



Fair Oaks Elementary School

PARENT HANDBOOK

2011-2012

Stacey Aprile, Principal
Janet Hamby, Vice Principal
151 N. Lee Ave.
Oakdale, CA 95361
209-847-0391

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Fair Oaks Parents,

Welcome to Fair Oaks Elementary School! Whether your child/children are new to our school or are returning students, we all look forward to working with your entire family this school year. I hope this handbook answers some of your questions about Fair Oaks.

Administrators and teachers everywhere recognize the important contribution parents make toward a child's success in school. There is no question about it...success at school begins at home. Parents are the single most important variable in a child's schooling. Parents model both a silent and spoken language in front of their children daily. They have taught their children values through how they spend their time and money.

One of the most important components of a good school is the partnership between the educators and the parents who work together in the best interest of children. Our school has a tradition of supportive, hard-working parents. Throughout the year you have the opportunity to develop that partnership between home and school. There are many opportunities for you to volunteer to assist the school in meeting its program goal of providing quality educational experiences for our children. Be involved in your child's school. Join the PTA, volunteer in the classroom, attend School Site Council meetings, read to your child. Let your child know that you think his or her school is very important.

As we begin the new school year, we find teachers emphasizing school standards and rules. In the most successful elementary classrooms, teachers have established specific routines for the children to follow. These routines, blended with the teacher's consistent standards, form a smooth-running classroom where the children have the security of understanding their environment. Fair Oaks staff members care for each of our students, reinforcing high standards in the classroom and on the playground.

At home, it is also important to provide routines. Many families build a daily "quiet time" when there is no television, but instead an opportunity to practice school work or read. During this time, a suitable place, free of distraction, should be available. The routine of daily quiet time provides an opportunity to stimulate the imagination, develop self-discipline, and enhance reading skills. Routines can also make completing chores easier on both children and parents. If children are consistently expected to complete a routine household duty at the same time on the same day in the same place, they soon begin to develop a responsibility for their commitment and contribution to the family.

As families establish routines for the new school year, it is helpful to keep in mind that childhood is a special time of learning, exploration, and growth. Children need time to explore their world

and experience the joy of discovery. Hopefully, we can provide time for our children to be children. The realities of the adult world will be there all too soon. As children grow and learn, they find joy and satisfaction in working closely with their families toward a common goal. Such is the case with Fair Oaks students. A commitment, on the part of parents, students, and staff, is the key to our success with the children whom we teach.

It is the hope of the staff and administration that parents will help us fulfill this commitment to excellence on behalf of ALL children at Fair Oaks. The school and home must work together to build skills and knowledge, clarify values, and develop a strong sense of self-worth. Our children are our nation's most valuable resource!

I hope you will access the district's website at www.oakdale.k12.ca.us and the school website at <http://www.oakdale.k12.ca.us/fairoaks/home.htm> - they are full of useful information and resources for parents. The Student Conduct Code and Parent and Student Notification and Information Handbook are also helpful.

I speak for Fair Oaks staff when I say that we all look forward to working with your family to provide an outstanding educational experience for your student(s) this year! Please never hesitate to call the school with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Stacey Aprile, Principal

Important August Dates:

8/17 - 8/24	Student Council Petitions Available
8/18	Picture Day
8/23	Back to School Night
8/24	Principal's Math Test
8/25	Gold Star Math Test

HELPING YOUR CHILD LEARN IS AS EASY AS A-B-C

- Attend parent-teacher conferences and other school events
- Build in time to talk, and listen, to your child every day
- Communicate clearly the dangers of drugs and alcohol
- Don't let your child settle for doing less than his/her best
- Establish a daily family routine that includes scheduled homework and reading time
- Find out the names of school staff members and meet them early in the school year
- Get active in your child's school
- Help your child keep on track with homework daily
- Involve your child in after school activities
- Join the PTC
- Keep good books in your home
- Limit your child's TV viewing to no more than one to two hours daily
- Make sure your child is at school and on time daily
- Notice when your child does something well and praise his/her efforts
- Organize your schedule so you have quality time with your child
- Pay attention to the progress your child is making in school
- Question your child's teacher on how your child is doing in class
- Read to your child every day and have your child read to you

Support school efforts to develop and maintain rules for student discipline
 Tell your child stories about your family and your culture
 Understand what skills your child should be learning at each grade level
 Visit the library regularly
 Write a note or call the teacher with questions
 eXpect and encourage your child to succeed in school
 You are a role model for your child—be sure to be a good example
 Zero in on your child’s talents and help promote those interests

TEACHING STAFF

Principal: Stacey Aprile

Vice Principal: Janet Hamby

Teachers:

