

Baird Explorers



Baird Middle School Handbook 2022-2023

BAIRD MIDDLE SCHOOL

Office Staff

Mrs. Karla Reeve, Office Manager

Mrs. Tiana Palomino, Attendance/Registrar

Medical Staff

Raquel Rodriguez, RN

Counseling Staff

Mrs. Bryce Grijalva, School Psychologist

Mr. Armando Arambula, Clinical School Social Worker

Ms. Karina Navarro, Academic Counselor

Administrative Staff

Mrs. Timona Martin, Principal

Mrs. Janet Poindexter, Vice-Principal

- (administrator for grades 7 and 8)

Mrs. Tamara Youpel, Guidance Learning Advisory

- (administrator for grades 5 and 6)

Mission

Baird is committed to ensuring high levels of learning for ALL students.

Vision

Students at Baird will be prepared to positively impact the world. We envision a school community where all students feel valued and included

Collective Commitments

- Be reflective and seek out new perspectives
- Accept and value diversity
- Invest in others' beliefs and experiences
- Resolve conflict with kindness and integrity
- Develop a growth mindset

CULTURE AND CLIMATE

Attendance

Attendance/Tardies

Academic achievement and social emotional well-being are directly related to a student's attendance rate. Attendance is directly related to a student's success. When students miss instruction, it is difficult for them to learn new concepts and skills taught. If it is necessary for your child to be absent from classes or late to school, parents/guardians and students will need to work together to follow through on the following:

- Parents/guardians are to call and clear the absence (451-4310, leave message if necessary).
- Missing work is up to the student/parent to get and student to complete (students are encouraged to email or message teachers directly through Teams).
- If a student is absent for more than 3 days, a doctor's note will be needed for the student to return to school.
- If a student is late (late is more than 10 minutes after class begins), they must sign in with office staff and obtain a tardy slip or class admittance pass.
- If a student is leaving early; parent must report to the office and sign the student out. ***A valid ID will always be required to check a student out of school.***
- Please call the school and give the office notice of when you will be picking student up.
- No student will be released the last 20 minutes of the day

Excessive absences will classify your child as truant. California Law defines truancy as absences without a valid excuse for three days in one year and tardies (30 mins late) more than three times in one year or a combination of the two.

Parents and Guardians of truant students will be notified and must attend Attendance law meetings and will be referred to the Student Attendance Review Board (SARB) and ultimately court. The law states parents who do not make corrective measures in child's attendance could lose public assistance funds, be fined \$2500 and/or spend up to one year in jail.

Arts, Athletics and Activities

Arts/ Activities and Athletics

It is Baird's goal, in alignment with Fresno Unified's goal, to get all students engaged in academics and co-curricular activities. All students will be encouraged to sign up for a club that interest them, allows them to share time with peers, and foster healthy relationships. Club days will be posted on the Master Calendar on the Baird Website.

Grades dictate eligibility for Goal 2 participation; students who do not maintain a 2.0 or higher will be deemed ineligible for club participation.

Athletic Teams

Eligibility for sports and extracurricular activities is determined by quarter grades and athletes will be monitored closely. Eligibility may be jeopardized if a student athlete receives a failing grade in multiple classes. Additionally, if a student has more than one **N** in citizenship, they will be ineligible.

Students have an opportunity to participate in the following sports while at Baird:

<i>First Quarter Sports</i>	<i>Second Quarter Sports</i>
Girls' Volleyball Football (at Tenaya) Cross-Country Girls' Golf/Boys Golf Water Polo (at Bullard)	Boys' Basketball Wrestling Girls' Soccer Boys' Soccer
<i>Third Quarter Sports</i>	<i>Fourth Quarter Sports</i>
Girls' Basketball Boys' Baseball	Boys' Volleyball Tennis Girls' Softball Track

For questions regarding Athletics, refer to the Baird website or contact Athletic Director, Tim Walsh by email at:

timothy.walsh@fresnounified.org

Campus Culture

Student Body Government

Student body government is a group of students on campus which is comprised of 4 individuals from 6th through 8th grade (4 per grade level). These students will share the responsibilities of the following positions:

President, Vice-President, Secretary, and Treasurer. Officers are elected by the student body at the end of the prior school year. These elected students make up the student council. Members of the student council help plan and carry-out activities throughout the year including being the student voice at the School Site Council meetings and carry out other duties deemed for student council members. The members of the council must maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher and must be a role model for the rest of the student body. Students not meeting academic or behavior eligibility will be removed from their position. Please email Baird's campus culture director, Elly Alvarado with any questions at [Elly.Alvarado @fresnounified.org](mailto:Elly.Alvarado@fresnounified.org)

Behavioral Expectations

At Baird all students have a right to learn in an emotionally and physically safe environment. Teachers have the right to teach and students have the right to learn in an environment free of distractions and unnecessary disruptions. We communicate these goals to our students through the BAIRD WAY.

B – Be Prepared

A – Achieve Academically

I – Include Everyone

R – Respect others, self, and things

D – Do the Right Thing

The following behaviors are examples of behaviors expected and are encompassed in some aspect of The BAIRD WAY. This list is not exhaustive:

- Dress for success: follow the standard of dress.
- Be in class on time and prepared to learn.
- Follow school and classroom expectations.
- Use the student planner as expected and required.
- Share planner/ assignments/ notes/ grades with parents
- Be kind and respectful to others.
- Invite and encourage peers to join in activities
- Use appropriate language on campus.
- Respect the rights and property of others.
- Participate, work and complete all assignments and tasks.
- No loitering before, during or after school.

- Students are to respect each other's space; there is to be no public displays of affection, i.e., holding hands, kissing and hugging while on campus.

Our goal is to help students learn in a safe and productive environment where character, responsibility and academic success is celebrated. **Any behavior which detracts from this focus is unacceptable.**

Behavioral Misconduct

Baird supports restorative practice strategies to resolve conflicts. The goal is to walk through situations with students, use appropriate consequences, help restore broken relationships impacted by the behavior as soon as possible, and minimize the time out of the learning environment. There are times however, when a behavior adversely imposes a safety risk or physical/mental harm to others and thus a more punitive consequence, may be given.

Students who do not meet expectations and struggle making good choices, will be provided a behavioral intervention. The following consequences for behavior may be assigned:

- Positive behavior support plan; daily behavior report
- Detention: lunch, and/or after school
- Mediation/ Counseling
- Ineligibility for arts, athletics and/or activities
- On campus suspension; suspension from class period(s)
- Restorative Justice practices
- Formal suspension
- Expulsion

If a student is suspended, they will not be permitted to participate in extra-curricular activities such as sports (participation or visitation), field trips, or incentive events for 10 school days.

Certain violations involving weapons, violence, and drugs will be given a minimum 3-day suspension. Students violating the following (Ed Code 48915) will be automatically referred for expulsion:

- Possessing, selling, or otherwise furnishing a firearm
- Brandishing a knife
- Unlawful sale of a controlled substance

- Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or sexual battery
- Possessing an explosive

Counseling

Should your child need further social-emotional or academic supports, our school psychologist, Bryce Grijalva, is on campus two days a week (3 days every other week), and our Clinical School Social Worker, Armando Arambula, two days a week. Please contact the office for further information.

Safety and Civility

Emergency Card

It is imperative that we have **accurate emergency information on file at all times**. In the event of an emergency, this card is what we will reference to make you aware of the issue with your child. These cards also go with us in the event we must evacuate the campus. If your information changes at all, please contact the office and make the changes necessary.

Anti-Bullying Policies

All students will participate in mandated Anti-bullying lessons required by the state of California. Students are encouraged daily to be kind to one another, include those who are not engaged in a friend group and support those who are mistreated by letting an adult know as soon as possible. Actions are deemed as bullying when a person is exposed to a pattern of aggression repeatedly over time, where the victim has difficulty defending himself or herself creating a power imbalance between the parties. Students who make a choice to use bully-type behaviors will be given consequences as noted in the Behavioral Misconduct section.

