

Welcome Back Update!



Dear Fort Zumwalt East Families,

It is with great excitement and a renewed sense of purpose that I welcome back our returning students and extend a heartfelt welcome to all new families joining the Eastside community. I hope you found time this summer to rest, recharge, and enjoy the people and moments that matter most to you.

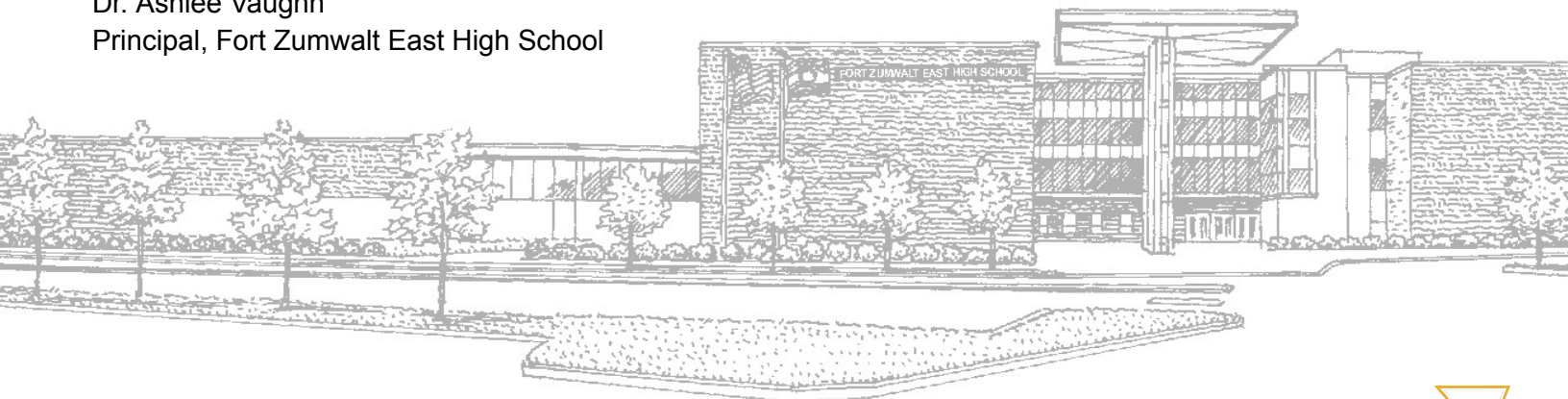
As we prepare to begin the 2025–2026 school year, I want to take a moment to share important information to help your student feel confident and prepared for a strong start. This year we are continuing to build on the solid foundation of academic excellence, personal growth, and community connection that makes East High such a special place.

One of the most impactful changes this year is the addition of a second Advisory day on Fridays. This expansion will provide students with even more time to connect with teachers, set and monitor academic and personal goals, and receive individualized support. We're excited about the ways this time will help students feel seen, supported, and successful.

We are also implementing an updated cell phone policy in alignment with Missouri state law. The policy will go into effect on the first day of school. The details of this update, along with other helpful back-to-school information, including daily schedules, immunization requirements, and important beginning-of-the-year dates, are included below for your reference.

I am truly looking forward to the year ahead and all the growth, achievement, and memories it will bring for our students. Thank you for your continued support and partnership in your child's education. It is an honor to serve this community, and I can't wait to see what we accomplish together this year!

Dr. Ashlee Vaughn
Principal, Fort Zumwalt East High School



REGISTRATION/ENROLLMENT/SCHEDULE INFORMATION

- All schedules will be available online **the week of August 11th**.
- [Online registration](#) is due by **Monday, August 18, the first day of school**. **Students will not be able to access their Chromebooks if this is not completed by the first day of school.**
- For those missing proof of residency, please submit this by August 19.
- Log in to your [Parent Portal](#) for more information, or contact our Registrar, Andrea Lammle, at alamlle@fz.k12.mo.us or 636-477-2471.

IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

- **MCV-Meningococcal conjugate vaccine (must be given prior to entering 12th grade)**
Requirements include two doses of the vaccine. One vaccination should be before 8th grade, between 11-12 years old and the second dose **prior to entering 12th grade**. If the first dose wasn't administered until the age of 16, only one dose is required. At least one dose must be given after 16 years of age. **Students will not be able to attend the first day of school if they do not have this vaccine on file.**
- Come to our Fort Zumwalt [Back To School Bash](#) on **August 7 from 12-3 p.m. at South High School** to receive free immunizations among other resources and enrollment support.
- Please contact our nurse, Mrs. Thode at sthode@fz.k12.mo.us or visit our [Clinics, Health, and Wellness](#) page on our website if you have any questions or need any additional information.

DAILY SCHEDULE INFORMATION

At East High School, we have “**A, B, C, D, and Advisory Days**” with different release times and class schedules for each day. Please see our [School Calendar](#) for more details about our days and bell schedule.

Mondays: A Day

Tuesdays: Advisory Day

Wednesdays: C/D Day

Thursdays: B Day

Fridays: Advisory Day

Special Note: Advisory is hosted for 20 minutes every **Tuesday and Friday** on weeks with block days from 12:45-1:05 p.m. On weeks **without block days, we'll stick to our regular A-day schedule**. Please see the [color calendar](#) for reference.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

- [Back to School Bash](#) (August 7 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.)
- [FZE Preview Day \(For Freshmen & Transfer Students\)](#) (August 8 7:30 - 11:00 a.m.)
- [Open House](#) (August 21 6:00 p.m.)
- **School Pictures with Wagner Portraits** (August 21 in the Library- more info coming soon)



CELL PHONE POLICY UPDATE

As we prepare for the start of the 2025–26 school year, we want to inform you of an important change to our daily operations in accordance with **Senate Bill 68**, signed into Missouri law on July 9, 2025. This law requires all public schools to implement a policy prohibiting student use or display of **personal communication devices** during the school day. The law features exceptions for emergencies and for students with specific educational or health needs. If your student has a specific educational or health need, please reach out to your child's assistant principal for assistance.

This means that **beginning August 18**, all **cell phones, smartwatches, personal cordless headphones**, and other personal communication devices must be **off and put away** from the **first bell at 7:25 AM to the final dismissal bell at 2:25 PM on A/B/Advisory Days, 12:55 C Days, and 11:55 PM D Days**). This includes passing times, lunch, and any other non-instructional periods. Devices should remain in a student's backpack, locker, or vehicle during the school day.

We recognize that students will be adjusting to these new expectations the first days of school. Please support your students and our school by having conversations with them regarding these new rules. We are all (every public school in the state) in this together and we can help our students build healthy technology habits.

Fort Zumwalt policy [JG-R](#) has been adjusted to fit this new state law. Violations of the policy will result in the following consistent consequences:

- **1st Offense** - Warning (parent notified by mail, student pick-up phone in office end of the day)
- **2nd Offense** - 2 hours detention (parent notified by mail, student pick-up phone in office end of day)
- **3rd Offense** - 4 hours detention (parent notified by mail, parent pick-up phone)
- **4th and 5th Offense** - 3 days ZAEP, parent pick up phone
- **6th - 9th Offense** - 5 days ZAEP, parent pick up phone
- **Subsequent Offenses** - See Chronic Disciplinary Violations, OSS
- **Chronic Disciplinary Violations**- 5 to 10 days OSS with possible referral to Superintendent for additional suspension days

Phones will be collected by an administrator and securely stored in the **main office** until the end of the school day. Students may not retrieve phones until after the final dismissal bell.

If you need to contact your student during the school day, please call the **main office** at **636-477-2400**. Messages will be relayed promptly.

If you would like to learn more, see our [Personal Device Guidebook](#). This is a live document and will be updated as we continue to collaborate with district office and throughout implementation.

We appreciate your partnership in helping create a focused, respectful, and distraction-free learning environment for all East High students.



ADVISORY & NETWORKING EXPANSION

We are excited to continue and expand our Advisory and Academic Networking Program at Fort Zumwalt East High School. This initiative aims to provide personalized guidance and mentorship, fostering a stronger sense of connection and support for our students. Beginning this year, we will expand Advisory to two days each week: **Tuesday and Friday**. Advisory sessions focus on academic support, college and career planning, and life skills development. Following these sessions, the Academic Networking period will offer tutoring, enrichment activities, and various club meeting opportunities. We believe this program enhances our students' academic and personal growth, and we look forward to your support and partnership in this endeavor.

Please see the program guides for more information:

[Parent Edition: Advisory and Academic Networking Guide](#)

[Student Edition: Advisory and Academic Networking Guide](#)

CONNECT WITH US!

Connect with us with this [EHS Communication Channel Guide!](#)

LUNCHES & STUDENT NUTRITION

- Our cafeteria menus will be available on our [Dining](#) page. Please refer to the Fort Zumwalt School District [Student Nutrition](#) page as well for more information about our menu items and pricing.
- To add money to your student's lunch account during the school year, you can go to the FZ Parent portal, [head to the LunchTime menu item and deposit there](#). You can bring cash or checks written out to Fort Zumwalt East.
- Copies of the [Free and Reduced Meal Application](#) are available in the Counseling office. Once completed, please submit to fzsns@fz.k12.mo.us. Online applications are also available [here](#).
- Parents can bring lunch to school for their student and drop it off at the attendance desk. However, third party deliveries will be turned away at the security guard shack (i.e. Jimmy John's, Uber Eats, Door Dash).

ACTIVITIES

East High has a wide range of extracurricular and athletic opportunities on our campus. Please check out our [Activities](#) webpage here to learn more. From sports to clubs, theater to choir, we hope your child can get involved in at least one activity at East and make new connections, while learning valuable skills. On our webpage, you can find our livestream channel, required forms for participation, and schedules of our sports and activities. **All athletes**, marching band members, and MSHSAA activity participants (choir, orchestra, band) are required to register for their activity annually prior to trying out and participating. Be sure to register [here](#) before **August 4th, 2025**. If you're just interested in enjoying our athletic contests, visit our [ticketing page](#) to purchase a family pass, activity voucher, or single game tickets. We'd love for you to purchase tickets ahead of time and throughout the site. Cash will be limited at all our events. Reach out to **Seth Wilber** in the activities office with any questions you may have.