Kindergarten:	Jane Burns (a.m.) Jonelle Buzzini (a.m.) Jamie Oliveira (a.m.) Michelle Duttera (p.m.) Dee Jones (p.m.) Michelle Jones (p.m.)	First Grade:	Donna Bryant Kelley Gall Kim Harris Jill Mansfield Kathy Treon Lynn Zunino
Second Grade:	Josh Boek Melissa Franca Stacy Haydn-Myer Becky Peregoy Megan Reisz Crista Seefeldt	Third Grade:	Bob Greenhow Patty Hill Catherine Morman Mike Seefeldt Mary White
Fourth Grade:	Lisa Graham Heather O’Hearn Wendy Petroni	Fifth Grade:	Michelle Danner Niki McCoy Scott Pinkelman Danny Rogers
Sixth Grade:	Keith Burns Vincent Eisman Laura Sanguinetti Tara Vandermark	SDC: Resource: Speech:	Letha McLaurin Vicki Stewart Claudia Spalding

District Personnel -

Band:	Ross McGinnis	GATE:	Brenda Combs
Music:	Cynthia Hofmann	Manager of ASPIRE:	Matt Dillon
Music:	Kathy Larson	Nurse:	Nancy Adian
Psychologists:	Rosie Baker and Kristen Hoagland		

District Website: www.oakdale.k12.ca.us

School Website: <http://www.oakdale.k12.ca.us/fairoaks/home.htm>

DAILY SCHEDULE

KINDERGARTEN	
Morning	8:00 a.m. - 11:25 a.m.
Afternoon	10:51 a.m. - 2:16 p.m.
GRADES 1-6	8:00 a.m. - 2:16 p.m.

MINIMUM DAY PROCEDURE

A.M. Kindergarten - No change from regular schedule

P.M. Kindergarten - Attend morning session 8:00 a.m. to 11:25 a.m. (unless otherwise stated)

ALL PM KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS WILL ATTEND AM KINDERGARTEN ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

8/23, 9/14, 10/6, 10/14, 10/21, 10/25, 11/23, 12/16, 1/30, 2/14, 3/22, 5/2, 5/10, 5/24.

GRADES 1-6 8:00 a.m. - 11:55 a.m.

Buses will run their normal routes.

FOUR IMPORTANT REMINDERS

The Fair Oaks parking lot is NOT a loading zone - please park. Also, the bus loading zone in front of the school is off limits to vehicular traffic. Violators will be reported to the Oakdale Police Department.

Due to safety and health concerns, no animals are allowed on school grounds without prior approval from a teacher or administrator.

No homemade foods are allowed to be distributed to students.

Students are to keep their hands and feet to themselves at all times.

Thank you for your respect and compliance, and for helping to keep our school orderly and our students safe!

ATTENDANCE

The Oakdale Joint Unified Board of Trustees requires that each student be present at school a minimum of 85% of the days in which they are enrolled in the school year to qualify for promotion at the end of the year.

ABSENCES - Regular daily attendance increases any child's educational opportunities. Any day or any part of a day that a student misses school means instruction and learning opportunities are lost. Of course, no child who is ill should attend school, but in all other cases youngsters should be in school, as provided by State law. Parents should contact the school no later than 8:15 a.m. if a student will be absent.

Students will have an opportunity to make up the work missed. Parents who would like to pick up work assigned should notify the office by 8:30 a.m. to enable the teacher to prepare the packet to be picked up in the office after 2:20 p.m.

LEAVING SCHOOL DURING SCHOOL DAY - Students required to leave school during the school day must have parent or guardian permission. For the protection of the students, adults must sign the student out in the office.

TARDINESS – Tardiness (being late) is a major concern and should be actively discouraged by parents. In fact, laws, which govern school attendance, state that it is the responsibility of the parents to see that their child is in school daily and on time each day. Every day begins with valuable instruction, and it is extremely important that your child be here. Teachers carefully structure each lesson. When a student is late, not only is important instruction missed, but the other students in the class are also disrupted. All students arriving late for any reason must check into the school office before going to class. At this time the late arrival is noted on the student's attendance record. Any student who is tardy will not be eligible for a perfect attendance award at the end of the trimester. After three tardies, a student may be assigned recess detention.

UNEXCUSED ABSENCES – When a student misses school for a reason other than illness or medical appointment, it is recorded as an unexcused absence. Such absences are monitored very closely and parents will receive phone calls and letters from the school explaining their responsibilities and the consequences of unexcused absences.