Bus Conduct

FUSD provides bus routes for numerous students living out of walking distance of Baird. The use of district transportation for any purpose is a privilege. Students who do not adhere to the district's policies and procedures for riding the bus, will receive consequences that may result

in losing the privilege to ride the bus. Misconduct on the bus will result in the following consequences:

First Offense – Parent Notification and detention for one week

Second Offense – Loss of bus privilege for two weeks

Third Offense – Loss of bus privilege for the remainder of the year

Safety Plan

Baird has a written safety plan of action in the event there is an emergency to our campus or students. If there is an emergency, it is important your child knows **not** to get on their cell phone as it could hinder the protection or help, we could receive for a variety of reasons. It is also important that parents wait for instructions, which will come in a messenger to your primary phone number in ATLAS. The call will give you necessary information as needed so that you understand what is happening and what procedures to follow to keep everyone as safe as possible. ***Please update your ATLAS number if you are not receiving weekly messengers.***

Student Identification

Students are required to have their ID in their lanyard, and to wear their lanyard at all times during school events and daily for the duration of the school day except for P.E. class. The first lanyard and ID are provided free of charge. Students will be charged for replacement lanyards, ID card holders, and ID's. Students without ID's will be given lunch detention on days they do not have their ID's. Should they have detention assigned already on that day they will serve on a separate day. If a student repeatedly violates the ID expectation, parents will be notified.

In addition to the ID expectation, it should be noted that students are not wear another student's ID in attempt to deceive others and pass it off as their own, nor will they cover up or deface the picture on their ID.

Standard of Dress

	<u>Acceptable</u>		<u>Unacceptable</u>
<u>ID and Lanyard:</u>	--All students must wear a picture student ID attached to a Baird Lanyard. --Baird lanyard only		--No defacing ID, or ID holder. --No stickers. --No toys attached to lanyard (hand sanitizer ok).
<u>Solid Baird Colors:</u>	Black Brown Blue Khaki Beige	Green Yellow Gray White Denim	Red Burgundy Orange Pink Purple
<u>Pants:</u>	--Must be fitted and worn at waist and not below hip bone. --Must have pockets. --Must be hemmed. --Elastic waist acceptable. --Must to be solid Baird colors		--No baggy style, no sagging. --No sweats or athletic styles. --No more than one size bigger or smaller. --No holes or tears. --No spandex stretch pants or leggings. --No frayed cut-offs or hems.
<u>Shorts/ Skirts/ Dresses:</u>	--Capris --Pleated --Skorts --Cargo shorts --Must have pockets --Dresses must have a collar or a collared shirt underneath --Must be solid Baird colors		--Shorts should not be longer than the bottom of the knee cap. --Not shorter than "4 fingers" above the knee. --No frayed cut-offs or hems.

<u>Shirts and blouses:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Must have collar or turtleneck and sleeves. --Must always be tucked in. --Brand name logos must be in Baird colors <u>only</u>. --Small logos acceptable. --Undershirts must be Baird colors. --Vests ok: must have collared shirt underneath. --Must to be solid Baird colors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --No lace or sheer material. --No cleavage or midriff exposed.
<u>Jackets and sweatshirts (hoodies):</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Department store purchased or Baird purchased. --Hooded, zip-up, or pullover. --Small logos acceptable. --Must to be solid Baird colors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --No two-toned jackets, no stripes, etc.
<u>Backpacks:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Small logos acceptable. --Must to be solid Baird colors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --No writing on outside, put name on inside --No logo other than brand name label.
<u>Belts:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Solid buckles only. --Solid belt with no studs or decorations. --Must to be solid Baird colors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --No excess longer than to first belt loop (no hanging belts).
<u>Headwear and Hair Adornments:</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --Such as ribbons/scrunchies. --Hoods ok; worn outdoors only in cold weather. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> --No multi-colored/multi-print. --No objects attached to head bands.

	--Hats may be worn for sun protection purposes only. --Small logos only. --Must to be solid Baird colors	
<u>Hair Color and/or Style:</u>	--Hair styles are a matter of personal choice.	--Bangs must not obstruct or interfere with vision at any time. <i>Excessive hair style that obstructs the view of others will not be allowed.</i> --The school shall be concerned only when this impacts the health and safety of students and staff.
<u>Shoes/socks/shoelaces:</u>	--Sandals must have a back strap. --Socks, laces and shoes should be Baird colors only. --Tights may be worn under skirts or shorts. --Designs and patterns must be in Baird colors only.	--No high heels, no platform shoes, no steel-toed shoes. --No words, of any kind on socks.
<u>Logo's:</u>	--Small logos acceptable.	--Large logo's or graphics
<u>Jewelry:</u>	--Earrings are to be worn in ears only.	--No jewelry with chains, spikes and/or studs is allowed. --No writing.

