

Brandon Layne

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27 July 2020

Dear Parent:

I would like to ask you for your support for the 2020 football season. Our motto is “Head Down, Go To Work” . In a time where working through a global pandemic is new every day, I think that motto is very applicable. We will keep our head down and go to work every day to overcome the adversity of an ever changing world. The FISD Athletic Department and Football Program will do everything we can to provide your child a safe environment to compete in. I have purchased a Splash Shield for all helmets that will help prevent the spread of COVID-19 while practicing and competing in football. We as a staff will need your support to set the standard for our kids, program and community! We preach on a daily basis 3 life standards of, Be Right, Compete and Execute. Everything your child does athletically, academically and personally should reflect those standards.

Every parent thinks his/her son is a star, which is only human. However, being realistic, only 11 players can become starters offensively and 11 defensively. Other team members will get to play, but not wear the title of starter. YOU must ENCOURAGE, not COMPLAIN; MOTIVATE, not AGITATE; and be a TEAM PARENT, not a selfish parent, if your son happens to be a non-starter.

Regardless of the outcome of our season (wins and losses), your son will be a better person if the proper parental guidance is practiced. My experience, over 20 years as a player and coach, has taught me this. Keep in mind the real purpose of why your son is playing football – TO BECOME A BETTER PERSON. Most of you know how we run our program; we demand Discipline, Teamwork, Sacrifice and Motivation. You, as a parent, must be able to handle the “ups and downs” your son will go through in our program.

POSITIVE FOOTBALL PLAYER GUIDANCE BY A PARENT will certainly help your son on the “right track in life”. He’ll be better able to cope with his future bosses, company policies, his future wife, the civil laws and any other institutions of authority. It takes a special type of young man to play this tough game. Parental influence is extremely vital. The great players I’ve coached, besides having talent, have had good parental influence.

In conclusion, I want to thank you for allowing your son to be a part of our program. I’m certainly looking forward to coaching your son. We have very high expectations for this 2020 football team, and will need your support throughout this long season.

Sincerely

Brandon Layne

Brandon Layne

Head Football Coach

Ferris Yellowjackets

**Parent Meeting Friday August 7 @ 7:00 PM for Freshmen and 7:30 PM for JV/VAR**

**2020 Ferris Fall Camp Schedule**



**August 3**

 Report 5:30 AM

 9th/JV Pick up- 8:15 AM

 Varsity Pick up- 9:45 AM

**August 4**

Report 5:30 AM

 Pick up- 7:55 AM

**August 5**

 Report 5:30 AM

 9th/JV Pick up- 8:00 AM

 Varsity Pick up- 9:35 AM

**August 6**

 Report 5:30 AM

 Pick up- 8:30 AM

**\*\*August 7**

 Report 4:00 PM

 Adrenaline Fundraiser kickoff

 Pick up- 7:30 PM

**August 8**

 Report 7:00 AM

 Pick up- 9:30 AM

**August 10**

 Report 5:30 AM

 9th/JV Pick up- 8:15 AM

 Varsity Pick up- 9:45 AM

**August 11**

 Report 5:30 AM

 Pick up- 8:30 AM

**August 12**

 First Day of School

 1st Period Athletes Report 7:00 EVERY day during school

**2020 In School Practice Schedule**



**1st Period Athletics**

7:30-8:20-Practice

8:20-8:34-Dress/Breakfast

**Monday**

Report 7:00-7:15 AM

PM Practice until 6:15

Freshman 8th period-5:00

**Tuesday**

Report 7:00-7:15 AM

PM Practice until 6:15

Freshman 8th period-5:00

**Wednesday**

Report 7:00-7:15 AM

NO PM Practice

Freshman 8th Period Only

**Thursday**

Report 7:00-7:15 AM

PM Practice (Varsity) until 4:45

9th/JV Gameday

**Friday**

Report 7:00-7:15 AM

PM No Practice

Varsity Gameday

We will practice on all no school days in FISD Calendar:

September 7, October 5,6, Thanksgiving (playoffs)

**\*\*\*DO NOT BE LATE TO THE PRACTICE FIELD!! ARRIVE EARLY ENOUGH TO DRESS AND BE ON THE FIELD AT THE TIME INDICATED ABOVE!! TARDINESS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED!!!**

###### 2020 **FERRIS YELLOWJACKETS**

**“Head Down, Go To Work!”**

**Absence – Tardy Policy**

Head Office Number: 972-544-3737 x2159; Coach Layne Cell: 903-271-7100

1. If an athlete is going to be absent, he must call in or speak personally to a varsity coach. That coach will determine if the absence is excused or unexcused. NOT CALLING IN OR SPEAKING TO A COACH IS AN AUTOMATIC UNEXCUSED ABSENCE. The reason for the absence then becomes irrelevant.
	1. An EXCUSED absence will require FLIP 4 tires to make-up running.
	2. An UNEXCUSED absence will require 8 Tires for make up running with the

same time requirements and will significantly affect playing time.

* 1. Absences MUST be made up as soon as possible or the first day an athlete is physically able.
	2. If an athlete accumulates 25 Tires without any attempt to make them up, he will be removed from the football program.
	3. **All tires must be completed before the athlete is permitted to participate in a game.**
1. Tardy or late for workouts
	1. If an athlete arrives within the first 15 minutes of practice – 1X Tires
	2. If an athlete arrives at practice after the first 15 minutes – 2X Tires
	3. If an excused tardy – (must be approved by Coach Layne)
	4. 1st Period Athletics begins at 7:30. The class is from 7:30-8:20 followed by breakfast. 4 Tardies may result in removal from program

**\*\*\*MULTIPLE UNEXCUSED ABSENCES OR TARDINESS WILL RESULT IN LIMITED PLAY, BENCHING AND/OR REMOVAL FROM THE ATHLETIC PROGRAM!\*\*\***

1. Profanity
	1. 1X Tire for profanity on the field. (This will be left to the discretion of the coach as to the number of Tires in relation to the language used)

Position coach or coach who assigns tires will administer the tire flipping!

ALL MAKE-UP FOR ABSENCES OR TARDIES WILL BE DONE AFTER WORKOUTS IN THE EVENING MONDAY-TUESDAYS.

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**“Head Down, Go To Work!”**

# TEN COMMANDMENTS OF FOOTBALL PARENTS

1. Be POSITIVE with your son; let him know he is accomplishing something by simply being part of the team. Don’t put him down if he is not getting to play as much as you would like to see him play.
2. Don’t offer excuses for him if he is not playing. There is usually a reason for it. Encourage him to work hard and be his best. Tell him he will get his chance. Remind him of what Major Applewhite did when he got his chance.
3. Don’t put down his coaches, etc. Remember the coach represents the “Boss”, the “Authority”, the “Parent”, the “Law”, etc. If you talk bad about your son’s coaches, how can you expect the youngster to respect the coach? You are teaching your son to be a complainer, not a doer.
4. Encourage your son to follow the team rules. Whether he is a first stringer or a seventh stringer, players must follow rules pertaining to curfew, drinking, smoking, girlfriends, promptness and school. Football is a very demanding sport and a coach must concern themselves with a player’s off the field activities in order to get the maximum physical and mental performances out of his players.
5. Insist on good grades. Check the number of hours your son spends on homework. It is the duty of the parents to see that their son is working in the classroom. (No matter how good a player he is, if he doesn’t have good grades, he doesn’t get into college.)
6. Don’t develop envy toward other players because you don’t like their parents, etc. Don’t try to live your life vicariously through your son. Football is a kids’ game – Let them play it! Don’t show any animosity or jealousy to any of your son’s teammates because they carry the ball more, score more touchdowns or even gets a write-up in the paper. This type of envy rubs off on your son and it can devastate the team. Who cares who scores, etc, as long as everyone does their job to the fullest and the Yellowjackets win the game?
7. Don’t think you know more than the coaches. The coach’s work with the players 12 months a year and they know what each kid can do and what he cannot do. As a fan, you are entitled to scream your head off, but don’t become belligerent and arrogant toward the players or coaches. Running teams become running teams because they don’t have the God given passing talents. Conversely, passing teams sometimes can’t become running teams. Coaches know the team’s talents. Please respect that!
8. Insist on your son’s respect for team rules, school rules, game officials and sportsmanship. Don’t let him make fools out of his family, school and team by some uncalled-for gesture or incident whereby he will bring shame. Self-respect begins with self-control.
9. Encourage your son to improve his self-image by being himself. Don’t compare and contrast your son with former family members who played previously. Every youngster is different. Don’t put added pressure on him by expecting him to be much better than his brother, etc.
10. Encourage your son to play for the love of the game – not a scholarship. This alleviates a lot of pressure on a youngster. Scholarships are something that is in the hands of college recruiters – Ferris High School doesn’t give them. I’ve seen some great players fizzle because the pressure on them to get a scholarship was so great. Players become selfish, etc. Insist on unselfishness. Usually, good things happen to the unselfish, hard-working athlete.