INDEPENDENT STUDY – Students can earn credit for work done on independent study when absent from school for other than illness or medical appointment. This type of arrangement must be requested in advance of the planned activity and is subject to review by the teacher and the principal. Parents should contact the school no fewer than 5 days prior to a planned absence. **ALL WORK ASSIGNED MUST BE TURNED IN WHEN THE STUDENT RETURNS TO SCHOOL. THIS IS MONITORED CAREFULLY. INDEPENDENT STUDY MAY BE GIVEN FOR UP TO 10 SCHOOL DAYS. ALL DAYS IN EXCESS MUST BE APPROVED BY THE SCHOOL BOARD IN ADVANCE.**

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

PROGRESS REPORTING – Reporting a child's progress is always done on an individual basis. Aside from the many phone calls, notes, and classroom work folders being sent home, report cards go home at the conclusion of each of the three trimesters. Additional progress reports by teachers are made during the middle of each trimester, as needed. Formal parent conferences are held at the conclusion of the first trimester. If a parent or teacher feels that additional conferences are necessary, conferences are arranged as soon as possible so that we will be able to work together to help the child. Trimesters end 10/28/11, 2/17/12, and 5/24/12. Trimester 1 report cards will be distributed the week of 11/14/11 during parent conferences, Trimester 2 report cards will go home shortly after the end of the reporting period, and Trimester 3 report cards go home the last day of school. As needed, children with failing grades or slow progress may be contacted by teachers at the mid-trimester point: 9/23/11, 12/16/11, and 4/5/12.

TEXTBOOKS ~ The district has adopted textbooks which are used to provide basic instruction at each grade level. Parents are responsible for lost or damaged textbooks. A textbook contract will be given to parents, signed, and kept on file at the school.

GRADING SYSTEM

BASIC PHILOSOPHY IN GRADING PRACTICES – The basic philosophy in evaluation of achievement and behavior includes the following principles:

Grades are recorded primarily as a means of evaluation and should be sufficient in number to justify the grade reported.

The value of grading lies in the desire to help pupils, parents, and teachers see how the pupil is progressing in comparison to established standards.

Grades are not intended to be and should not be used as an instrument of punishing undesirable behavior.

Rarely should a pupil be surprised by the grade he/she receives.

Systematically and often, as a given situation requires, the teacher should remind pupils of the criteria which govern the assignment of these grades and should keep pupils informed as to their status and progress. Grading standards will be followed as closely as possible.

Teachers of the same subject or in the same grade in school will grade comparably.

Grades should not be affected by short excused absences provided that work and tests are made up.

GRADES ON REPORT CARDS:

Our report cards are standards-based. These report cards show progress toward meeting the standard, as well as achievement and effort grades. Please note the comment section on the report card. In this area teachers identify individual student behavior and academic issues.

STANDARDIZED TESTING

The following tests shall be administered each year:

- A. The Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) Program to all 2-6 students.
This includes the California Standards Test.
- B. The California Test of Physical Fitness to all fifth grade students.
- C. The STAR Writing test to all fourth grade students

Test scores are very important. They help the school provide differentiated services to students, and they may even help place students in junior high courses.

HOMEWORK

PHILOSOPHY - Homework is designed to provide additional practice in concepts that have been taught in the classroom. Major, long-term assignments may extend throughout weekends and holidays. Research papers or projects may be assigned (grades 3-6) with specific criteria for completion, including date due. However, daily homework assignments that extend through weekends and holidays are discouraged unless special circumstances exist. Reports must be turned in on time unless pre-arranged with the teacher.

HOMEWORK IS ASSIGNED REGULARLY FOR MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY EVENINGS.

Homework assignments should not exceed an average of the following times:

- 1st Grade - 20 minutes daily or 80 minutes per week.
- 2nd Grade - 30 minutes daily or 120 minutes per week.
- 3rd Grade - 40 minutes daily or 160 minutes per week.
- 4th Grade - 50 minutes daily or 200 minutes per week.
- 5th Grade - 60 minutes daily or 240 minutes per week.
- 6th Grade - 70 minutes daily or 280 minutes per week.

Any unfinished class assignments should not be considered as homework, but will be expected to be completed in addition to regular assigned homework.

Should a child forget his/her homework, he/she can check custodians and receive assistance in obtaining the work. Homework is the student's responsibility, and assistance will not be provided on a continuing basis.

PARENT RESPONSIBILITY – Parents are requested to assist their child in homework assignments by:

1. Calling the teacher on any Monday through Thursday afternoon when a student does not bring homework home.
2. Encouraging students to take responsibility for doing assigned work.
3. Helping the student work out a good study schedule.
4. Providing conditions conducive to study.
5. Praising accomplishments.
6. Working with the student by drilling with flashcards, reading with them, suggesting reference material or other resources, and studying for tests.
7. Providing positive support for the teacher and the school's program.

