Mr. Chris Dollar (Music Teacher). The DASA coordinator(s) will complete an investigation and share the results with the school Principal who will determine if disciplinary consequences are indicated. The results of the investigation will be reported to the student/parent who expressed the concern, as well as parents of any other involved student.

ELEMENTARY RECESS AND PLAYGROUND RULES

Students will be permitted to go outside for recess multiple times a day throughout the school year on a grade-by-grade basis.

It is important that parents dress children appropriately for the weather conditions. Boots, hats, gloves and warm coats are a necessity for snowy, cold weather.

The following playground rules have been established for the safety of all students. Adult supervision is provided at all times:

- Use play equipment properly and safely;
- Wear proper footwear (no bare feet);
- Play carefully and invite others to play;
- Be considerate of classmates;
- Listen and follow adult directions;
- No pushing and/or shoving;

LOWER SCHOOL- PREK THROUGH GRADE 6

Elementary school students who reside in Connecticut will depart from New London on the Ferry at 7:00am. The elementary school day will begin at 8:00 am and will end at 2:51pm. Elementary students who reside in Connecticut will attend supervised after-school club until 4:15pm. The Ferry will depart Fishers Island at 4:45pm to arrive back in New London at 5:30pm.

PRE-KINDERGARTEN SCREENING

Pre -K screening is conducted before a child enters school to let parents and teachers learn about each student's developmental areas of strength and need in order to plan an appropriate educational program. It also alerts us to possible learning differences. The screening evaluates speech, language, cognitive and physical development.

ADMISSION TO PRE-SCHOOL

All children who are three or four years old on or before December 31st of the school year are invited and encouraged to join our program. Pre-K3 and PreK are half-day programs. (Hours: 8:00 – 11:30 AM)

ADMISSION TO KINDERGARTEN

If a child is five years old on or before December 1st of the school year, he/she will be admitted to full day Kindergarten. (Monday-Friday following the School Calendar. Hours: 8:00 AM – 2:51 PM)

CURRICULUM

The curriculum is based upon New York State Common Core Standards--organized with clearly defined instructional objectives for each level. Students may start taking musical instrument instruction in grade 5. Weekly lessons are scheduled during the school day on a rotating basis.

REPORT CARDS

PreK and Kindergarten students receive a report card mid-year and at the end of the year. Teachers report 1st – 6th grade progress four times each year utilizing a computer-generated report card. Parents or teachers may request a conference at any time during the school year.

TUITION PROGRAM – GRADES 4—12

Fishers Island School invites Connecticut students to attend Fishers Island School in grades 4-12.

TUITION POLICY

The Fishers Island School Board of Education shall set tuition rates annually. Tuition is payable in three (3) increments:

1. A \$500 deposit is due and payable to hold each student's seat 30 days after new parents receive notification and by May 1st for those returning students.
2. The remaining tuition balance is divided in half and is due September 1 and January 1 of each school year.

If for any reason, whether or not good cause is shown, if you fail to make tuition payments by the invoice date or plan date, your child will no longer be eligible to attend school from that date forward. The school will notify you if this occurs.

Due to the investment of school personnel in time, effort, and money in reviewing candidates and selecting tuition students, and the limited number of seats for tuition students, the tuition is not refundable in whole or in part upon withdrawal or removal of the student for any reason, except in the case of extreme hardship as determined by the Board, in its sole discretion.

Adoption Date: November 18, 2015 /Revision Date: March 25, 2021

UPPER SCHOOL- GRADES 7 THROUGH 12

To provide a safe and positive learning environment, we work closely with students and families to provide the necessary support for academic success. The following school programs support students in grades 7-12.

High school students who reside in Connecticut will depart from New London on the Ferry at 7:00am. The high school day will begin at 8:00am and will end at 2:51pm. High school students will depart on the Silver Eel Ferry at 4:45pm to arrive back in New London at 5:30pm.

GRADES 7-12 AFTER-SCHOOL EXPECTATIONS

Until further notice, due to COVID-19, students will not be permitted to leave the school grounds for leisure after school unaccompanied. Elementary students who reside in Connecticut will be supervised until 4:15pm. All other students will be dismissed from the school building to meet the ferry at 4:20pm.

1. Students must sign out in the main office at the end of the day. Students must have written consent (note or email) from a parent or guardian to leave the school property unaccompanied.
2. Students who wish to use the gym after school hours must be supervised by an adult.

3. Students are able to meet with available teachers after school. Students may only be in classrooms in which a teacher or staff member is present. Teachers will lock their classroom doors after school if they are not going to be there.

4. Students who are assigned to detention need to report to the detention room immediately after dismissal. Teachers are asked to notify the principal with the name of the student and the reason for detention.

5. Students participating in after-school activities are responsible for meeting their coach/adviser at the classroom or designated area. Activity advisers and coaches are responsible for taking and maintaining a record of attendance. They must immediately report any attendance concern (i.e. missing student who was in school that day) to the office.

6. Any student who chooses not to comply with our after-school expectations will be referred to the principal who may assign the student to the supervised after-school detention hall for a specific period of time.

HOMEWORK HALL

Homework Hall is voluntary and available for students who desire a silent area of study with a helping adult. Homework Hall is available from 3:15-4:15 each day.

GRADES 7-12 REPORT CARDS AND PROGRESS REPORTS

Report cards are issued to students on a quarterly basis as indicated on the annual school calendar. In addition, students and parents have ongoing access to student grades through the PowerSchool Parent Portal by using their confidential login and password. Teachers ensure that the data in their digital gradebooks is current during the progress report dates published each school year. Parents and students are encouraged to be proactive when they have questions or concerns by emailing or calling the teacher as soon as possible.

ACADEMIC WARNING

Any student with an “F”, a quarter marking period weighted average below 70, or more than one “D” will be placed on Academic Warning for the following quarter. Ongoing communication between student, teacher, and parent will be maintained until grades are improved.

ACADEMIC PROBATION

Any student with more than one “F” will be placed on Academic Probation for the following quarter. All co-curricular, extra-curricular and sports activities will be suspended for a specific period of time to be determined by the Principal. An initial and a final conference with the Guidance Counselor and the Principal will take place to determine if other actions are

warranted. An academic improvement contract between the student, parents, and school will be developed.

STUDY HALLS

For each period in which a student does not have class, a study hall shall be assigned to which the student shall report.

EXTENDED CONTENT SUPPORT

Many of the high school teachers will invite students to an after-school or study hall session if it appears that a student is struggling with a concept. Students may also ask for extra help.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS DATA

Student grades are available online to parents and students in grades 7-12 through the PowerSchool Program. Parents are urged to regularly review their child's/children's progress by accessing the PowerSchool parent portal (school website link or <http://fishersislandps.esboces.org/public>) on a regular basis. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers when necessary. Parents who do not have access to the internet should contact the School Principal to establish an alternate school home communication plan.

HIGH SCHOOL PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-Teacher communication is essential for student success. Teachers value parent interest, opinions, and support. Parent-teacher conferences will be scheduled for upper school students in December. Either teacher or parent may arrange an in-person or phone conference at any time convenient to both. Teachers may also be contacted by e-mail; a teacher directory is available on the School web site.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES (AIS)

The district shall provide academic intervention services to students who have been identified as being at risk of falling below the State Common Core learning standards in English/language arts, mathematics, social studies, and/or science. Such services may include additional instruction/tutoring services and/or student support services such as guidance, counseling, and study skills.

