



Welcome Firebird Class of 2026!

The staff and students of
Lawrence Free State
____ High School are excited to
have you join the flock!



Welcome 8th Graders!

- Counselors and Administrators
- **Tina Mitchell** (Department Chair)
- **Jeff Harkin** (Freshman Assistant Prin.)
- **Katie Brandau** (Freshman Counselor)
- **Myron Graber** (Principal)



At Tonight's Orientation

- **Information about enrollment**
- **Department chairs here to answer questions**
- **Q and A - here and with any of our staff on hand**



Video

This is Free State

- [This is Free State](#)

Free State High School

Respect, Responsibility, Excellence



Respect

Responsibility

Excellence



Graduation Requirements

English—4 years (8 semesters)

Social Studies—3 years (6 semesters)

Math—3 years (6 semesters)

Science—3 years (6 semesters)

Fine Arts—1 year (2 semesters)

PE —(1 semester)

Health – (1 semester)

2 years of the same World Language is highly recommended

Electives—8 units (16 semester classes)

23 total credits required for graduation

It is your responsibility to choose the classes you need and to track your credits.

Please contact individual colleges for updated requirements for admission.



Building a Transcript & GPA

Freshmen begin to build their high school transcript. This is the first time grades count towards college admissions and other programs.

Grade point average (GPA): Colleges and other post-secondary programs have gpa requirements. A gpa is calculated by adding the grade points together and dividing by the number of classes. Students will receive a .5 extra for Advanced Placement classes. **A- 4 points**

B- 3 points

C- 2 points

D- 1 point

F- 0 points

A large, light green feather graphic is positioned on the left side of the page, extending from the bottom towards the top. It has a central rachis with many fine, radiating barbs.

Sample Student Schedule

Homeroom

Math

Biology

English or Adv ELA

PE/Health

Elective(s)

[Middle School Enrollment Planner](#)



Steps for Enrollment

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- 1) **2/9- Family Orientation Night-** Families get a glimpse of expectations of a high school student, class schedule, etc.
 - 2) Counselors present enrollment info at Middle Schools & **students come home with freshman planner.**

2/10- Southwest Middle School

2/11- West Middle School


Week of 2/14- Private schools

- 3) Students have access to “How to” PowerSchool Enrollment video
- 4) Students thoughtfully enroll in courses at home with guidance from parents

9th Grade Enrollment Video



FSHS Redesign

- 
- **Goals**
 - **Balance**
 - **Relevance**
 - **Habits of Success**
 - **Schedule / Homeroom / ILT**

What's Our Why?

Preparing our students to soar



Redesign Goals

We need more **BALANCE** in everyday workload

- Balance in everyday workload
- Schedule
 - Flexibility
 - Wellness/Mental Health

We want students to find **RELEVANCE** in their learning

- Relevant, personal, individualized learning
- Applicable
 - Community Partnerships
 - Curriculum

Many students leave FS without the **HABITS OF SUCCESS**, creative know how, and way-finding abilities

- Prepared for after high school - habits of success
- Empathy/Character
 - Wellness
 - Real-World experiences

OUR STUDENTS



What Students Say They Need

When **students** were surveyed on how we might meet our goals, they came up with the following ideas:

BALANCE

- more breaks
- more study time
- less hours and more focus
- more choice in classes
- fewer required classes
- less homework

RELEVANCE

- career exploration
- work credit
- cross-curricular classes
- more choice in class time

HABITS OF SUCCESS

- building & maintaining relationships
- time management
- communication
- tolerance
- community involvement

Phasing of Plan - ***Flex-Mod is the Vehicle***

- Develop and Implement Flex-Mod Schedule
- Continue Individual Plans of Study
- Develop Social and Emotional Learning Framework

1

- Tweak Flex-Mod Schedule as Needed
- Continue Individual Plans of Study
- Implement Social and Emotional Learning Framework

2

- Make Necessary Adjustments
- Develop and Implement Competency-Based Learning Framework
- Develop Framework for Alternate Graduation Credit

3

Key dates and things to know...

- **The following can be found on our website:**

<https://www.usd497.org/Domain/26>

- **August- Student Schedules are complete and available**
- **Summer conditioning (varies by sport)**
- **<https://freestateathletics.com/>**
- **First day of athletic practices August 15th**
- **9th Grade Orientation- Wednesday, August 17th (tentatively)**
- **Back to School Open House -TBA**
- **Fire Starter Dance - TBA**
- **The “front” of the building is the north side (Firebird statue)**
- **Drop off is the south side of building (flag pole)**
- **Pre-ACT- Fall 2022**



Pre-ACT

- All freshmen will take the Pre-ACT at Free State High School
- Pre-ACT will be given in Fall of 2022
- This is a FREE opportunity
- The purpose of this is to give students practice for the ACT
- No accommodations are given for this test
- Students will be mailed their score



Spring Open House-April 2022

Stay tuned for more information about self-guided
tours and LINK orientation at FSHS



See you
August 17
Firebird
Class of 2026!

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