



AUGUST 15, 2025

THE FRIDAY FLYER

Weekly Newsletter of Freeman High School



509-291-3721

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Hello Scottie Parents/Guardians/Families!

It is with great excitement and anticipation that I welcome the start of the 2025-26 school year! Over the summer, our custodial crew has been busy getting the building into tip-top shape, our staff has been busy attending professional development opportunities and preparing for the year, and our ASB has been planning activities. In short, our dedicated FHS team is committed to creating a positive and enriching environment that will help each student thrive.

As we embark on this year's journey together, I would like to personally invite you to attend our Meet & Greet/Orientation/Ice Cream Social event on August 18th. At 6 pm, I will hold a parent meeting in our Blue Gym to introduce the FHS staff, share our focus for the year, inform you of some changes from years past, and answer questions.

In closing, please be sure to read through this Flyer carefully as it contains several items that are very important for starting your student's year off right. I'm looking forward to a fantastic year full of learning, growth, and success!

Go Dawgs!

Jeff Smith, Principal

The Freeman School District complies with all federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, marital status, race, color, creed, national origin, disability or the use of a trained guide dog or service animal by a person with a disability, sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity, veteran or military status, and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts of America and other designated youth groups. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the school district's Title IX officer and/or Section 504/ADA coordinator: Randy Russell, Ph.D., Superintendent, 15001 S. Jackson Road, Rockford, WA 99030, 509-291-3695.

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School Lunch Prices for 2025-2026

Lunch \$3.90

Scottie Break: \$2.50

If you would like to apply for Free/Reduced meals, please do so [here](#) ASAP so we can process your applications.

[View lunch menus here.](#)



FALL SPORTS PARENT MEETING



AUG. 28TH 6:00PM
FHS BLUE GYM

- All parents will meet in the Blue Gym to hear from our Athletic Director
- Sports will then breakout for meetings with each head coach
- It is important that at least one parent/guardian be in attendance

AUGUST 18TH

Freshman Orientation - 3:00pm
Open House 4:30 - 6:30pm
FHS Parent Meeting - 6:00pm

AUGUST 20TH

First Day of School
Football Begins

AUGUST 25TH

All Other Fall Sports Begin

AUGUST 27TH

FSD Board Mtg. 6pm - PRTC

AUGUST 28TH

Fall Sports Parent Mtg. - 6pm

AUGUST 29TH

NO SCHOOL

SEPTEMBER 1ST

NO SCHOOL - Labor Day

SEPTEMBER 4TH

School Picture Day

PICTURE DAY



Leos will be here for individual school pictures on Thursday, September 4th, first thing in the morning. If you are a Running Start student, please plan to come right at 8:00am to have your picture taken for yearbook and ASB cards.



WHAT'S
UP?

Would you like to read about what's happening at the elementary or middle school? Get caught up with their Friday newsletters here:

FES

FREEMAN
ELEMENTARY

FMS

FREEMAN
MIDDLE SCHOOL



Back to School Checklist

- ✓ **Freeman High School Student Handbook**
Please take the time to review our [Freeman High School Student Handbook](#) before the start of the new year. This will help answer many of the common questions that parents and students have.
- ✓ **Freeman High School Cell Phone Policy**
We have made a change to our cell phone policy for students at Freeman High School. Please familiarize your students with the plan for the 2025-26 school year [here](#).
- ✓ **Freeman High School Attendance Policy**
It is important to understand both our policies as Freeman High School as well as the state requirements on attendance. Please take a moment to read over the attendance policies [here](#).
- ✓ **Complete Your Back to School Registration**
Every year we must have all back to school forms completed for every student. Please log in to [Family Access](#) and complete form sets for each student prior to the first day of school. You can find this on the left side of your home page on the Skyward Family Access screen titled "FHS Registration for All Returning Students". Also important in these forms is opting in or out of Chromebook Assurance Plan (see page 11).
- ✓ **Pay Lunch, ASB, Club and Sport Fees**
Our [online payment portal](#) is open for you to go in and add lunch money and pay for ASB cards, club fees, sports fees, yearbooks and more. Your default username and password for the payment site are the same as your Family Access credentials.
- ✓ **Attend Our Back To School Night**
Please plan to attend our Back To School event on Monday, August 18th from 4:30 - 6:30pm. See more details [here](#).
- ✓ **School Supplies**
[See page 5](#)



welcome new FHS staff

Caleb Morton *FHS Math*



Caleb is excited to begin his first year as part of Freeman High School! He is a 2023 graduate of Whitworth University and has spent the last two years at Lake City High School in CDA. When he is not in the classroom, Caleb loves to travel with his wife and family and watch Ohio State Football. He is eager to dive into the Freeman community and looks forward to opportunities to coach and get involved beyond the classroom!