A student's eligibility for academic intervention services will be determined based on his or her performance on State assessment examinations and/or in accordance with district assessment procedures.

SPECIAL EDUCATION/PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

The District provides special education services and programs to students with disabilities pursuant to applicable federal and state laws. Any parent or person in parental relation who suspects that his/her child has a disability may refer the child for an evaluation by the District's Committee on Special Education (CSE) for eligibility for special education services and programs. More detailed information on this process is available in *A Parent's Guide to Special Education*, which is published on the New York State Education Department's website in English and Spanish at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/policy/parentguide.htm>. Parents or persons in parental relation should contact the District's CSE Chairperson or the school principal.

GRADING SYSTEM REGULATIONS FOR HIGH SCHOOL

In the high school, number grades will be used in teacher mark sheets, report cards, and permanent records. Regents grades will be entered on report cards in numerical form. The passing grade will be 65.

<u>Numerical Range</u>	<u>Letter Equivalent</u>
97 – 100	A+
93 – 96.99	A
90 – 92.99	A-
87 – 89.99	B+
83 – 86.99	B
80 – 82.99	B-
77 – 79.99	C+
73 – 76.99	C
70 – 72.99	C-
65 – 69.99	D
Below 65	F

DESCRIPTION OF CURRICULUM LEVEL

- All core courses will receive a 1.0 weight for GPA and Honor Roll
- Regents will receive a 1.03 weight on GPA and Honor Roll
- VHS courses will receive a 1.0 weight on GPA and Honor Roll
- Honors and Advanced Placement/UCONN ECE courses will receive a 1.07 weight on GPA and Honor Roll
- Any Science course with 2 laboratory periods will receive 1.50 credits.
- Any Science course with 1 laboratory period will receive 1.25 credits.

Courses taken by students that are either credit-bearing at Community Colleges, Universities, or taken online, must be reviewed by the Honors Committee to determine whether or not they

will be calculated into the student's final GPA. This also includes summer courses. The Honors Committee will determine the GPA weight of each of these courses on a case-by-case basis.

CALCULATION OF SEMESTER/FINAL GRADES

The first semester grade is calculated as follows:

	<u>Full Year Course</u>	<u>Semester Course</u>
1 st marking period = 2/5 of semester grade	20%	40%
2 nd marking period = 2/5 of semester grade	20%	40%
Midyear exam = 1/5 of semester grade	10%	20%

The second semester grade is calculated as follows:

3 rd marking period = 2/5 of semester grade	20%
4 th marking period = 2/5 of semester grade	20%
Final exam or Regents exam = 1/5 of semester grade	10%

Each grade will be based solely on academic performance. Grading must not be used for penalizing attitude or conduct; however, teachers do utilize student participation/engagement rubrics to objectively assess students' learning dispositions and classroom involvement. The final grade in a yearlong course is the average of the first semester and second semester grades.

SENIOR EXAMS EXEMPTION POLICY

Senior students are exempt from taking a final examination if the student meets all of the following criteria for the specific subject:

1. The student must hold a 90% average for the class;
2. The student must have 3 or less unexcused absences for the year (or 1.5 unexcused absences for a semester);
3. The student cannot have received any suspensions during the school year;
4. The student cannot have been reprimanded for plagiarism or cheating during the school year;
5. The student cannot be exempt from a Regents exam;
6. The student cannot be exempt from an ECE course exam;
7. The student cannot be exempt from an exam that is needed for a teacher's APPR evaluation;
8. The student must have completed at least one act of community service in his/her senior year in order to be exempt from exams.

HOMEWORK

At the Fishers Island School, homework is recognized as an extremely valuable and vital activity, and as an appropriate extension of classroom instruction. Homework activities and or projects (individual/group), provide excellent opportunities for developing good study/research habits, and also are adaptable to allow for individual differences and abilities. At the same time, these opportunities serve to encourage self-initiative on the part of the student. Parents are an integral part of conveying to students that assignment completion in timely fashion is a skill to be honed and done with integrity. Our teaching staff avoid overloading students with excessively lengthy homework assignments. They do the same to avoid meaningless or empty assignments as well. Teachers plan homework with the same diligence and care as any other classroom lesson. Any assignment given is important enough to be completed to the best of a student's ability and is always considered by staff to be worthy of evaluation. Homework is assigned using the following guidelines:

- 1). Homework assignments are a properly planned part of the curriculum, extending and reinforcing the learning experience of the classroom.
- 2). Homework assignments help students achieve by providing practice in the mastery of required academic skill sets, and provide opportunities to gather data, synthesize that data and integrate it to draw appropriate conclusions. The same assignments are designed to serve as remediation tools as academic rigor increases.
- 3). Homework assignments serve to help students develop a sense of responsibility by providing opportunities for independent or collaborative work skill set development, deemed necessary for success in a college or work setting. Again, parents are key to this development, by reinforcing that self-reliance is an admirable trait key to success in the future.
- 4). The number, frequency, and degree of difficulty of homework assignments are always based in the philosophy that challenge is a positive endeavor. Typically, as students choose more challenging courses, it should be noted that homework complexity and rigor will increase. The assignments are tailored to student ability and need. Creative solutions to problem solving when completing assignments is valued, as is accuracy and timely completion.
- 5). As a valid educational tool, homework assignments are clearly detailed, and carefully/promptly evaluated by staff or peer evaluators.

Our Fishers Island Board of Education believes that parent reinforcement of the philosophy stated above serves our students in attaining academic skills each year. Parents are encouraged to help students create an appropriate homework environment at home. Parents are also expected to help students foster their own independence to manage due dates, to put forth best effort, and to practice self-advocacy with classroom staff and support services when necessary. Our Administration, Teaching staff, School Counselor, and Support staff encourage open lines of communication between parents and school personnel, such that any academic issue is addressed as early as possible.

HONOR ROLLS FOR GRADES 7-12

At the end of each quarter an Honor Roll shall be generated. All courses are included. Students may not have a grade below 75% in any course. Students with a grade of 'Incomplete' (I)—approved by the principal and classroom teacher—may be eligible once the grade is complete. Numeric grade equivalents and weighted averages will be used for all aspects of Honor Roll

calculations. Courses will be counted in proportion to their weekly instruction time (see Program of Studies for more details and examples).

- High Honors with Distinction: 96-100
- High Honors: 92-95.99
- Honors: 87-91.99

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Although the Fishers Island School does not rank students, we do have an ongoing GPA calculation for the purpose of transcript creation to be used in the process of college applications protocol. The overall GPA is determined on a 100-point basis and is calculated in the same manner as the Honor Roll. For college applications, we call it a weighted GPA as there is the potential of using the above listed weighted courses, if enrolled.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Students are nominated and then evaluated in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service and character at the end of their junior and senior year. As a courtesy the committee will also meet at the end of the 1st quarter to reconsider the selection of a senior. The areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character are equally weighted when considering a candidate for National Honor Society. Students who are eligible scholastically, will be invited to submit supporting information describing their demonstrated leadership and service. All Fishers Island Faculty and Staff members are requested to provide input for each academically eligible candidate. A student needs to excel at a very high level, in all four qualifying areas to be selected. The final selection of membership to the NHS shall be by a majority vote of the faculty committee. Students selected to the NHS will be periodically reviewed. If a member falls below the standards by which the member were selected, the student will be notified in writing of the infraction and put on warning for a given period of time.