EVALUATION AND GRADING OF HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENTS – All homework assignments will have a due date. All homework papers will be evaluated and returned to the student. No homework will be given any credit if returned after the due date unless the student was absent on the due date or the student returned on the due date with a note from the parent requesting an extension and including the reason for the requested extension.

RETENTION

Retention is considered very carefully for its appropriateness as an important and necessary remedial and motivational tool in the educational process. The educational interest of the student will be the motivating reason. Teacher, principal and parents shall be involved in the decision process. Reasons for retention are:

- A. A student may be recommended for retention if he/she is failing in his/her academic lessons due to lack of interest and/or effort.
- B. A student may be recommended for retention in order to gain more time for remediation.

GENERAL INFORMATION

INSURANCE – Student insurance is available at the first of the year for a nominal fee. Details will be sent home. Parents may choose to take out insurance, as the district does not carry any insurance on individual students.

LOST AND FOUND – The lost and found is located in the cafeteria. Items of special value will be kept in the office. Parents are asked to put names on clothing and other belongings. Students are encouraged to check for lost articles as soon as possible. The school is not responsible for any lost belongings. Large amounts of money should not be brought to school.

BREAKFAST & LUNCH PROGRAM – Breakfast is served each morning from 7:20 –7:45 a.m. for those children who wish to eat at school. Nutritious hot lunches are available for your youngster in grades one through six. Morning Kindergarten students may eat lunch in the cafeteria after their school day, and afternoon Kindergarten students before their school day. It is the parents' responsibility to provide breakfast and/or lunch money for their child. Charging lunch is for emergencies only and is held to a maximum of three.

Menus are sent home each month. These meals include milk. Breakfast and lunch can be purchased on a monthly, weekly or daily basis. We do encourage you to pay by the month. Students who bring sack lunches can purchase milk separately. Free and reduced price meals are available to families who qualify.

Lunch clerks are instructed to not give change for large bills. It is assumed that if a parent sends a five or ten-dollar bill to school for lunch that the student is expected to purchase lunches for the entire amount. This procedure is followed so that students will not be able to purchase just one lunch and spend the rest of the money in other ways when not actually given permission by the parent.

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL RECREATION – Supervision is provided by the Oakdale Joint Unified School District’s ASPIRE program. Childcare is available from 6:00 a.m. to 7:40 a.m. and from 2:16 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please call 848-4884 for more information.

AFTER SCHOOL INTERVENTION PROGRAM – Remediation and enrichment programs after school may be provided to your child if your child is not mastering grade level objectives. Please call the school for more information and ask for Mr. Dillon.

MESSAGES TO STUDENTS – We are concerned about interrupting classroom instruction. Messages to students will be e-mailed to teachers. We cannot guarantee that messages received after 1:00 p.m. will reach the student that day.

PARKING – Traffic control in front of the school is a major concern throughout the school day. Please do not block the crosswalks or double park. The staff parking lot is for parking only, not loading. Please do not place our children in danger.

CLASSROOM PARTIES – Parties in grades K through 6 shall be limited to a Fall or Winter celebration, Valentine’s Day, Spring celebration, and the last day of school. In addition, class birthday celebrations in kindergarten and first grades are appropriate and will be limited to the last 10 minutes of the day. Do not deliver presents (i.e., balloons, flowers, etc.) to school, as this is very disruptive to our educational program and may cause problem for students with latex allergies. Students are not allowed to take such things on the bus for the ride home. Balloons are especially dangerous on the bus. REMEMBER, NO HOME-PREPARED FOOD!

PETS – Because of the danger to children and due to severe allergic reactions, pets are not permitted on the campus. If pets follow children to school, we try to identify the owner. If an owner is not discovered, an Oakdale Animal Control officer will be called to remove the animal from the premises. In cases where an animal is brought to the classroom, it must be for an educational purpose and with prior approval of the teacher. The animal must be transported to and from school by the parent. No animals may be left at school. In addition, small animals must be properly caged or kept in a safe container. Glass containers are extremely dangerous and should not be used. When in doubt, please check with the school office.

REGISTRATION – To be officially enrolled at the school it is required that a parent provide a current address and AT LEAST two telephone contact numbers. Should this information change, it is the parent’s responsibility to notify the school of the correct information within twenty-four hours. The school will periodically check this information. Any registration card that is incomplete or incorrect will be referred to the principal. Understand that one of the considerations for up-to-date information is the need for parent contact in case of serious injury or illness of the student.

SAFETY – Students are urged to observe every safety precaution on the way to and from school and while at school. Students must report any accident to their own teacher or to the teacher on duty.

The school rules are so designed to help prevent accidents. However, in addition to the school rules, the students are asked to observe the following safety rules:

- A. Walkers
 - 1. Walk on sidewalks.
 - 2. Do not obstruct traffic.
 - 3. Stay away from strangers.
 - 4. Go directly to and from school by the most direct or supervised route.
 - 5. Always be courteous.