Doug Pace *Para-Educator*



Doug is coming back to Freeman for his 11th year in education. He is a member of the WA State Paraeducator Board. He grew up in Yakima Valley. Doug and his wife, Susie, love to travel, with Hawaii being a favorite spot. Doug's interests include being an avid Mariner Baseball fan and being a motorsports correspondent for The Spokesman Review. You will also see him on the court coaching with the Freeman Boys Basketball Team. He has two children: Jaalen (Airway Heights Police Officer) and Lily (2025 Freeman grad).

RaeAnne Clark *Secretary/Registrar*



RaeAnne is honored to become more involved in the Freeman community. She has two children currently enrolled at Freeman and presently serves as the Vice President of the Freeman PTSG. As a proud alumna of Freeman, it is especially meaningful for her to remain engaged with the school. In her free time she enjoys reading, gardening and crafting and has recently developed an interest in canning. She is looking forward to a great school year ahead.



LIGHTHOUSE
PHYSICAL THERAPY | SPORTS MEDICINE

FREE SPORTS PHYSICALS

AGES:

> **HIGH SCHOOL: AGES 14-18**

DATE

> **Wednesday, AUG. 20TH
6:30 - 8:30 P.M.**

LOCATION

> **18915 E. APPLEWAY AVE, A101
GREENACRES, WA 99016**

-SERVICE PROVIDED BY-
DR. RYAN ZUMWALT & DR. TIM MANSON



Join us for our Back to School Orientation, Open House & Ice Cream Social on Monday, August 18th from 4:30-6:30pm!

- ✓ Greet your teachers
- ✓ Tour our buildings
- ✓ Connect with friends & community
- ✓ Enjoy a sweet treat!
- 📍 Parent Meetings
- 📅 Freeman Middle School – 5:30pm in the gym
- 📅 Freeman High School – 6:00pm in the gym

Let's kick off the new school year together—see you there!

FRESHMAN ORIENTATION

CLASS 2029



LEAD BY THE
2025-2026 ASB

**2025
AUGUST 18
3:00 PM**



MEET IN THE HIGH
SCHOOL

WELCOME!

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:



Kyle Monasmith:
kmonasmith@freemansd.org

Greta Van Gemert:
Margaret.vangemert@goscotties.com



FHS SCHOOL SUPPLY LIST

FHS does not have a specific school supply list for students. We recommend getting general supplies for your student to manage their 7 different classes. (Pens, pencils, paper, notebook, folders, etc.) If your student needs any specific supplies for a class, that will be communicated the first week of school.





Upcoming Sports



8/30 - Jamboree @ Home
11am



8/30 - Jamboree @ Cheney



9/2 - Jamboree @ Home 4pm

**CROSS
COUNTRY**

Sports Links:



Pay Fines/Fees



FALL SPORTS NEWS

Here are some important details for you to know if your student is planning to participate in a Fall Sport:

- Football begins Wednesday, August 20th.
- All other fall sports begin Monday, August 25th.
- As usual, all athletes will need to be signed up for their respective sports in Final Forms with forms signed by both parent and student.
- We **MUST** have a current sports physical (valid for 2 years) on file at the school before any athlete can practice. If you need a physical, please see page 5 for details on where you can receive a free sports physical.
- Coaches have been communicating with athletes that are registered in Final Forms, so if you haven't heard anything, you may not have selected the appropriate fall sport. Please go in today and make sure you have done so.
- Head Coaches contact information:
Football: Mike McKeown mmckeown@freemansd.org
Soccer: Dave Ellis dellis1251@gmail.com
Volleyball: Kaela Straw kaela.straw@gmail.com
CC: Mallory McDonald mallory.mcdonald@hotmail.com
- **There will be an Athletic Parent meeting on Thursday, August 28th at 6:00pm in the Blue Gym. It is expected that at least one parent/guardian of each student/athlete will be in attendance.**
- Each athlete must pay their fees prior to the first athletic competition:

ASB Card: \$35

Transportation: \$20

Sport Fee: \$25

(Please pay using the link to the left. You will need to "select items at student's school" then each item separately. If you have questions email khayek@freemansd.org)



Daily Happenings & General Information

We understand that communication is key. Our primary form of communicating with you as parents/guardians is through this Friday Flyer each week. Here is some basic FHS details...