**WHAT WE EXPECT OF A YELLOWJACKETS FOOTBALL PLAYER**

**“Head Down, Go To Work!”**

1. BE ON TIME
2. MAINTAIN ACADEMIC ELIGIBILITY
3. MAINTAIN SELF DISCIPLINE ON AND OFF THE FIELD OF PLAY
4. BE THE BEST OF FERRIS
5. BE POSITIVE.
6. SET GOALS AND STRIVE TO ACHIEVE THEM.
7. BE TOUGH!! MENTALLY AND PHYSICALLY
8. NEVER GIVE UP!!!
9. DON’T LOAF!! CONTROL ATTITUDE AND EFFORT AT ALL TIMES!
10. BE AGGRESSIVE
	1. Run Hard
	2. Tackle Hard
	3. Block Hard
11. IMPROVE TEAM AND SELF DAILY
12. ALWAYS, ALWAYS THINK IN TERMS OF OUR TEAM WINNING.
13. BE RESPECTFUL AT ALL TIMES TO ALL STAFF AND TRAINERS.
14. LEAVE A LEGACY. LITTLE EYES ARE ALWAYS ON YOU!!
15. HAVE THE COURAGE TO SAY NO TO ANYONE OR ANYTHING THAT WILL

HURT OUR TEAM.

## ACADEMICS AND SCHOOL ROUTINE

All athletes are expected to be in regular attendance. We, as a coaching staff, have been very concerned with the number of absences our athletes have accumulated in the past. It is a state law that if a student misses 10% of a class, then he will not receive credit for that course even if he is passing. What this means, is that if a student has 9 absences, excused or not excused, he will be denied credit for that class. It is very important that our student athletes be in school and at practice.

Your conduct in class should be ABOVE THAT OF OTHER STUDENTS. They are looking to you for leadership. You must be a leader in behavior and in supporting your faculty and administration. If you need extra help in a subject, ask your teacher if you can come early, before school, lunch period, or any time the teacher will allow. Most teachers will be more than happy to help you if you show proper respect and display an interested attitude desiring to learn. These things will have a direct bearing on the kind of support we will receive from the faculty and administration. WE NEED THEIR SUPPORT!

NO PASS, NO PLAY has been a part of athletics for such a long time, there should be no excuses for not knowing the consequences of failing a class. Although the legislature has changed the rule to some degree, a student athlete that fails and is out of competition hurts the team. If the team cannot count on an individual to be disciplined and dedicated to passing, how can the team count on that individual to be disciplined and dedicated to building and maintaining a winning tradition at Ferris? It is both sad and embarrassing for parents of an individual, who has failed and cannot participate, to go to a contest and offer excuses for their athlete, when all he had to do was pass.