- B. Bicycle Riders
 - 1. Always wear a helmet and ride with the traffic.
 - 2. Do not ride double.
 - 3. Walk the bicycle while on the school grounds.
 - 4. Obey all traffic rules that apply to cars.
 - 5. Park all bikes in bike area. All students must bring own lock. School cannot assume responsibility for lost or stolen bikes.
 - 6. Always be courteous.

SCHOOL SERVICES AVAILABLE TO THE COMMUNITY~All school time is allocated to the district-planned instructional program. Therefore, there is no time available for assemblies requested by special interest community organizations or item sales for any non-school fundraisers.

The school would be pleased to distribute informational flyers for organizations through students with **PRIOR PERMISSION** from the district superintendent. Flyers, which have been given clearance for distribution, should be in stacks of 30 and delivered to the school office.

TELEPHONE – The telephone in the office is a business phone. Students may use it only for an emergency call.

TRANSFERS – If you plan to move, please notify the school office in advance so that the transition into the new school will be smooth one. Return all school texts and materials before leaving.

VISITING SCHOOL – Please feel free to visit the school or your child’s classroom. When you arrive, please sign in at the office. You will be given a visitor’s pass to go to classrooms or to be on campus. Individual conferences should not be attempted during class time. An individual conference appointment may be made through the teacher for a time convenient to both the parent and the teacher. Please arrange to pick up any homework outside the class time (please see homework policy).

Children, including siblings of any age, not enrolled at this school may not visit classrooms or attend school-sponsored field trips.

GENERAL RULES

DISCIPLINE - Students are to behave in an orderly manner. This includes traveling to and from school. Respect for parents, teachers and fellow students is expected. Respect for all valid adult

authority at school is required. Sportsmanship as athletes and spectators, neatness and cleanliness in dress and appearance, language and appropriate behavior are expected as well. No fighting, bullying, or other verbal or physical aggression will be tolerated.

Our primary goal in education is to prepare students for a healthy functional life in society. This goal can best be accomplished in a teaching-learning environment, which allows information to be transferred from teacher to student through avenues of interest and challenge in the atmosphere of mutual respect.

Basic student rules are as follows:

1. Respect and obey all adults at school
2. Respect the property of others.
3. Respect the rights of others.
4. No fighting.
5. Use appropriate language at all times.
6. Stay in assigned areas during class, recesses and lunch.
7. Keep the school clean.
8. Never arrive on the school grounds before 7:30 a.m. There is no adult supervision before this time.

Improper student behavior would be considered to be that which interferes with the learning environment, safety of others, and/or the orderly functioning of the school. The correction of improper behavior will be carried out in a positive and effective manner.

The following techniques are utilized in correcting improper student behavior:

- Teacher-student conference
- Teacher-parent conference
- Discipline report to parent to be signed and returned
- After-school or recess detention
- Referral of student to administrator
- Punishment assigned by administrator or teacher
- Suspension from school
- Expulsion from the school district
- Teachers may suspend any pupil from the teacher's class for any violation of Ed. Code 48900 (for the day of suspension and the following day).

ASSEMBLIES - Each trimester an assembly is held to recognize and award students in the areas of good citizenship and academic achievement.

Our primary focus is to enhance self-esteem by recognizing student cooperation, participation, and effort in developing a sense of pride and spirit in their school.

Such rewards may include:

Awesome Athlete	Good Sport Award
Principal's Math Test	Perfect Attendance
Honor Roll	Safety Patrol
Gold Star Math Test	Character
Accelerated Reader	Reading Lists

Other school related awards are given throughout the year, such as Falcons Flying High.

Our trimester award assemblies are scheduled as follows, at 8:30 a.m.:

Trimester 1

Grades 3/4 Tuesday 11/15/11
Grades 5/6 Wednesday 11/16/11
Grades 1/2 Thursday 11/17/11

Trimester 2

Grades 3/4 Tuesday 2/28/12
Grades 5/6 Wednesday 2/29/12
Grades 1/2 Thursday 3/1/12

Trimester 3

Grades 3/4 Monday 5/21/12
Grades 5/6 Tuesday 5/22/12
Grades 1/2 Wednesday 5/23/12

In addition, we have educational assemblies sponsored by our PTA and other assemblies during the year, including:

4/24	8:30 a.m.	K-3	Robinhood (Hampstead Stage Co.)
	1:10 p.m.	K, 4-6	Robinhood (Hampstead Stage Co.)

Join us for our Annual Talent Shows on 5/15 at 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.