During this warning period, the student is given an opportunity to rectify the infraction. If the infraction continues, the student will be subjected to disciplinary measures and warning is not required for possible dismissal. If dismissed from the NHS, a student is not eligible again.

The following guideline will further help in the definition of scholarship, leadership, service, and character.

Scholarship

- Maintain at minimum a 90% Weighted GPA.
- No more than 5 eighty-minute study halls per week. (Depending on type of schedule approximately 22% of instructional time). Students can and are encouraged to participate in work study, internship, college classes, and other similar programs.

Service

- Students should do an average of 5 hours of service per quarter, with a minimum total of 20 hours per school year (July 1- June 30).

- Service should try to involve others in volunteer possibilities and provide evidence of this. E.g. Organizing a blood drive, food drive, holiday toy drive for children in shelters
- Shows courtesy by assisting teachers and students.
- Makes new students feel welcome i.e. introduces them to schoolmates and invites them to participate in school activities.

Character and Leadership-building activities, such as:

- holds office(s) at the Fishers Island School or in a larger community such as the global community;
- be punctual with FI School projects/assignments;
- be able to receive constructive criticism from staff/adults/peers, and take action when given such helpful criticism;
- provide evidence of what leadership projects were undertaken at the school to give back to the school community;
- demonstrate proper decorum (in speech, behavior, dress) in supervised as well as unsupervised environments (i.e. hallway, locker room, fundraisers).
- Exemplifies positive attitudes
- Exercises influence on peers in upholding school and ethical ideals.
- Fulfills commitments made to athletic teams, drama production and other obligations.

PROMOTION AND RETENTION OF STUDENTS

The school will make every effort to place each student in the most appropriate learning level. The guidelines below govern promotion and retention.

At the elementary level, students who pass all subjects will be promoted. Students who do not make satisfactory progress in one or more basic subjects – Reading/English Language Arts, Mathematics, Spelling, Social Studies and Science -- shall have their cases considered on an individual basis and may be retained, in rare instances, if it is determined to be in the best interest of the student.

At the high school level, promotion from one class to the next shall be contingent upon passing required subjects.

A decision to retain a student within the same grade shall be arrived at by consensus from the teacher(s), Principal, Superintendent, and parent/guardian. No student will be retained without an appropriate educational success plan defining what will occur that is instructionally different for and supportive of the student’s unique educational strengths and needs. The student’s academic achievement will be monitored regularly.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The Fishers Island Union Free School District Board of Education recognizes that regular school attendance is a major component of academic success. Through implementation of this policy, the Board expects to reduce the current level of unexcused **absences, tardiness, and**

early departures (referred to in this policy by the acronym “ATED’s”), encourage full attendance by all students, maintain an adequate attendance record keeping system, identify patterns of student ATED’s and develop effective intervention strategies to improve school attendance.

SCHOOL COMMUNICATION OF ATTENDANCE

The School will communicate to families throughout the school year at each progress point.

TARDINESS

Arrival to school after the start time of a student’s first period class is considered a Tardy.

ABSENCES

Parents must call or email the school secretary by 8:00 am the day of the absence and give the reason for the absence or tardiness (631-788-7444 or at j.mrowka@fischool.com) If we do not receive an email, note, or phone call from a parent or guardian, the student absence will be designated a unexcused in accordance with the district’s attendance policy.

Any work missed is the responsibility of the student and must be made up within a period of time corresponding to the length of absence.

Students in grades 7-12 may be denied credit if they have more than 18 unexcused absences during full year course or 9 unexcused absences during a half year course.

No student can participate in any sports activity, co-curricular activity and/or interscholastic activity on a day when he/she is absent from school. In order for students to participate in any after school activity, students are required to attend more than half of the periods during the school day. Special circumstances are subject to administrative appeal and/or approval.

EXCUSED ABSENCES AND EARLY DEPARTURES

- College interviews/college visitations (*juniors and seniors only-limit of a total of four*);
- Court appearances;
- School-sponsored activities (*including School athletic events*);
- Military obligations;
- School-to-work program;
- School authorized programs (*i.e., field trips, testing sessions, counseling sessions, School-sponsored athletic events, physical therapy sessions, occupational therapy sessions, speech sessions*);
- Death in the family/funeral;
- Illness (*doctor’s note required for extended illness days*);
- Impassible weather conditions;
- Religious observance;
- Medical/dental appointments (*requires written note from provider*);

- Special education evaluations (*authorized by the School district*);
- In-school suspension/out-of-school suspension.
- Prior administrative approval

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES AND EARLY DEPARTURES

- Family vacation/traveling;
- Haircuts, nail appointments, spa visits, etc.;
- Hunting/fishing trips;
- Oversleeping/tired;
- Participating in a field trip the previous day;
- Extra-curricular employment;
- Babysitting;
- Being needed at home;
- Missing the ferry (*i.e., due to personal reasons*);
- Participating in play rehearsal that “ran late”;
- Working on a school project;
- Needed to do homework;
- Any other reason that is not on the ATED excused list posted above.

COMMON ILLNESS & SCHOOL ATTENDANCE GUIDELINES

Due to COVID-19, we encourage all parents to keep their student(s) home from school if they are not feeling well.

Fever: Any temperature greater than 100 degrees F is considered *fever*. Students must be fever-free for 24 hours without using fever-reducing medications (such as Tylenol, Motrin, Advil, etc.) in order to return to school. This applies even if the underlying cause of the fever is non-infectious, such as middle ear infections, bronchitis, urinary tract infections, etc. Children with a fever do not usually feel well enough to participate in and attend school activities. It is recommended that they be given 24 hours to recover from the fever before returning to school. (Please note that a student who exhibits symptoms of illness without a fever may be sent home.)

Colds: Students with any form of upper respiratory issues cannot attend school and are recommended to get a COVID-19 test.

Infections: Any student who has been on antibiotic therapy for 24 hours is no longer considered infectious and may return to school. This includes infections of the eye, nose, skin and strep infections. ***Diarrhea:*** Students with diarrhea should remain home until they are symptom free for 24 hours. The only exception is if the diarrhea is the result of a chronic condition, in which case a doctor’s note is required indicating the diarrhea is not infectious.

Vomiting: A student who has vomited the evening before or the morning of a school day should remain home for that day.

Common Childhood Diseases: Students with Pertussis (whooping cough) Meningococcal Disease, or any other known contagious disease must be kept at home until no longer contagious. For most common childhood diseases, the period of contagion is known. Consult your primary pediatrician/ physician for additional information.

PARTICIPATION IN AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

In order for students to participate in any after school activity, students are required to attend at least half their classes during the school day. Special circumstances are subject to administrative appeal and/or approval.