BELL SCHEDULES

Regular Schedule		
1	8:15 -- 9:02	47 min
2	9:06 -- 9:53	47 min
SCOTTIE BREAK	9:53 -- 10:01	8 min
3	10:04 -- 10:51	47 min
4	10:55 -- 11:42	47 min
5	11:46 -- 12:33	47 min
LUNCH	12:33 -- 1:03	30 min
6	1:07 -- 1:54	47 min
7	1:58 -- 2:45	47 min

Late Start Schedule		
1	10:15 -- 10:46	31 min
2	10:50 -- 11:21	31 min
3	11:25 -- 11:56	31 min
4	12:00 -- 12:31	31 min
LUNCH	12:31 -- 1:01	31 min
5	1:05 -- 1:36	30 min
6	1:40 -- 2:11	31 min
7	2:15 -- 2:45	30 min



ATTENDANCE LINE

Please email fhsoffice@freemansd.org or call our main phone line at 291-3721 if your student will be absent/tardy or leaving early on any given day. If we do not receive an email, note, or a call your student's absence will remain unexcused.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH

We are operating under the standard National School Lunch guidelines, which means students pay for meals unless qualifying for Free/Reduced prices. The application is included in your online registration for returning students so please complete all forms ASAP. Instructions on how to apply [here](#).

SCOTTIE BREAK We offer Scottie Break at the High School. A light snack will be available for students to purchase from 9:53am - 10:01am. Cost: \$2.50

LUNCH - served at the High School in the MPR. Cost: \$3.90. Click image for menus.



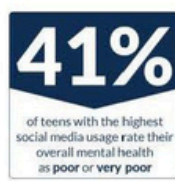
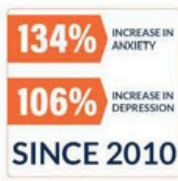
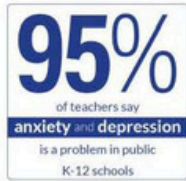
ACTIVITY BUS

We have an Activity Bus that runs after sports M-F for the first two weeks of Middle School Sports Seasons and then M-Th the rest of the year. Bus departs at 5:25pm. Questions on more details, call the Transportation Department at 291-5555.

FHS Cell Phone Policy 2025-26

Why are we going cell-phone-free?

- Phones are interrupting student learning
- 40% of 8–12-year-olds and 95% of teenagers are on social media
- Teens spend nearly five hours a day on social media apps
- 3+ hours a day on social media doubles the risk of poor mental health



brain drain
noun
1) The mere presence
of one's own
smartphone reduces
available cognitive
capacity.



What are cell-phone-free schools seeing?



- Improvements in overall school culture
- Students talking to each other more
- Fewer disruptions in the classroom
- Increased Engagement

Parent Communication

- Parents communicate to students through the Main Office during school hours @ 509-291-3721

Freeman High School Cell Phone Policy

- High school will be cell phone-free during classroom time.
- Other cell-based devices, such as smartwatches, air pods, etc., also will not be allowed to be used during classroom time.
- Students with specific medical or other documented needs may have accommodations made on an individual basis.
- High school students may use their cell phone during meals and passing periods.

Daily Routine:

- Teachers remind students of the policy and expectations at the beginning of each class period.

Violation Procedure:

- One warning and redirection to store the phone in their locker or designated location.
- Continued violation results in non-confrontational device surrender request.
- Teacher may seek support from Administration

Device Confiscation:

- Student will walk their phone down to the Main Office and give to administration or other office personnel.
- Confiscated devices will be stored in a secure location in the office for end-of-day pickup.
- 2nd office referral, parent/guardian will be notified that they need to pick up their child's device.
- Escalated behavior may result in disciplinary actions in partnership with parent/guardian.