STANDARDS – All students will be expected to observe the following standards:

1. Everyone has the right to be safe and happy: students will participate in safe play activities. (Tackle football, karate, riding piggyback, ganging and piling on others will not be permitted).
2. Everyone is in the right place at the right time.
 - When students are not accompanied by a teacher, they will carry a hall pass to gain access to hallways, office, cafeteria, restrooms and drinking fountain areas.
 - Students will eat food only in the cafeteria and designated snack areas (nutritious snacks, please).
 - Students will remain on school grounds at all times unless written parental permission to be elsewhere is on file in the office.
 - Students will line up when the first bell rings, remain in line and will wait quietly to enter the classroom, cafeteria or bus.
3. No one interferes with teaching.
4. No one interferes with learning.
 - Students will cooperate and show respect to others. (arguing, fighting, talking back, ignoring directions, etc. will not be tolerated).
 - Students will leave toys, MP3 players, games, etc. at home.
5. Everyone has respect for the rights of others: students will make proper use of all facilities and property such as restrooms, drinking fountains, playground equipment, books, furniture, etc.
6. Cell phones are for emergency purposes, and for after school use only. Cell phones should be off during the day, and will be confiscated and held for adult pick-up if on during the school day.

BUS ~ Parents should call 847-7003 regarding bus transportation concerns.

CLOSED CAMPUS REGULATIONS – “Closed Campus Policy” means that once a student arrives at school, the student must remain on campus until dismissal from the last class of the day or until excused by parental permission for medical appointment. No student will be allowed to go home for lunch unless written parent authorization is on file in the school office.

DRESS AND GROOMING POLICY – Students and parents need to be aware of the importance of good grooming and its effect upon the learning environment. Good taste is knowing what to wear and when to wear it. Since the home provides the funds, guidance, and upkeep of the pupil’s clothing, parents are primarily responsible for monitoring the student’s grooming. It is the responsibility of the parents to see that grooming reflects the modesty and good taste expected in school. It is especially important for parents to guide students in the choice of their dress for good grooming and for good health. The following dress and grooming requirements are set down for all students:

1. Shoes must be worn which fasten for the purpose of safety, and have a heel guard/strap.
Closed toe shoes must be worn. No open toed shoes at school.
2. Halter tops, strapless tops, and bare midriff tops shall not be worn. Shirts and blouses must be solid, without holes and sewn at the sides. Spaghetti straps must be at least one inch in width.
3. Hair shall be clean and neatly groomed. Only natural hair colors allowed.
4. Hats or caps shall not be worn indoors or in the instructional areas.
5. Attire and adornments that will disrupt the activities of the school shall not be worn.
THIS INCLUDES INAPPROPRIATE WORDS AND PICTURES ON CLOTHING. CLOTHING SHALL NOT ADVERTISE THE USE OF ANY DRUGS OR ALCOHOL.
6. To protect the student, loop earrings should not be worn.
7. Extra-baggy or extra-low cut pants are not permitted. Pants must fit and be worn at the natural waist *so as not to expose undergarments or skin.*
8. No temporary tattoos or body markings allowed.
9. Walking shorts, defined as shorts, mid-thigh (*minimum 4 inch inseam*), hemmed, and not form fitting are acceptable.

PERSONAL ITEMS – Students may not bring toys and games to school for use during recess. Items brought to school for classroom sharing will remain in the classroom at all times.

The school cannot be responsible for personal items if they are lost or stolen. If there is an argument over ownership, the item in question will be confiscated by the principal. Students riding bicycles must bring their own lock and chains. We cannot assume responsibility for lost or stolen bikes.

PROHIBITED ITEMS – Items which are disruptive to school activities are not permitted at school. Such items include, but are not limited to: water balloons, water pistols, MP3 Players, handheld video games, yo-yos, whistles, toys, caps or poppers, other explosive devices, etc. These items disturb classrooms, and create possible unsafe situations for students. These items will be confiscated and returned only upon request by the parent. Some items are prohibited by State law from school grounds: firecrackers, knives, firearms of any type, weapons of any type, tobacco and illegal substances. Possession of these items have serious consequences which will lead to strong disciplinary action at school and/or with proper authorities.

SCHOOL PROPERTY – Students are expected to be responsible for all textbooks, library books, desks and school property issued to them. Loss of books due to theft or other circumstances will not be accepted as an excuse for non-payment or for not completing class assignments. Failure on the part of the student to pay for lost or damaged school property will result in administrative action, which could include withholding report cards. It is important that a student clear all debts promptly. Replacement cost on any new or used textbook that is lost will be charged.

HEALTH SERVICES AND REQUIREMENTS

SCHOOL NURSING SERVICES – Specific health screenings for vision, hearing, scoliosis, etc. are required by State law for students in certain grade levels. A nurse will handle these services and report a problem to you

No first aid treatment will be provided at school for any conditions other than those occurring at school.