INTERNET SAFETY POLICIES

The Fishers Island School District is committed to safeguarding children's access to the Internet on district computers. Although the district cannot totally guarantee the effectiveness of selected filtering and blocking technology, the district will use such measures to block or filter Internet access to inappropriate web sites as defined in the Children's Internet Protection Act.

APPROPRIATE USE OF SCHOOL COMPUTERS AND LAPTOPS

The Board of Education considers computers to be a valuable tool for education and encourages the use of computer-related technology in the classrooms. Through software applications, online data bases and courses, bulletin boards and e-mail, computer use significantly enhances educational experiences and provides statewide, national and global communication opportunities for students and staff.

Fishers Island School is committed to moving our students forward in a 21st-century learning environment. As part of this plan, FIS will allow high school students (grades 7-12) to access the FIS wireless network using their own technology devices. Starting with the 2019-2020 school year, we will implement a Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) program. Participation in BYOD is voluntary, and the school will still provide laptops for anyone who does not opt to bring in their own device. These laptops will remain at the school each night. Families who wish to request a laptop for home use should reach out to the main office and one will be provided.

The district prohibits the use of any computer hardware/software in any inappropriate, fraudulent or destructive manner, including, but not limited to:

- Sending out unauthorized messages;
- Entering a code-protected file;
- Plagiarism;
- Altering a software program;
- Vandalizing hardware or software components copyright infringement.

STUDENT COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES

Students are provided an opportunity to be heard on any complaints and grievances they may have. On issues affecting the student body, students should discuss the matter with their student council representative before appealing to the school administration. The district encourages the resolution of all student complaints as promptly as possible and at the lowest level possible.

Accordingly, students are urged to discuss complaints first with the appropriate teacher, staff member or the principal. **Bullying/Harassment complaint forms are available on the school website (fischool.com) and should be submitted to one of the school’s DASA coordinators.**

EMPLOYMENT FOR STUDENTS

Students under 18 who are interested in working papers for employment on Fishers Island may obtain applications at the School office.

GUIDANCE

Guidance programs are available for all students K-12 to ensure effective participation in their current and future educational programs. There is a wealth of material for career exploration and planning in the Guidance Office and on the Guidance tab of our website (www.fischool.com). Materials include information on a wide array of career fields, two- and four-year colleges, universities, vocational/technical schools, financial aid and scholarships.

STUDENT SCHEDULING AND COURSE LOAD

All courses shall conform to New York State Education Department requirements. The school Guidance Counselor will work with students to develop a yearly schedule. Examples of course selections are listed in the Fishers Island Union Free School Program of Studies, available on the school’s web site www.fischool.com

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS AND DIPLOMA TYPES

Diploma Type	Available to	Requirements
Regents	All Student Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives • Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 5 required Regents exams⁽¹⁾ with a score of 65 or better as follows: 1 math, 1 science, 1 social studies, ELA and 1 Pathway Assessment⁽²⁾; or ○ 4 required Regents exams⁽¹⁾ with a score of 65 or better as follows: 1 math, 1 science, 1 social studies, ELA and meet all the requirements of the CDOS Commencement Credential http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regents_diploma

<p>Regents (through appeal)</p>	<p>All Student Populations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives • Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 4 required Regents exams⁽¹⁾ with a score of 65 or better and 1 Regents exam with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7) as follows: 1 Math, 1 Science, 1 social studies, ELA and 1 Pathway Assessment⁽²⁾; or ○ 3 required Regents exams⁽¹⁾ with a score of 65 or better and 1 Regents exam with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7) as follows: 1 Math, 1 Science, 1 social studies, ELA and meet all the requirements of the CDOS Commencement Credential <p>Note: Non Regents Pathway exams are not subject to the Appeal Process http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regpasscore</p>
<p>Regents with Honors</p>	<p>All Student Populations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives • Assessment: 5 required Regents exams⁽¹⁾ with a computed average score of 90 or better as follows: 1 math, 1 science, 1 social studies, ELA and either 1 Pathway Assessment⁽²⁾ or meet all the requirements of the CDOS Commencement Credential (no more than 2 Department approved alternatives may be substituted and will not count in the computed average) <p>http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#diplomaHonors</p>
<p>Regents with Advanced Designation</p>	<p>All Student Populations</p>	<p>□ Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives. In addition, a student must earn an additional 2 units of credit in LOTE** or a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE. These credits can be included in the 22 required credits.</p> <p>Assessment: Students may meet the assessment requirements in order to earn a Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation by passing <u>any one</u> of the following combinations of Regents examinations and/or Department approved alternatives if applicable:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Traditional Combination: ELA, Global History and Geography, US History and Government, 3 mathematics, 2 science, 1 must be life science and 1 must be physical science) = 8 Assessments

		<p>b. <u>Pathway⁽²⁾ Combination</u> (other than STEM): ELA, 1 social studies, 3 mathematics, 2 science (1 must be life science and 1 must be physical science), <u>and</u> either 1 Pathway (other than science or mathematics) or meet the requirements for the CDOS Commencement Credential = 7 or 8 Assessments</p> <p>c. <u>STEM (Mathematics) Pathway⁽²⁾ Combination</u>: ELA, 1 social studies 4 mathematics, 2 science (1 must be life science and 1 must be physical science) = 8 Assessments</p> <p>d. <u>STEM (Science) Pathway⁽²⁾ Combination</u>: ELA, 1 social studies, 3 mathematics, 3 science (1 must be life science and 1 must be physical science) = 8 Assessments</p> <p>In addition a student must pass either a locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE* examination or complete a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE. http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD</p>
Regents with Advanced Designation with an annotation that denotes Mastery in Math	All Student Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives. In addition, a student must earn an additional 2 units of credit in LOTE** or a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE. These credits can be included in the 22 required credits. • Assessment: Meets all assessment requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) and, in addition, scores 85 or better on each of 3 Regents examinations in mathematics See 100.5(b)(7)(x) http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD
Regents with Advanced Designation with an annotation that denotes Mastery in Science	All Student Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives. In addition, a student must earn an additional 2 units of credit in LOTE** or a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE. These credits can be included in the 22 required credits. • Assessment: Meets all assessment requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) and, in addition, scores 85 or better on each of 3 Regents examinations in science See 100.5(b)(7)(x) http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regentsAD
Regents with Advanced Designation with Honors	All Student Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives. In addition, a student must earn an additional 2 units of credit in LOTE** or a 5 unit sequence in the Arts or CTE. These credits can be included in the 22 required credits.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment: Meets all assessment requirements for the Regents diploma with advanced designation (see above) with a computed average score of 90 or better (no more than 2 Department approved alternatives may be substituted and will not count in the computed average) <p>Note: The locally developed Checkpoint B LOTE* examination is not included in the computed average. http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#diplomaHonors</p>
Local Diploma (through Appeal)	All Student Populations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Credit: 22 units of credit distributed as follows: 4 ELA, 4 social studies, 3 science, 3 mathematics, ½ health, 1 arts, 1 language other than English (LOTE)*, 2 physical education, 3 ½ electives. • Assessment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 3 required Regents exams with a score of 65 or better and 2 Regents exams with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7) as follows: 1 Math, 1 Science, 1 Social Studies, ELA, <u>and</u> 1 Pathway Assessment⁽²⁾ ; or ○ 2 required Regents exams with a score of 65 or better and 2 Regents exams with a score of 60-64 for which an appeal is granted by the local district per Commissioner’s Regulation 100.5(d)(7) as follows: 1 Math, 1 Science, 1 Social Studies, ELA, <u>and</u> meet all the requirements for the CDOS Commencement Credential <p>Note: Non Regents Pathway exams are not subject to the Appeal process. http://www.p12.nysed.gov/part100/pages/1005.html#regpasscore http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/gradreq/CurrentAppealForm.pdf</p>

Footnotes:

* Students with a disability may be excused from the LOTE requirement if so indicated on the IEP but must still earn 22 units of credit to graduate.