Repeated Violations:

- Creation of a plan with student and family/guardian.

WHO: *FHS Students and Families*
WHAT: *Attendance Expectations and Important Facts*
WHEN: *August 15, 2025*



Dear Scottie Students and Families,

As we gear up for another school year, we wanted to share important information about attendance. School attendance is absolutely critical for success and is an important life skill. We believe that students who develop solid attendance habits will be more prepared for life beyond high school and likely to be successful as employees. With that, we are required by law to take attendance every day, in every class.

Why Attendance Matters:

- Missing just 2 days a month (or 10% of school) can impact your student's chances of reading at grade level by the third grade (elementary) or graduating on time (middle and high school).
- School is essential for students to build friendships and learn how to exist in a community.
- Absences can signal problems like disengagement, academic struggles, mental health concerns, and other issues that require attention.

We have developed a system to track attendance wherein we categorize attendance in green, yellow or red zones as a quick and efficient way to keep students and families informed of school attendance performance. More information about that will be provided in September.

OTHER IMPORTANT ATTENDANCE REMINDERS:

- Pre-arranged absences are greatly appreciated and must be communicated by a parent/guardian. Please email our office at fhsoffice@freemansd.org or call in by phone (509-291-3721).
- Please excuse your student's absences prior to the actual absence or within 48 hours.
- Missing four (4) or more class periods during a school day counts as a full day absence (*per OSPI*).
- **Both excused and unexcused absences count toward a student's total absences (*per OSPI*).**
- BECCA law/procedure for excessive unexcused absences is included on the next page.

Thank you for taking some time to review our attendance procedures. We are excited to start another school year and look forward to seeing you soon! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact us.

FHS Unexcused Absence Procedure

Attendance Scenario	School Response	In accordance with
1 or more unexcused class periods	Automated phone call home that evening from FHS informing parent/guardian of the period(s) missed. Parent/Guardian has 48 hours (2 school days) to clear absence(s).	Freeman High School Attendance Policy
48 hour window to clear absence(s)	Absences will be considered "unexcused" after the 48 hour (two school days). Please communicate with office staff to clear up absences in the 48 hour time period so they are not unexcused.	Freeman High School Attendance Policy
2-5 unexcused absences in 1 month	Application of a student risks and needs assessment by a school district designee (WARNS or other assessment). Convene IEP or 504 Team if student has IEP or 504 plan.	RCW 28A.225.020
3 unexcused absences in a 30 day period	FHS Administration, student and parent/guardian have attendance conferences to discuss challenges.	RCW 28A.225.020
5 unexcused absences in 30 day period	Students referred to the Freeman School District Community Engagement Board. <i>This organization's mission is to work with students and families in a positive and constructive manner to identify options and resources in an attempt to reduce future absences for the identified student.</i> At this meeting with the Engagement Board, an attendance agreement is established and/or a "Stay Petition" is filed with the Juvenile Court.	RCW 28A.225.030 (2)
7 unexcused absences in a 30 day period or 15 unexcused absences in current school year	School District files petition with Juvenile Court alleging a violation of RCW 28A.225.010. Student & family work with judicial court system in regard to attendance. <i>If the student is not in compliance with a court order resulting from the Truancy Stay Petition, the school will file a contempt motion.</i> Please note that the 15 unexcused absences for the year as this number tends to jump up on people.	RCW 28A.225.030 (1)



Freeman School District

Chromebook CAP

Optional Chromebook Assurance Program | Grades 6-12

As part of our learning program, the Freeman School District provides a Chromebook to all secondary students (Grades 6-12). This device is the property of the Freeman School District. **Chromebooks are issued to 6th-12th grade students in September and collected in June.**

Families have the opportunity to enroll in the district's **optional** Chromebook Assurance Program (CAP). While not mandatory, this insurance program is highly recommended as it provides coverage in the event the device is lost or damaged. Annual cost is **\$20 per student** for the school year. Families who choose to enroll more than two Middle or High School students in CAP will only be required to pay for two CAP enrollments to cover all district-owned devices in the family each school year. Defective devices will be replaced or repaired at no cost to the family. Fees must be paid **prior to 3 weeks after the first day of school.**

- To **opt-in** to the annual insurance program, there is a **\$20 fee** for the school year. Fees must be paid prior to **3 weeks after the first day of school.** To purchase insurance, access Online Payments at <https://wa-freeman.intouchrecepting.com>
- **Opting out of the program** means families will be held financially responsible for the full cost of repair or replacement associated with any damaged, lost or stolen equipment. A fine will be placed on student accounts for the cost of replacing or repairing the equipment.
- Lack of action prior to September 15th will be considered an opt-out.