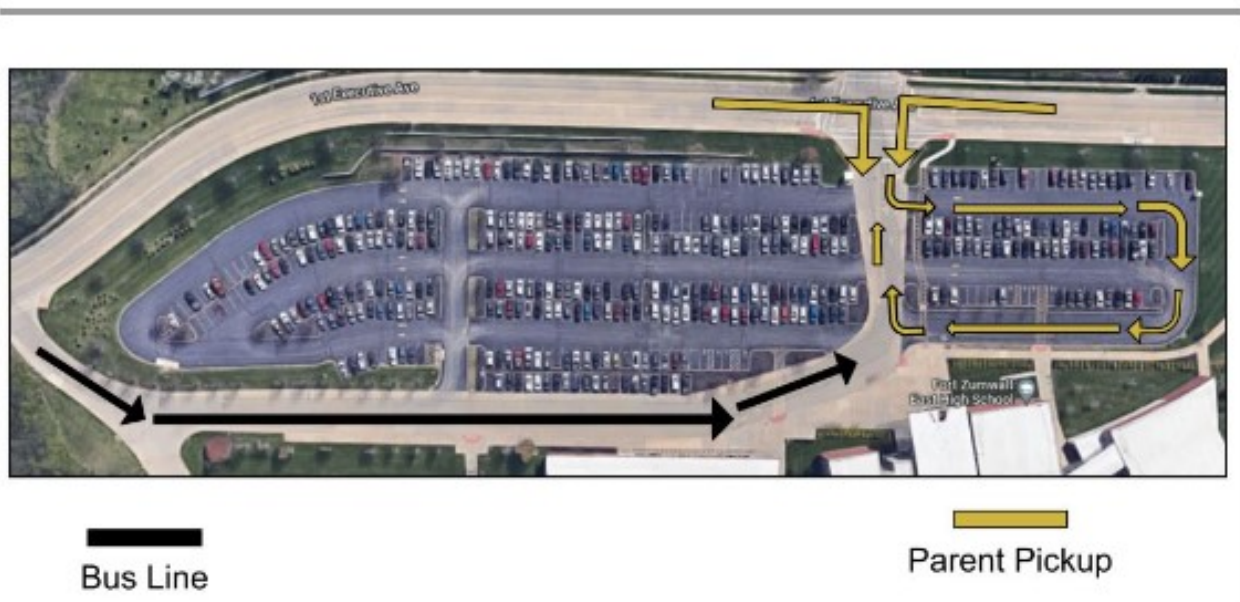


PICKUP/DROPOFF/BUS INFORMATION

Please note that release times are different depending on our [School Calendar](#).

- **Bus Riders:** For students riding the bus home, please refer to this [Interactive Map](#) to find their bus stop.
- **Parent/Guardian Pickup:** For all parents and guardians picking up their students at East High School, please refer to the East High Dismissal Map below

East High Dismissal Map



- **Student Drivers:** Parking applications for our student drivers **are available in the registration portal and can also be picked up in Dr. Wright's office (Room # 520).**
 - In addition to the completed permit application, students should submit a copy of their **current driver's license and insurance information.**
 - Permits will be issued to students during the first two weeks of school. The yearly cost is \$50. A permit purchased during second semester will cost \$25.
 - A full list of rules is listed on the second page of the [Parking Application](#).
 - The parking lot map below will help determine your tag color and where you can park.
 - If a parking permit is destroyed, altered, lost, or stolen, a replacement may be purchased in the office. Please call Dr. Wright's office with any questions at **636-477-2442**.



VISITORS & VOLUNTEERS

- **Parents, want to get involved? Join our [Booster Club](#), or our [Grad Night Committee](#)!**
- **Parent/Guardian Volunteers.** Any volunteer that may be left alone with a student must complete the screening process and be approved prior to their volunteer service. To learn more about the process, go to the [District's Volunteer Page](#).
- **Campus Visitors.** All campus visitors are required to check in with the security guard shack at our main entrance during school hours. Once checked in, all visitors will be screened upon entry by the office staff using Raptor Visitor Management System. **Please have your valid driver's license or state ID available to be screened.**

STUDENT SAFETY

- [EHS Student Handbook](#)
- [Notice of Nondiscrimination](#)
- [Bullying](#)

SENIOR PORTRAITS

Senior portraits are more than just a photo. These professional, high-quality images are used for **formal events and recognitions** throughout senior year, including:

- Senior Awards Night
- Graduation programs and slideshows
- Award plaques that include student photos
- The **Senior Composite**, which hangs in our Alumni Hallway
- The **Senior Section of the Yearbook**

Please note: **ID photos are not used** for any of these events or publications. They are only used in our student information system and for informal purposes. **Students who do not take a senior portrait will not appear in the senior section of the yearbook or in the class composite.** Missing this photo can also impact their participation in other senior-year recognitions and events.

If you would like your photos taken as early as possible and potentially plan to buy a package, we recommend you sign up for the summer dates. These dates and how to book an appointment were sent last week.

Senior photos are free if you're only using them for school-related purposes like the yearbook, senior composite, and graduation displays, and not ordering them for personal use. **The no-cost/no sitting fee option will be available August 6th ([Sign up here](#))** and during the fall session when photographers return to East High during the school day for Senior Portrait Retakes. We'll share those extra dates after the summer sessions have ended.

We are sharing this now to give everyone ample time to plan. We want all seniors to be included and celebrated fully during their final year at East. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK!

- Purchase your [25-26 East High yearbook](#) today! **Early Bird Pricing before August 19th!**
- Enter Code: **24998**