** Students with a disability who are excused from the LOTE requirement per their IEP need not complete a 5-unit sequence in the Arts or CTE in order to meet the requirements for the Regents Diploma with Advanced Designation.

1 In all cases students may substitute an assessment from the list of Department Approved Alternative Examinations Acceptable for Meeting Requirements for a Local or Regents Diploma found at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/hsgen/archive/list.pdf>

2 Pathway Assessment Options: All students must pass the following 4 required Regents exams or the corresponding Department approved alternative examination found at

<http://www.p12.nysed.gov/assessment/hsgen/archive/list.pdf>: 1 math Regents exam, 1 science Regents exam, 1 social studies Regents exam, and the English language arts Regents exam. In **addition** all students must choose 1 of the following options:

- Complete all the requirements for the CDOS Commencement Credential found here <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/specialed/publications/CDOScredential-memo-613.htm> ; or
- Pass an additional math Regents exam in a different course or Department Approved Alternative; or
- Pass an additional science Regents exam in a different course or Department Approved Alternative; or
- Pass an additional social studies Regents exam in a different course or Department Approved Alternative ; or
- Pass an additional English assessment in a different course selected from the Department Approved Alternative list; or
- Pass an approved CTE Assessment after successfully completing an approved CTE program
- Pass a Department approved pathway assessment in the Arts⁽⁴⁾
- Pass a Department approved pathway assessment in a Language other than English (LOTE)

The additional assessment must measure a different course than that which was measured by one of the four required exams above, or an approved pathway assessment in the Arts, CTE or LOTE found at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/>

The Department is working to identify Pathway assessments in LOTE. When those examinations are identified they will be posted at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/ciai/multiple-pathways/>

3 The low pass (55-64) option for general education students to earn a local diploma has been phased out and students who entered high school in 2008 and thereafter no longer have access to this option. There may still be students in the K-12 system that entered grade 9 in 2007 or earlier and still have access to this option.

STUDENT AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Each year a number of students receive formal recognition for excellence in academic service and athletic activities. Outstanding achievement is recognized by honors conferred at the end of the school year. The criteria for receiving the awards and scholarships listed below are available at the school office. All seniors will receive a “senior packet” in the spring of senior year detailing the criteria for local scholarships. The following are some of the awards and scholarships currently presented to qualified students:

- BD Remodeling & Restoration Scholarship
- Fishers Island Community Scholarship Funds, managed by St. John’s Church
- Fishers Island Teachers Association: Scholarship Award
- Fishers Island Teachers Association: School & Community Service Award
- Fishers Island Teachers Association: Special Merit Award
- Dr. William Gallaher Science Award (Island Health Project-IHP)
- Dr. Ralph K. Hoch Scholar Athlete Award (IHP)
- Barrie Fiske Scholarship (IHP)
- Dr. Edwin and Katherine Horning Scholarship (Union Chapel)
- Mary Ski Community Service Award (Our Lady of Grace Church)
- SCOPE Scholarship

- Southold Town Republican Club Scholarship
- Valhalla Scholarship
- Fishers Island Lemonade
- Southold Town Democratic Club Scholarship

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Students are encouraged to participate in school and community service activities which require leadership roles and personal goals for the future. Recognition is provided to all students who have provided a valuable service to their school and community. Students in grades 7-12 are expected to meet community service requirements in order to participate in special week-long field trips that occur every other school year.

Examples of community service include assisting Seniors at the Fishers Island Senior luncheons and/or with lawn care, snow removal, etc., working with the Island People’s Project (IPP), participating in community activities such as ‘Coastal Clean-up Day’, helping at the Fishers Island Library or other public libraries, volunteering to help with Special Olympics or Ronald McDonald House, and assisting at Lawrence and Memorial Hospital or other hospitals/health care facilities.

It is always best to ask ahead of time so that the service credit is not denied. To get credit for the service, you must get pre-approval from a teacher along with a signature by an adult supervisor in the community organization. Ten hours of community service are required for the Upper Level School Trip, conducted every two years. Community service confirmation forms are available from the school secretary and are also available on the school web site.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS AND PROCEDURES

STUDENT DRESS CODE

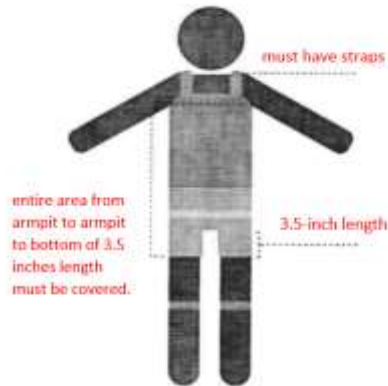
(Pending BoE Approval on September 15, 2021)

All students are expected to give proper attention to personal cleanliness and to dress appropriately for school and school functions. Students and their parents/guardians have the primary responsibility for ensuring acceptable student dress and appearance at school and school-sponsored activities. Teachers and all other district personnel should exemplify and reinforce acceptable student dress and help students develop an understanding of appropriate appearance in the school setting.

Fishers Island Union Free School District respects student’s rights to express themselves in the way they dress. All students who attend Fishers Island Union Free School District are also expected to respect the school community by dressing appropriately for a PreK-12 educational environment. Student attire should facilitate participation in learning as well as the health and safety of students and the adults that supervise them. This policy is intended to provide guidance for students, staff and parents.

Minimum requirements for student dress:

1. Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down to at least 3.5 inches in length on the upper thighs (see image below). Tops must have shoulder straps. Rips or tears in clothing must be lower than the 3.5 inches in length.
2. Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for the school environment (slippers shall not be worn, except for school activities approved by the school principal).
3. See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the criteria of #1 in this list
4. Headgear including hats, hoodies, and caps are not allowed unless permitted for religious, medical, or other reason deemed appropriate by school administration.
5. Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniform or safety gear.



Additional Requirements:

1. Clothing may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate illegal violent, or lewd conduct, weapons, or the use of alcohol, marijuana, or controlled substances.
Clothing may not depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.
2. Clothing may not display or imply vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene language or images.
3. Clothing may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
4. Sunglasses may not be worn inside the building.
5. Clothing and accessories that endanger students or staff safety may not be worn.
6. Apparel, jewelry, accessories, tattoos, or manner of grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, or any other attribute, denotes membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior is prohibited.