Baird reserves the right to adjust the dress code as needed. The dress code will be reviewed periodically by staff, parents, students and the School Site Council. Exceptions to the above may be made by the Principal for special days or special events. If parents or guardians have questions

regarding the standard of dress or exemptions, please schedule an appointment with your student's grade level administrator.

CIVILITY POLICY (B.P./A.R 1265)

At Baird we value disruptive free learning environments that attribute to student success. Baird staff promote this this policy through mutual respect, civility, and orderly conduct amount employees, parents/guardians, and community members. We encourage positive communication and discourage disruptive, volatile, hostile or aggressive communication or actions. The civility policy outlined by district expectations is intended to maintain a safe, harassment-free workplace for teachers, students, administrators, other staff members, parents/guardians and the public. It is not our attempt to deprive any person of their right to freedom of expression. We ask for the cooperation with and adherence to this policy.

Expected Level of Behavior:

- District employees and representatives should treat parents/guardians and other members of the public with civility, courtesy and respect.
- Parents/guardians and other members of the public should treat staff and students and each other, while on school grounds and/or participating in school-related activities, with civility, courtesy and respect.

Unacceptable Conduct/Disruptive Behavior includes but is not limited to:

- Any conduct that disrupts or interferes with the discipline, good order, lawful conduct or administration of any school class or activity of the school or district, constitutes unacceptable conduct behavior.
- Disruption of or threats to disrupt school classrooms, activities, and/or operations;
- Threats to the health and safety of students or district employees;
- Battery or assault upon students, district employees or other persons;
- Using obscenities or speaking in a demanding, loud, insulting and/or demeaning manner; and/or unauthorized entry onto district premises and school grounds.
- Recourse available to parents/guardians and public in handling.

Technology and Cell Phone Policy

- **Cell phones** are allowed on campus, but they must always remain off and in the student backpack during the school day. Students are to enter the campus with their cell phone off and in their backpack. In case of an emergency, a student may ask to use the office phone.
- **Tablets** are for classroom use only and should not be used in common areas. Should a student want to use their tablet outside of class time students can visit the library.
- **Smart watches** are to be used for time keeping purposes only. Smart watches are not to be used for social reasons, or entertainment purposes during the school day. Smart watches are to be on airplane mode.
- **Air pods** are not allowed to be worn on campus. Headphones and earbuds are not allowed outside of the classroom. During class time when auditory tools are needed, students are to use wired headphones or earbuds.
- The use of **skateboards/skates/roller blades/scooters/bicycles** is prohibited on the school grounds

ACADEMICS

Student Instruction

Academic Planner/ ATLAS / Progress Reports

Planners are sold on campus for \$5.00 each. Students are provided time during class to enter homework and tasks into their planner. If there is no assignments or tasks to enter, students should write “No Homework” to indicate they did attend to their planner. Students are provided a password to ATLAS student portal to check their grades regularly, we recommend twice a week. Parents are to check their child’s planner and Parent Portal on ATLAS frequently to understand what assignments/tasks have been given, monitor student organization, work completed, and grades. We encourage students versus their parents/guardians to reach out to teachers in person or via email about any questions regarding assignments or grades. If the student needs assistance reaching out, then parents are encouraged to assist and email your child’s teachers with any clarifying questions or concerns.

ATLAS is Fresno Unified’s student information system. The Parent Portal gives you a real-time look at graded assignments and missing assignments. It also provides you with your child’s schedule, attendance

and overall grades. Please check ATLAS weekly to help guide your students when and where needed. If you have trouble logging onto ATLAS, please contact Baird's Librarian. The website ATLAS access website is: <https://parents.fresnou.org>

[Progress reports are sent home to communicate progress mid-quarter. A notification on the weekly Sunday message will let you know when to expect the progress reports and report cards.](#)

Academic, Attendance and Citizenship Celebrations

During the year, grade level teams recognize students for academic achievements such as High Honor Roll, Honor Roll, and Merit List. Students are also recognized for character and citizenship excellence. There may also be opportunities for students to attend reward trips based on set criteria, which will be made known prior to sign-ups for the activity.