IT IS NECESSARY FOR EVERY PARENT TO PROVIDE THE SCHOOL WITH CURRENT TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND EMERGENCY NUMBERS. In the event that the parent or emergency contact cannot be reached by telephone from the school, all serious injury cases will be immediately transported by ambulance to the local hospital. Costs related to this shall be the responsibility of the student's parents.

No student will be excused from physical education without written authorization from a physician.

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS – Unless a written statement is filed annually with the principal by parent or guardian requesting exemption of his/her child from the health examinations, the child will be subject to routine tests at school.

Parents will be required to secure medical examinations for their children in specified areas unless an exemption is filed by the parent, pursuant to the Education code and Health and Safety Code. These areas include the following:

- A. Entry into kindergarten.
- B. No more the 18 months prior to entry into first grade.

IMMUNIZATION RECORD – No person shall be admitted as a pupil of this school district unless he/she has been fully immunized against diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus, poliomyelitis, measles, mumps and rubella in the proper medical manner. Immunizing agents shall be those approved by the State Department. All immunizations must be kept current for continued enrollment. (Ce.5111).

Immunization shall be required before admission. If the parent or guardian of a minor files with the governing board an affidavit stating that such immunization is contrary to his/her beliefs the requirement for immunization will be waived.

If the parent or guardian files with the governing board a written statement by a licensed physician to the effect that the physical condition of the child is such, or medical circumstances relating to the child are such, immunization is not considered safe, indicating the specific nature and probable duration of the medical condition or circumstances which contraindicate immunization, such person shall be exempt from the requirement of immunization to the extent indicated by the physician's statement.

CHILDREN ON MEDICATION AT SCHOOL – All medication taken by students while at school requires a physician’s request and parental permission, obtained at the school site.

The superintendent will designate personnel who may administer medication to students during the course of the school day within the limits of legal provisions of state law.

All medication must be maintained in the school office. Students shall not take medication outside the office without the permission of the principal or the principal’s designee.

It is understood that all prescriptions must remain in the original container with the “PHARMACY LABEL” attached. For all medications, the “physician’s request form” must be completed and kept on file in the school office.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT AND SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS

PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION – The purpose of this organization is to further interest in the school and its activities, to promote school pride, raise funds for the school, and to develop a spirit of cooperation between home and school. All parents who have students enrolled at school may be members. You are cordially invited to attend meetings, held in room 22A at 3:00 p.m. Our meetings are scheduled for: 8/23, 9/28, 10/19, 11/30, 1/11, 2/15, 3/21, 4/18, 5/9, 5/16.

VOLUNTEERS – Parent volunteers enhance opportunities for learning in today’s classroom by increasing individual student assistance. Volunteers may help in other ways, such as working in the P.E. program or with music. Our room parents are very valuable volunteers. If you can help in some way, please contact your child’s teacher or the school office. Volunteers are asked to sign in at the office whenever they are on campus. Passes will be given to be used while on campus. Volunteers may not bring children with them, including field trips.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARENTS – The following guidelines are provided for parents:

1. Cooperate with the child’s teacher and administrator in maximizing student achievement.
Please call the teacher to arrange conferences and observations.
2. Help the child understand and obey all school rules and also insist he/she behave acceptably while going to and from school.
3. Help the child understand and face the consequences of his/her own behavior.
4. Train the child by work and example in the essentials of good citizenship so he/she respects the rights and property of others.
5. Become familiar with the educational program by attending school functions and taking an interest in the child’s school experiences.
6. Notify the school immediately of changes of address or changes of legal custody and obtain a proper school transfer upon changing schools.
7. Recognize that parents are liable for all willful damages to school district properties and for all property belonging to the District and loaned to the student. (Ed. Code 48909).
8. Send your child to school regularly making certain that he/she is well rested and fed and properly clothed for the activities of the day.

SPECIAL SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

ACCELERATED READER – This is an independent reading incentive program designed to help strengthen students’ skills. Students are assessed at their reading level then read books at that level (available for checkout at the school library). Students earn points on comprehension quizzes they

take, and they have a point goal directly related to their individual reading level. Students' goals are trimester goals. In order to meet their goal for the trimester, students must show an average of 80% on comprehension quizzes and meet at least 85% of their assigned goal. Deadlines for AR reading are as follows:

Trimester 1: 10/28/11

Trimester 2: 2/17/12

Trimester 3: 5/11/12

SIXTH GRADE OUTDOOR EDUCATION – Sixth grade students will attend Foothill Horizons Outdoor School from May 8 – 11, 2012. If students choose not to attend, they will attend school that week in a different classroom.