The administration reserves the right to determine what constitutes appropriate attire. Students who do not adhere to these guidelines will not be allowed to attend class until appropriate attire is acquired. Parents will be called if appropriate clothing is not available or the student refuses to wear dress-code appropriate clothing.

Adoption date: September 15, 2021 (pending)

STUDENT SEARCHES AND INTERROGATION

Student lockers, desks, and other such equipment are not the private property of students but the property of the school district, and, as such, may be opened and subject to inspection from time to time by the Principal. Under special circumstances, the Principal may search students (for example, if there is reasonable suspicion that a student possesses illegal matter, such as a dangerous instrument, weapon, or illegal drugs). Students must be aware that such items are forbidden both on school property AND at school-related activities and on school transportation including school vans/bus and the Fishers Island Ferry or Popeye Commuter Boat used for some athletic and field trips and special circumstances. Students, parents, faculty and staff may access the Student Searches and Interrogations policy in the school's main office.

STUDENT CELL PHONE AND PERSONAL DEVICE USE

School telephones are to be used only for school business and emergencies. Cell phones, smart phones and iPods are not to be used during class periods without teacher permission. Reasonable levels of cell phone use are permissible before school, between classes, and during after-school homework hall.

Students are allowed to use personal devices or smart phones for listening to music while doing their work in study hall or homework hall. Inappropriate use of these devices will result in the loss of this privilege.

USE OF SKATEBOARDS, SCOOTERS AND ROLLERBLADES

Skateboards, scooters, and rollerblades may be used outside the school building. If a student uses these items in the building, they will be confiscated and held until a parent comes to school and collects them.

STUDENT AUTOMOBILE USE

Students with valid drivers' licenses and parental permission are eligible to drive to school and park on school grounds. Driving to school is a privilege. Misuse of driving privileges may lead to revocation of this privilege.

STUDENT LUNCH

Students are expected to bring a lunch as well as snack on every full day of school. **Until further notice, due to COVID-19, students will not be allowed use of the school refrigerators or heating appliances (ovens, microwaves, etc). Students will only be permitted to eat in designated eating areas under the supervision of a school staff or faculty member.**

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Due to COVID-19, extracurricular activities may be modified for the 2021-2022 school year. Please look for additional information regarding each sport and/or activity as the school year progresses. The Fishers Island School offers a variety of co-curricular and extracurricular activities. Participation in such activities provides students with experience in building social relationships, developing interest in an academic area, and gaining an understanding of the responsibilities of good citizenship and sportsmanship.

All organizations and groups within the school must have a faculty member or qualified adult assigned as an advisor or coach. No meeting or use of school facilities will take place without the advisor present. Examples of some of the activities include: student council, yearbook, stand-up paddleboard classes, drama club, softball club, and fitness club. Cross country, basketball, and golf are offered for upper level students. There is also an annual drama production. Students who wish to initiate a new club are encouraged to submit a proposal to the school principal.

STUDENT FUND RAISING

Beginning in 7th grade, classes are expected to conduct fundraisers to raise money to fund their senior class trip. Traditionally, seniors take a week-long trip during the school's spring vacation. The students work with their senior adviser to determine a destination that they can afford and enjoy. The students are accompanied on this trip by two adult chaperones.

Fundraising Roles and Responsibilities Parents

Parents are encouraged to assist the students with raising these funds. The first step you would take is to introduce a specific idea to the students' class adviser for the year.

Students

Students are expected to take a leadership and active role in raising the funds to meet their senior class trip goal. By working as a team, they can share responsibilities and spread their fundraising efforts across all six of their secondary school years.

Staff Advisers

It is the class adviser's responsibility to approve all fundraising proposals prior to submission to the school principal. The adviser's role is to help the students with communicating and planning the fundraising event(s).

To Submit a Fundraising Proposal

1. A student and/or parent with a fundraising idea checks all of the classes' fundraising website pages and the school's website calendar to be certain there is not a conflict or duplication of another fundraiser.
2. If there is no date and/or idea conflict, the student and/or parent proposes it to the class and adviser through a class meeting.

3. If approved by the class, the adult taking responsibility for the fundraiser completes a fundraising activity form and submits it to the class adviser. The adult taking responsibility is expected to supervise the fundraising activity.
4. The class adviser submits the proposal form to the school principal. The responsible adult and adviser will receive a copy of the approved/disapproved activity.

During and After the Fundraiser

1. All students in a class are expected to support the fundraiser in some way.
2. The adult taking responsibility for the fundraiser must be present to assist and supervise the students.
3. The adult and class treasurer must count any monies received during the fundraiser and the adult must safeguard the funds until they can be given to the school secretary. The school secretary will provide a receipt that must be signed by the class treasurer.
4. All monies collected must be deposited. Any adults who are owed monies for fundraiser-related supplies must submit to the school's business office a reimbursement request form with receipts. Under no circumstances may a person be reimbursed from funds collected at the fundraiser.
5. The school secretary deposits the funds into the class's account. The class treasurer is responsible for maintaining a record of class funds earned to be verified with the school business manager on a regular basis.

The following grades will have priority over the listed fundraising activities. **Activities may be postponed or cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions:**

Grade	Activity
7 th Grade	Spring Concert Dinner
8 th Grade	Play Dinner
9 th Grade	Dessert Auction (Spring Concert) Holiday Concert Dinner
10 th Grade	Dessert Auction (Holiday Concert) School Store
11 th Grade	Spring Golf Tournament at Hay Harbor
12 th Grade	Fall Golf Tournament at Hay Harbor Holiday Wreaths Mobil Dock Soda Machine

STUDENT FIELD TRIPS

Due to COVID-19, field trips have been cancelled until further notice.

Class Field Trips: Faculty is encouraged to plan field trips which enrich educational programs. These trips are part of the curriculum and must be attended.

School Class Trips: In alternate years grades 7-12 make a five-day, four-night trip to places such as Washington, DC, Boston, MA, and New York City to expand their educational horizons. Each student is required to complete two (2) hours of community service for each day he/she is on a trip. See guidelines for Community Service on page 21.

Senior Class Trips: The school supports and encourages each senior class to raise money for a trip during spring vacation of their senior year in high school. Their advisor, the Principal/Superintendent and the school board must approve the destination of the trip and establish the expectations for the students on the trip. The class advisor is responsible for reviewing with the seniors suggestions for the trip, behavioral expectations, and expenditures and Policy 5251 and Policy 4531-R, and serving as a trip chaperone.

World-Language Trips: The school recently piloted an exchange program with La Coruna, Spain, through *Adastra*. Juniors and Seniors who successfully participated in advanced Spanish classes were eligible to participate. Students from La Coruna attended school at FIS in September 2015 and students from FIS attended school in La Coruna in February 2016. The Board of Education may elect to offer this experience every other year and determine if it will be an exchange or traditional field trip experience.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETICS

The school offers sports for boys and girls in grades 7-12. A no-cut policy ensures full participation regardless of ability. The main goal is to allow each student the chance to experience and enjoy the rewards of sports. Interscholastic sports include cross country, basketball, and golf. For details, please read the Athletic section of this handbook. **Due to COVID-19, extracurricular activities may be modified for the 2021-2022 school year. Please look for additional information regarding each sport and/or activity as the school year progresses**

SPECTATOR SPORTSMANSHIP AT INTERSCHOLASTIC SPORTING EVENTS

The Fishers Island School District expects the same behavior of all spectators at school-sponsored sports events that it expects of its staff and students during the regular school day. Spectators at sports events who do not abide by school guidelines will, in the first instance, be reminded of their obligation, and in the second instance, be asked to leave the event.