Per district policy, students who have their GPAs fall below a 2.0 will either be on an ineligibility/non-privilege list or on academic probation for arts, athletics and activities. Some activities will be under more restrictive no D or Fs and/or no more than one **N** in citizenship to participate. Those will be made known prior to the activity.

Academic Honesty Policy

While much of student learning now happens in collaborative groups, it is still the expectation that students will do their own work and when needed site sources appropriately in their papers. Cheating and forgery are always unacceptable and against Ed.Code. Consequences will be given for academic dishonesty.

Grading Policy

Teachers will provide students with a course syllabus that outlines the grading scales and procedures in their respected courses. Please refer to each course syllabi to become familiar with grading scales and procedures.

Middle school is the time to build academic skills and learn the importance of putting forth best efforts, producing quality work and striving for the highest grades possible. Good study and work habits will support students in high school as they work toward graduation and

college entry. Classes that offer high school credit is taught at a high school level rigor and require students to meet that level of academic rigor.

Please read your child's course syllabi for specific grading information. If you have questions regarding grades, please contact the appropriate teacher for support, check Parent Portal frequently and refer to the progress reports sent home with your child for your review.

Homework

Homework is given as an extension of class learning and/or to complete assignments. It is expected that all students will complete each assignment given on time. If your child is absent, your student should email your child's teachers to get the missing assignments or check course websites to download materials.

Some teachers maintain an assignment website in which you can stay up to date with tasks and assignments being given; this is optional for the teacher to maintain. Your child's academic planner can be used to list assignments for making up missing work from any absences.

AST (Academic Support Time)

AST is from 8:50 – 9:10 each day. Students are to communicate with their teachers should they need to use AST. This time is set aside for students to get help directly from their teachers. If students are receiving less than a C in a class, they should attend AST. Should a teacher request a student to attend AST it is mandatory the student attend AST. AST may be utilized to make up quizzes or other assessments that have been missed or need to be retaken.

Physical Education

All students will participate in P.E. No student is to be exempted from P.E. unless they have a note from a parent or a doctor. A parent may excuse their child from P.E. in writing up to three days, once per quarter. Beyond three days, a doctor's note will be needed to excuse a student from P.E. Should several parent notes be produced, your student will be provided a referral to a physician.

Physical Education Expectations: attendance, participation, dressing out, following directions and working with peers are all part of the grade a student receives daily.

- Students under a physician's care are to remain with the class and support the teacher unless their injury prohibits them from such activity.
- Students who do not dress for the day must participate in their street clothes; non-participation is not an option. Refusal to participate will negatively affect a student's grade.
- Any student not participating in PE class will not participate in afterschool sports practice and risk losing their place on the team.
- Each infraction thereof is a day missed of practice and potential game time.
- If a student has restriction confirmed by a physician's note, they may attend the sporting event with their team for support but will not be allowed to participate; if you cannot participate in P.E., you cannot participate in sports.
- The teacher of students who did not participate in PE that day are responsible for notifying (A.D. or Coach) and parent.
- If a student does not dress out, but does participate in PE, they may still participate in their sport. Not dressing out in P.E. will be reflected in their grade for P.E. class.
- Any student athlete receiving a D or F grade in P.E. class will be suspended from their team and parents will be notified.

School Wide Policies/Procedures

Arrival and Dismissal

Students should not arrive on campus prior to 8:50 a.m. Students who are dropped off should be dropped off in front of the school on Maroa Ave. For safety reasons please do not drop off your student in the parking lot; busses need to utilize the parking lot for dropping off and picking up students. Students who participate in a block 1 course may arrive on campus at 7:55 a.m.

The first bell rings at 9:10 a.m. and students should report to their first class of the day. At 9:15 a.m. the final bell rings and students should be

in their classes ready to begin the day. Any student arriving after the 9:15 a.m. bell is considered tardy.

Dismissal is at 3:30 p.m. All students are to go directly home after school unless they are involved with athletics, arts or another school-related activity at which they should report to immediately. Students who walk should leave campus and walk home immediately. Students who are car riders, and their ride is available immediately upon dismissal should report to their rides. Students who ride the bus should report to their bus stops. Should your student be a car rider, but their ride is not here directly at 3:30 p.m. will need to wait on the lawn area by room 1. It is important that we keep the center hallway clear for safety purposes. Once the busses leave the parking lot at 3:40 p.m. students from the lawn by room 1 may move back to the center hallway to keep waiting. If they are there beyond 3:50 p.m. they will need to join the after-school program.

Another option for after-school pick up for our car riders is to be picked up in the back of the school on College Avenue. Students report directly to the back of the school at dismissal, there is easier access to rides, and the without busses to hold up traffic it clears fairly quickly. Students are able to wait for parents until 3:50, at that time they are directed to the center hallway/after-school program. All students who are not picked up by 3:50 will be asked to contact their parent or guardian for a ride.

LATE BUS

There is a late bus that departs at 5:00 p.m., however when there is an away game the bus leaves after the athletes are returned to school. The exception to this is on early release days. This bus takes students to their daily respective bus stop. This bus is *ONLY* for students participating in an after-school activity. This bus is not for students wanting to stay to watch our sporting events. If a student would like to watch a sporting event their parent or guardian will need to attend the sporting event with them. Students are not allowed to stay with other students' parents unless permission has been given by the absent parent calling the school office to notify staff. Students attending our games and matches after school must continue to follow all school rules, including wearing their Baird ID.

To limit distractions to the classrooms and possible miscommunication, best practice is to plan with your child prior to the school day so they know the 4-1-1 on afterschool directions. **No student will be released from class/school the last 20 minutes of the school day.** All visitors will be asked to provide proper identification when requesting to speak to or check out a student for an off-campus appointment.

Breakfast and Lunch

All students receive a free breakfast and lunch at Baird. We encourage students to eat breakfast in the morning. Eating breakfast will keep them focused on the learning and not distracted by hunger. All students must have their valid Baird ID visible to account for their breakfast and lunch.

All students who have a school provided breakfast, school provided lunch, or a meal brought from home will be eating in the designated eating areas which are the patio or inside the cafeteria.

Baird is a closed campus and students may not leave for lunch unless signed out in the office by their parent. **No “outside food” (from restaurants) can be brought on campus by parents or guardians during the day. The use of food service delivery systems such as Door Dash or Uber Eats is prohibited by students and parents. This invites strangers onto our campus creates safety issues.**

Course Changes

Course changes within the first two weeks of school are only permissible by counselor approval and are **ONLY** considered for the following necessary reasons:

- Pass/failure of a pre-requisite course.
- An incorrect placement.
- To accommodate intervention/acceleration needs.

Procedure for changing a course:

- Parent/ student must complete the course change request form in the office.
- Obtain appropriate teacher signatures (if applicable).
- Parents/Guardians must approve of the change request by signature.
- Return the form to the office by the deadline.

- Follow the schedule you were given until you are notified by your counselor or receive a new schedule.

All changes must be requested and approved by the end of the second week of school. Making changes after that date will jeopardize learning and achievement.

Fees and Fines

Parents and students will sign a Library/Textbook contract at the beginning of the year. **Students with fines at the end of each quarter may be excluded from participating in school activities.** The librarian will send home statements. **Any 8th grade students whose fines are not cleared will lose all end of year celebrations and activities.**

All fines will roll over to the next school year. The fines will stay on the student's record through high school. Please note that high schools will withhold graduation and other activities if fines do not get cleared, including technology fees.

Library

The Baird Library is open from 8:50 a.m. to 3:45 p.m. To enter the library students must be wearing their ID badges. The library is open during lunch for reading and quiet visiting. No video games or electronic play are allowed in the library; reading and quiet socializing are encouraged. Books may be checked out for a period of two weeks. If books are not returned students will be charged for the replacement of the book.

The librarian is available to help troubleshoot issues with technology equipment. If students' laptops need repair or a replacement for missing cords charges will incur per the policies set forth by the F.L.A.T.S department.

The librarian is available to help with resource and research material as well.

Lost and Found

Students should carry their belongings in their backpacks and never leave them unattended. Make sure your name is on or in your backpack and in those items assigned to you. Your P.E. locker should have your

backpack and street clothes in during physical education class. Make sure to check the lock on the locker for security prior to leaving the locker room. *Students are not to share their locker combinations.*

Parent Involvement

We encourage parents/guardians to be partners in your child's education. We welcome campus visits with prior notification. We also encourage parent involvement in our committees such as School Site Council (SSC), English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC) and Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).

Meetings and upcoming nominations for positions within these committees will be communicated via School Messenger and on the website.

If you are interested in volunteering at Baird, please fill out a volunteer form in the front office; fingerprinting is required if chaperoning events.

Cell Phone/ Electronics Policy

Please adhere to the policy information that is included in the Welcome Packets at the beginning of the year (BP. 5145.12). All cell phones should be turned off, securely stored in a student's backpack, and not visible throughout the school day.

Students failing to follow the policy will have their phone confiscated. Parents will need to pick up confiscated phones. At no time should a student text or call a parent/guardian for any reason during school. Students who are having a problem or feel sick, must be seen first by school personnel and then an adult will make contact home. If students have other concerns, they feel they need to discuss with parent/guardian that cannot wait, they will need to use the phone in the office.

There are to be no electronic devices out while on campus unless for the explicit use during an electronics club or appropriate classroom instruction. This includes Smartphones, iPods, Air pods, earbuds, cameras, Bluetooth speakers, tablets etc.

Health Related Information

If your child is not feeling well, or is injured, they should seek immediate attention from an adult. The adult will assist your child and make sure they get to the office. As stated above, no student should call home to get picked up if not feeling well. This determination must pass through school personnel who is responsible for documenting the health issue in the child's record.

If your child has a fever, is vomiting, or is seriously injured, you will be called to pick up your child. **If your child's symptoms are identified as possible COVID related symptoms, the nurse will submit a COVID Action Team (CAT) referral where your child will need to be cleared by a CAT nurse to return to school.** If this is not the case, the staff will try to help assess the issue and let the student rest or provide them with supplies to help meet their needs. This too is documented, and you will be notified if the health issues appear to be chronic.

If your child takes medicine at school, you must have the prescribing physician fill out a 'Medication Order for School' form. The law requires parents to notify school personnel (nurse or health aide) if a child is on any type of medication. No over the counter medications may be taken at school without the note above by physician. If your child is asthmatic, diabetic, or carries an Epi-pen, the form must be on file.

During the school year, students may have vision, hearing and dental checks completed through their physical education courses. Vision and hearing screenings are provided to students during 5th and 8th grade.

Home/School Communication

Baird will communicate to parents/guardians via school messenger system, website, Peachjar, on-campus marquee, and fliers. ***To receive up-to-date information, please make sure your phone number and email is accurately listed on ATLAS- primary phone number (please keep the number up to date).*** Weekly principal messages will go out each Sunday evening and will contain important information and reminders. Please visit our website for further detailed information as needed at

<https://Baird.fresnounified.org/>

For issues concerning academics or classroom behavior, please contact your child's teacher first. We encourage students to reach out first, if parents are to assist if further inquiry is needed. Teachers' emails can be found in ATLAS under grades or on our website.

For further academic inquiries or issues contact our School Academic Counselor:

- Karina Navarro: Karina.Navarro@fresnounified.org

For behavior/discipline issues contact our Administration:

- Janet Poindexter: Vice-Principal; 7th & 8th grade administrator: Janet.Poindexter@fresnounified.org
- Tamara Youpel: Guidance Learning Advisor; 5th & 6th grade administrator: Tamara.Francis@fresnounified.org

For social-emotional or mental health support contact:

- Bryce Grijalva, School Psychologist: Bryce.Grijalva@fresnounified.org
- Armando Arambula, Clinical School Social Worker: Armando.Arambula@fresnounified.org

For Special Education inquiries please contact your child's case manager and/or our school psychologist:

- Bryce Grijalva, School Psychologist: Bryce.Grijalva@fresnounified.org
- Justin Ayers, RSP teacher: Justin.Ayers@fresnounified.org
- Brittany Baeza, ALPS teacher: Brittany.Baeza@fresnounified.org

Teacher emails can be found on the website and is the preferred method of communication as this will be the fastest way for a response.

For any further inquiries not outlined above, please contact the front office (**559-451-4310**) and briefly explain the nature of your call so they may direct you to the staff member or administrator who will be able to help attend to your needs and concerns.