OPT-IN – Chromebook Insurance Program	OPT-OUT – Chromebook Insurance Program
<p>Annual Fee: \$20 nonrefundable</p> <p>Annual Coverage:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accidental Damage: First incident covered in full. After first incident, family is responsible for full replacement of damaged part, or up to \$200 total per incident. (Loaner device available during repair.) • Lost or Stolen: First incident \$100. \$200 for subsequent incidents. (If stolen, Police Report must be filed within 24 hours and a copy provided to the school Business Office.) If the device is later found or recovered and is in working condition the fee will be refunded. <p>Not Covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intentional damage, neglect or loss without a copy of a Police Report. • Lost/Damaged Power Cord (\$30) <p>Note: Replacement equipment will not be issued until fees set forth above have been paid or there is a payment plan in place.</p> <p>Student Name _____</p>	<p>Damage Fees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$200 Full Replacement • \$150 Motherboard • \$50 Display (LCD) • \$20 Keyboard • \$20 Trackpad <p>Lost or Stolen:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$200 Device (If the device is later found or recovered and is in working condition the fee will be refunded.) • \$30 Power Cord <p>Note: Replacement equipment will not be issued until fees set forth above have been paid or there is a payment plan in place.</p> <p>I, would like to:</p> <p>OPT- IN <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>OPT-OUT <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Parent Signature: _____ Parent Signature</p>

*I understand that by inserting my name in the signature fields I am submitting an electronic signature.
This signature will be enforceable on the same basis as if it were signed in person.*



FREEMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #358

2025 - 2026 School Calendar



August				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
September				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			
October				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	*23	*24
27	28	29	30	31
November				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
3	4	5	6	7
10	11	12	13	14
17	18	19	20	21
24	25	26	27	28
December				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30	31		
January				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
			1	2
5	6	7	8	9
12	13	14	15	16
19	20	21	22	23
26	27	28	29	30

Significant Dates

August 18	Staff Orientation/Open House
August 19	Professional Development
August 20	First Day of School
August 25	First Day of Kindergarten
August 29	No School
September 1	Labor Day Holiday - No School
September 24	Late Start PD
October 23 - 24	Conferences - No School
October 29	Late Start PD
November 11	Veterans' Day Observed - No School
November 24 - 28	Thanksgiving Holiday - No School
December 3	Late Start PD
December 19	End of Semester
December 22 - January 2	Winter Break - No School
January 5	Professional Development - No School
January 19	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No School
February 4	Late Start PD
February 16	Presidents' Day Holiday - No School
March 6	Snow Make-up Day - No School
March 9	Professional Development - No School
March 18	Late Start PD
April 2 - 3	Conferences - No School
April 6 - 10	Spring Vacation - No School
April 27	Professional Development - No School
May 6	Late Start PD
May 22	Snow Make-up Day - No School
May 25	Memorial Day Holiday - No School
June 6	High School Graduation
June 9	8th Grade Promotion
June 10	Last Day of School - Early Release

- Shaded Dates - No School
- Indicates Late Start/Professional Development Days
- * Indicates Parent Conference Days - No School
- ** Indicates Early Release - 12:30 pm
- Yellow box indicates School Begins & Ends

February				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
March				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
2	3	4	5	6
9	10	11	12	13
16	17	18	19	20
23	24	25	26	27
30	31			
April				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	*2	*3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	
May				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
				1
4	5	6	7	8
11	12	13	14	15
18	19	20	21	22
25	26	27	28	29
June				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
1	2	3	4	5
8	9	**10	11	12
15	16	17	18	19
22	23	24	25	26
29	30			
July				
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
		1	2	3
6	7	8	9	10
13	14	15	16	17
20	21	22	23	24
27	28	29	30	31