SCHOOL CEREMONIES AND OBSERVANCES

The school district recognizes the value of certain ceremonies and observances in promoting patriotism and good citizenship among the students. Therefore, activities in schools commemorating national holidays such as Memorial Day, Thanksgiving Day and President's Day are encouraged.

ASSEMBLIES AND VIKING VOYAGES

Student assemblies and guest speakers arranged as part of our Viking Voyage program are seen as part of the overall educational process. Assemblies will be appropriate to the education experience as defined by the Board of Education and reflect our School's educational mission.

STUDENT SAFETY

NOTIFICATION OF SEX OFFENDERS

Pursuant to Megan's Law (the Sex Offender Registration Act), the Fishers Island School District shall cooperate with local law enforcement in its efforts to notify the school when a person with a history of sex offenses against a child is being paroled or released into the community.

CHILD ABUSE IN AN EDUCATIONAL SETTING

Children have the right to an educational setting that does not threaten their physical and emotional health and development. Child abuse by school personnel and school volunteers violates this right and therefore is strictly prohibited. Parents who believe that their child has been abused by employees or volunteers of the district should immediately notify appropriate school and law enforcement authorities.

STUDENT DISMISSAL

No student may be released from school to anyone other than the parent, guardian or child protective services personnel and law enforcement officers pursuant to law, unless the name of the individual seeking release of the student appears on a list provided by the parent or guardian.

Parents are urged to make appointments with physicians, dentists, special tutors, etc. during after school hours. If a request for early dismissal is necessary, parents should make note of the date, time and reason for the release. Children cannot be excused without advanced written request by the parent/guardian and must be released in care of parent/guardian, unless otherwise noted.

A student may be released to either parent unless a custodial parent supplies the Superintendent/Principal with a certified copy of a court order or divorce decree to the contrary.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS

In cases of severe weather or mechanical failure which will require the school to be closed prior to the arrival of students and staff, all students, parents and teachers will be notified by the district's automated phone calling system. Families and staff will be called no later than 6:00 AM. School closings, late starts and/or early dismissals will also be posted on the school website, sent by e-mail to students, faculty and staff, and by phone call through our School Messenger global communication system.

Students, families, and staff will be notified the day before (if possible) in the event of a Remote Learning Day. Remote Learning days will occur due to health closings or adverse weather if possible.

SECURITY CAMERAS

To safeguard students, staff, and the school facility/grounds, security cameras have been purchased through a state grant and installed in the school's hallways and at doorways in addition to some outdoor areas.

EMERGENCY HOMES

In the event that the ferry cannot make a trip, emergency homes will be provided for all mainland students on Fishers Island and all Island students in Connecticut.

ACCIDENT PREVENTION AND SAFETY PROCEDURES

To ensure the safety of students and employees of the school district while on district property, all students and members of the school community must:

- Immediately report any conditions involving equipment or buildings which may be dangerous to student or employee health or welfare
- Immediately report any unsafe practices by anyone in the building or on the grounds.

STUDENT HEALTH SERVICES

The School's Health Service program supports your student(s)' academic success by promoting health in the school setting.

Immunizations:

Vaccines	PreK	K and Gr. 1, 2 & 3	Gr. 4& 5	Gr. 6-9	Gr. 10-12
Diphtheria and Tetanus toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine (DTaP/DTP/Tdap/Td)²	4 doses	5 doses or 4 doses If the 4 th does was received at 4 years or older or 3 doses if 7 years or older and the series was started at 1 year or older			3 doses
Tetanus and Diphtheria toxoid-containing vaccine and Pertussis vaccine booster (Tdap)³	Not Applicable				1 dose
Polio vaccine (IPV/OPV)⁴	3 doses	4 or 3 doses if the 3 rd dose was received a 4 years or older	3 doses	4 or 3 doses if the 3 rd dose was received a 4 years or older	3 doses
Measles, Mumps and Rubella vaccine (MMR)⁵	1 dose	2 doses			

Hepatitis B vaccine ⁶	3 doses	3 doses or 2 doses of adult hepatitis B (Recombivax) for children who received the doses at least 4 months apart between the ages of 11 through 15 years			
Varicella (Chickenpox) vaccine ⁷	1 dose	2 doses	1 dose	2 doses	1 dose
Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (MenACWY) ⁸	Not Applicable			Grades 7 & 8: 1 dose	Grade12: 2 or 1 dose if the dose was received at 16 years of age or older
Haemophilus influenzae type b conjugate vaccine (Hib) ⁹	1 to 4 doses	Not Applicable			
Pneumococcal Conjugate vaccine (PCV) ¹⁰	1 to 4 doses	Not Applicable			

Medications: No prescription drugs shall be administered to students by school personnel unless authorized by a physician and parent/guardian. Nonprescription drugs need parental approval. All medications must be in the original container with a current label. Medication permission forms, Part I & II, can be found on the School web site www.fischool.com

Health Appraisals: A physical examination including Body Mass Index and Weight, Height, and Blood Pressure is required for all newly entering students and students in Pre-Kindergarten or Kindergarten, Grades 2, 4, 7 and 10.

Dental Certificates: A dental certificate is required for all newly entering students and students in Kindergarten, Grades 2, 4, 7 and 10.

Vision: Distance acuity for all newly entering students and students in Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, 3, 5, 7 and 10. Near vision acuity and color perception screening for all newly entering students, or any student who has not had a near vision acuity and color perception screening.

Hearing: Hearing screening for all newly entering students and students in Kindergarten, Grades 1, 3, 5, 7 and 10.

Scoliosis: Scoliosis (spinal curvature) screening for all students in Grades 5 through 9.

FIRE DRILLS AND SCHOOL SAFETY DRILLS

The school shall be responsible for conducting safety drills in order to instruct students and staff in exiting the school building in an emergency in the shortest time possible and without confusion and panic. Per New York state law, the school will also conduct lock-in and lock-out drills during each school year. Drills may include: Shelter in Place, Hold in Place, Evacuation, Lockout, and/or Lockdown, as defined by the NY State Department of Education.

TRANSPORTATION

School-arranged transportation and the Fishers Island Ferry are regarded as extensions of the classroom. Students are required to conduct themselves in a manner consistent with standards for classroom behavior. Excessive noise, pushing, shoving, and fighting will not be tolerated.

If a student does not conduct himself/herself properly, such instances shall be brought to the attention of the Principal. Socializing with other passengers on the ferry is discouraged. A staff member is assigned to supervise the ferry in the mornings and afternoons and is available to assist students. The staff member assigned to the supervise the afternoon ferry will stay 15 minutes after arrival in New London. They will then escort the student to the Fishers Island Ferry terminal and alert the parent and school. Students will be expected to stay in the terminal until parent pickup.