EMERGENCY DRILLS – In adherence with state requirements, we have one fire drill monthly, and we practice earthquake and lockdown drills throughout the year. We also conduct drills in our after school program.

PRINCIPAL'S MATH TEST, GOLD STAR MATH TEST – These are scheduled once per month.

ENGLISH LEARNER PROGRAM – The Oakdale Joint Unified School District provides English Learner (EL) services, as needed from a qualified, certificated teacher. The purpose of this program is to teach English to our non and limited English speaking pupils and to increase the educational opportunities for English Learners.

TITLE I – The District participates in a Title I No Child Left Behind program (NCLB). This federally funded program provides services which are over and above the basic school program. Fair Oaks is a Schoolwide Title I school. Students eligible for Title I help must be full participants in the regular classroom curriculum. Title I services provide additional remediation as needed. Eligibility for Title I is based on both state and local multiple assessments.

LIBRARY/TECHNOLOGY – Our school library consists of many books and reference materials. We also have DVDs, computer software, and internet access. Materials are available for students to borrow. Each class is scheduled into the library on a regular basis. The children receive instruction on using the library, from learning how to care for books to the use of reference materials for writing reports. Students also visit a computer laboratory for technology instruction.

GIFTED LEARNER PROGRAM – The district has a gifted learner program at each elementary school. A committee reviews candidates based on testing results, classroom performance, and teacher/parent recommendation. Placement in the program is optional. Questions regarding this program should be directed to the Vice Principal.

PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES – The school has a Student Study Team process that determines the need for assessments. Parents should contact their child's classroom teacher to start this process. A parent needing to contact the psychologist directly should request this service from the Principal.

SCHOOL BASED PROGRAM (SBP) – The Oakdale Joint Unified School district implements the state School-Based Program. All students are participants in the program which normally provides opportunities for the school to use flexibility to ensure that all students, including students with special needs, receive an enriched program. The greatest benefit of being a SBP

school is the opportunity afforded teachers, other school staff members, the principal, and parents to work together to design and implement a program in which the resources received by the school are coordinated and utilized to ensure that all students acquire the knowledge, the understandings, and the skills of the core curriculum of the district. You may want to become more involved in your child's education by contributing your talents and insights as a member of the School Site Council.

SPEECH THERAPY – The speech program is designed for children with significant speech and language disorders. The major function of the therapist is to identify and diagnose the special problems of children who have speech disabilities and prescribe appropriate therapy to meet the individual needs of the child.

STAFF/STUDENT/PARENT COMPACT

The Fair Oaks Elementary School Community pledges to support the following goals:

- Provide a child-centered learning environment that will empower all students to become lifelong learners and productive members of society.
- Increase the number of students achieving Proficient or Advanced on the English Language Arts section of the Spring 2011 STAR Test.
- Increase the number of students achieving Proficient or Advanced on the Mathematics section of the Spring 2011 STAR Test.

In order to support these goals, Staff, Students, and Parents will work together. The following pledge for Staff, Students, and Parents was reviewed by our school's School Site Council, Parent Teacher Association, and Student Leadership.

Staff Pledge:

I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction.
- Endeavor to motivate each student to learn.
- Have high expectations for each student and help each student to develop a lifelong love of learning.
- Communicate with families about student progress via report cards quarterly and via e-mail, notes, or phone calls as needed.
- Provide a warm, safe, and caring learning environment.
- Provide meaningful, daily homework assignments to reinforce and extend learning, according to Board Policy.
- Participate in professional development opportunities that improve teaching and support the formation of partnerships with families and the community.
- Actively participate in collaborative decision making and consistently work with families and my school colleagues to make our school accessible and welcoming for families in order to help each student achieve the school's high academic standards.
- Respect the school, students, staff, and families.

Student Pledge:

I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Come to school ready to learn and work hard.
- Bring necessary materials, completed assignments, and homework.
- Know and follow school and class rules.
- Ask for help when I need it.
- Communicate regularly with my parents and teachers about school experiences so that they can assist me to be successful in school.
- Limit my TV watching and video game playing and instead study or read and participate in extra-curricular activities every day after school.
- Respect the school, classmates, staff, and families.

Family/Parent Pledge:

I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- Provide a quiet time to support homework and monitor TV viewing and video game playing.
- Read to my child or encourage my child to read every day (20 minutes K-3, and 30 minutes for grades 4-6).
- Communicate with the teacher or the school when I have a concern.
- Ensure that my child attends school every day, gets adequate sleep, regular medical attention and proper nutrition.
- Regularly monitor my child's progress in school.
- Participate at school in activities such as school decision making, volunteering and/or attending parent-teacher conferences.
- Communicate the importance of education and learning to my child.

- Respect the school, staff, students, and families.