The coaches realize that only very few high school athletes will make a living playing or being involved in football after they graduate from Ferris High School. We are all concerned and dedicated to the academic achievement of each Yellowjackets football player. A well-rounded and useful education is the main purpose for attending school; all other activities should enhance and extend that education.

On the following pages are some suggestions and hints on how your student athlete can obtain the kind of education he can use in later life to become a productive and contributing member of our society. Please read over these with your athlete and discuss other ways in which he can reach his full potential.

**HAZING**

Hazing is against the law and will not be tolerated in the Athletic Department. “Hazing” means any intentional, knowing, or reckless act occurring on or off school property directed against a student, by one person alone, or acting with others, that endangers the mental or physical health or the safety of a student for the purpose of pledging, being initiated into, affiliating with, holding office in, or maintaining membership in any organization whose members are to include other students. Under Education Code 37.152 a person commits an offense if the person commits any of the following:

1. Engages in hazing
2. Solicits, encourages, directs, aids, attempts to aid another in engaging in hazing
3. Recklessly permits hazing to occur
4. Has firsthand knowledge of the planning of a specific hazing incident involving a student, or first-hand knowledge that a specific hazing incident has occurred, and knowingly fails to report that knowledge in writing to the Principal, Athletic Director, or designee.

**Hazing will not be tolerated. This is a criminal offense that will be treated as such. IF you are the victim of hazing, you MUST report it IMMEDIATELY to Coach Layne and Campus Principal.**

**FERRIS ISD FOOTBALL ACCOUNTABILITY CONTRACT**

The Ferris Independent School District provides a football program for the benefit of the students in this school district. We believe that participation in a competitive football program can provide students an opportunity to learn responsibility, dedication, leadership, hard work, respect for rules, respect for authority and many other qualities. The rules are established to promote these qualities and to help build and maintain a strong football program. A respected and competitive football program provides the best opportunity for our students. It is recognized that some of the expectations for athletes exceed the expectations for the general student body. Athletes are expected to follow the established rules. Violations of the rules will result in corrective and/or disciplinary action. The facts and circumstances will be taken into consideration when determining what actions will be taken. Students may be dismissed from the football program for violation of the rules.

1. **Any activity which is considered disrespectful on the field or in the school environment that brings disgrace to the football program will not be tolerated, including but not limited to, ISS, DAEP and in game behavior**. **The consequences for the above action will be:**

1st Offense: Extra conditioning and written apology

2nd Offense: 1 week suspension from the sport

3rd Offense: Expulsion from that sport for the remainder of the season.

\*Students returning from DAEP might not be allowed to compete in the first contest upon return.

1. **Use of alcohol will not be condoned. This includes, but is not limited to, being issued a citation for Minor in Possession, Driving While Intoxicated, Under the Influence, etc.**

**\*If you are arrested or charged with any criminal activity that brings disgrace or dishonor to the Ferris Yellowjacket football program, the consequences for the above actions will be:**

1st Offense – 2 week suspension from the sport and 50 tires. The tires must be completed before the athlete will be eligible to participate in the next contest.

2nd Offense– Expulsion from that sport for the remainder of the season.

1. **If you are caught with, arrested or charged for possession of or under the influence of an illegal drug, the consequences for the action(s) will be:**

1st Offense – Suspension from the football program for one (1) calendar year.

**(This is a “NO TOLERANCE” policy)**

**\* Any athlete that is serving suspension must attend and participate in all practice activities.**

\* **Re-entry to the Ferris Yellowjacket Football program will be decided by Head Coach.**

**\* All discipline must be completed before the athlete is eligible to return to the team.**

**\*Accountability, “ZAP”, folder will be completed on a weekly basis. (If an athlete accumulates 25 tires and lacks attempt to complete, he may be removed from the program at the Head Coach’s discretion)**

**In school or school sponsored trips refer to the student handbook and apply the policies that have been established by the school board.**

**I have read and agree to the above contract.** Date:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Student Signature Parent Signature

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Parent’s Phone Number Head Coaches Signature