The school will not provide supervision or transportation for any other mode of transportation other than the Fishers Island Ferry.

VISITORS TO THE SCHOOL

Due to COVID-19 and our increased safety precautions, we will not be allowing visitors into the school building during school hours. Please call the school's main office if you need to contact a faculty/staff member or student during the school day at 631-788-7444.

As always, to maintain school safety, students are not allowed to let any visitors into the school building.

USE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES

Due to COVID-19 and increased safety precautions, we will be limiting the use of facilities for outside entities. For additional information please contact the Principal Christian Arsenault at 631-788-7444.

NOTIFICATIONS

STATEMENT OF NONDISCRIMINATION/ANTI-HARASSMENT

No person either alone or with others, shall intimidate, harass, or discriminate against any person on the basis of race, color, religion, nationality, sex, age or disability. In accordance with the New York Dignity for All Students Act (DASA) discrimination and/or harassment or bullying are prohibited. Beware that DASA includes cyber-bullying. More information on DASA can be found on this website <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/dignityact/> Page 8 of this handbooks describes DASA in more detail.

ACCESS TO STUDENT RECORDS

This is to advise you of your rights with respect to student records pursuant to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). FERPA is a federal law designed to protect the privacy of student records. The law gives parents and students over 18 years of age the following rights:

1. The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the district receives a request for access. A written request must identify the records to be inspected.

2. The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes is inaccurate or misleading.
3. The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent.
4. The right to file a complaint with the US Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the district to comply with the requirements of FERPA.

MILITARY RECRUITER AND INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING

Pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, the school district must disclose to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon request, the names, addresses and telephone numbers of high school students. You and your child have the right to request that the district not release such information without prior written parental consent.

Parents wishing to exercise their option to withhold their consent to the release of the above information to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher learning must sign the Notification form on the last page of this handbook and return it to the school office.

STUDENT PRIVACY

We wish to ensure that student privacy is protected pursuant to the Protection of Pupil rights Amendment, as revised by the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. Fishers Island School will not participate in:

- The collection, disclosure and use of personal information gathered from students for the purpose of marketing or selling that information.
- The administration of any survey revealing information concerning one or more of the following:
 - Political affiliations
 - Social/emotional status
 - Sexual behavior or attitudes
 - Illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating or demeaning behavior
 - Religious practices, affiliations or beliefs
 - Income
- The administration of any non-emergency, invasive physical examination or screening that is required as a condition of attendance. It does not apply to any physical exam or screening required or permitted under state law.

ATHLETIC AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITY POLICY

The Fishers Island Union Free School District, through policy and action, supports the belief that a strong program of co-curricular activities provides a balance in educational programming for its students. Athletic competition, by its nature, contributes to greater student awareness of self-discipline, a growth in emotional maturity, and an increasing realization of the worth of the

individual. Students should learn that participation in co-curricular activities is not only a privilege but is also an honor that requires responsibility for maintaining one's academic standing in the classroom and for maintaining a high standard of conduct in and outside of school hours. Finally, we realize that a student's participation in interscholastic athletics and co-curricular activities could very well influence the overall quality of his/her life. For this reason, we are committed to excellence in all of our programs.

SCHOOL ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

The Fishers Island School Athletic Program is proud to have you as a student athlete participating in our outstanding programs. Interscholastic and intramural sports activities provide many opportunities for you to grow and develop as a young person. As a student-athlete, your performance on the field and your behavior and actions off the field reflect on the entire athletic program and the reputation of your school and fellow classmates. Your behavior contributes to the overall perceptions of those who know you as well as to those who don't know you personally but consider you to be a representative of your school. The Board of Education, the Superintendent/Principal, teachers, staff, parents, and fellow classmates expect you, as a student athlete, to conduct yourself in a manner consistent with the rules of the School and in keeping with the philosophy of the Athletic Program. You are encouraged by all who support you to set high goals for your own performance, but to remember at all times that you are a member of an athletic team who, with your fellow student-athletes, can perform admirably to make your school proud of you and your sports program.

ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY FOR PARTICIPATION IN ATHLETICS AND CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

The academic success of our students is our primary purpose. Extracurricular activities, however, are a very important part of our overall educational program. It is expected that all students will maintain passing grades and that they and their parents will be kept apprised of academic progress through the PowerSchool Parent Portal as well as teacher communication.

During any quarterly marking period, there are two progress points and finally, the issuance of the report card. If at any of these points a student is receiving **any weighted grade average(s) below a "70"**. The school's Student Success Team (Principal, School Counselor, School Secretary, Athletic Director and member of the teaching staff) will meet the week leading up to a progressing reporting date to determine students that have fallen into this category. A member of the Student Success Team will then conference with the student and discuss the specifics placing them into this category to inform them that a "Co-Curricular Academic Support Program" will be in place until the following progress point. An email will go out to parents/guardians informing them of the student's status. Student's will work with their teacher for the next week until the progress reporting date and ineligibility becomes official.

The Co-Curricular Academic Support Program does not allow for sports or co-curricular participation until the grade average is raised to a level above a weighted grade of 70. Once that class grade(s) average is achieved, the grade may not fall below a weighted grade of 70 again during the quarter for the student to remain academically eligible for participation that

quarter. To support the student's academic improvement, each student will be required to attend a full-session, supervised homework hall after school each day until the grade average reaches and sustains a weighted grade of 70 or better. Once a student achieves the standard for participation, that student must sustain that performance level for the remainder of the quarterly marking period in order to remain involved in the activity/sport.

During a student's participation in the Co-Curricular Academic Support Program, the Athletic Director and Guidance Counselor will work collaboratively to monitor the student's progress and the Athletic Director will keep the student connected in other ways to the athletic community.

ATHLETIC HEALTH APPRAISAL

A current physical examination (within the past 13 months) is required for all students prior to participation in school athletic teams.

GENERAL EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENT-ATHLETES

Athletic activities that a school may choose to offer are an extension of the educational experience. Therefore, participation is voluntary and is a privilege. Those who choose to participate must be aware of the behavior guidelines for the Fishers Island School athletic programs and each participant is expected to operate within the framework of these rules and regulations.

In general, the student-athlete is expected to...

- Be courteous to visiting teams and officials at all times.
- Play hard and to the limit of his/her ability and keep a positive attitude; the *true* athlete does not give up, nor does he/she quarrel, cheat, bet, or grandstand.
- Be modest when successful and be gracious in defeat; a true sportsman does not offer excuses for failure.
- Maintain a high degree of physical fitness by observing team and training rules conscientiously.
- Demonstrate loyalty to the school by maintaining a satisfactory scholastic standing and by participating in and supporting other school activities.
- Play for the love of the sport.
- Recognize that he/she is representing the school and should exemplify and follow the guidelines set forth by the coaching staff as well as the behavior rules of the School during and after school.
- Maintain satisfactory academic standards and regular school attendance.

Parent/Student Signature Form

PLEASE SIGN AND RETURN TO MRS. MROWKA ON September 1, 2021

I/We have read and understand the contents of the Parent Student Handbook. I/We will contact the school if I/We have any questions.

Student Signature (s):

Grade: _____

Parent(s)/Guardian signature:
