



Family Educators Alliance of South Texas

"O taste and see that  
the LORD is good:  
blessed is the man that  
trusteth in Him."  
Psalm 34:8

---

A clearing house of information and support services for the home schooling community

## PARENT/STUDENT GUIDELINES FOR THE FEAST CO-OP

**Please read carefully. You are responsible for knowing and abiding by the following guidelines.**

The primary purpose for the FEAST Teaching Co-op is to provide additional options for parents as they continue to seek the Lord for His provision for their children's education. It is also to give an opportunity for members of the Body of Christ to make their gifts and talents available to others. It is not the purpose of FEAST to undermine the authority or confidence of parents in any way. An added bonus is the opportunity to encourage one another through Christian fellowship.

FEAST is a Christian organization. Our teachers are all Christians and teach from a Christian viewpoint. While we do not require parents to agree with our statement of faith, they must read it and sign that they have read and understand it.

It is very important that we demonstrate a good example of homeschooling and support the FEAST facility by following these guidelines for dress and behavior. Observance of the following guidelines will ensure that our objectives will be met. Our objectives are as follows: At all times, show thoughtfulness and respect toward the FEAST staff, teachers, parents, other students, FEAST customers and employees. When referring to FEAST, our actions and attitudes should honor our Lord Jesus Christ. *"Whatever you do in word or deed do all in the name of the Lord Jesus..." Col. 3:17.*

### SUPERVISION

The FEAST Co-op is not a typical school situation. The parent is completely responsible for their child/children even while they are at Co-op. This being said, we have instituted the following rules:

Students under 12 MAY NOT be left at the Co-op without adult supervision (Co-op staff or FEAST staff should not be considered adult supervision for your child). Students age 12 and up and registered for Co-op classes may be left at the Co-op without parental supervision, but we must have a reliable phone number to reach a parent in the case of an emergency.

You are the parent of your child (children) and are responsible for their actions at all times, whether or not you are present.

It is the parent's responsibility to inform either the teacher or the Co-op office if the child will be absent.

While at the Co-op, all children must be either in class or in the lunch area. No student is allowed in the FEAST bookstore, on any basketball court, loitering in hallways, or class rooms without a parent.

Children who have been removed from public or private schools and have not been homeschooled for at least 1 year, will not be admitted to Co-op without an interview with the parent and student, and will be on a probationary period of 1 semester.

Parents' class visitation: Co-op parents are free to visit any class, but they must stay the entire class time. Please do not visit classes that your child is not in without permission from the Co-op office. Classes are held on Thursdays and begin at 9:00 am and end at 5:00 pm. Please be prompt in picking up your child. Students may be dropped off no earlier than 15 minutes before their first class and must be picked up no later than 15 minutes after their last class. FEAST Teaching Co-op is not a baby-sitting service. Negligence may result in your family being dismissed from Co-op.

Visitors to Co-op: We always welcome visitors to Co-op who are considering joining the Co-op. Please notify the Co-op office if you are bringing a visitor. This cuts down on distractions.

### **ILLNESS POLICY**

If a child will be absent, it is the parent's responsibility to inform the teacher either by phone or e-mail. Please do not bring children to Co-op who have had fever, diarrhea, vomiting, or other contagious conditions in the last 24 hours. If your child requires any medication, please keep it with you and administer it yourself.

Teachers are not required to make up classes that your child may miss. Parents should request make up work from the teacher and work with the child at home to insure that they are caught up by the next class.

### **WEATHER POLICY**

If the weather is bad enough for schools to close, we will be closed. Otherwise, if there is bad weather, call the FEAST office (210) 342-4674 for the latest on Co-op closings.

### **REGISTRATION FEE AND TUITION POLICY**

Registration fees are per child, not per class. Registration fees are used to cover some of the costs of operating the FEAST Co-op. Registration fees, first months tuition, and class supply fees are due when registering for classes. Tuition and supply fee checks must be made payable to the teacher. Registration fees must be made payable to FEAST. A family registration is \$90 per year, an individual registration is \$50 per year. Lockers are available for a nominal charge of \$15 per semester

Tuition is due the first class day of the month. Please make all tuition checks payable to the teacher and deliver them to the Co-op office or put them in the drop box. Please indicate the class and student on the check. **A \$10 fee will be charged for late payments (made payable to FEAST).**

Please register for classes carefully. Our teachers are making a commitment to teach your children for the full time frame (whether it is 6 weeks, 12 weeks, one semester or a full year) and you need to make the same commitment. Registration fees, any tuition fees and supply fees you have paid are non-refundable. Students who do not pay their tuition by the third Thursday of the month will not be allowed to attend classes until payment has been made. **There is only a two week drop period. If you do not drop a class before the drop period you are obligated for the entire semester's tuition, even if you are paying on a monthly basis.**

### **Interaction**

We believe that it is possible to have healthy social interaction and mature Christian relationships. For the protection of our families, our Christian fellowship, and our testimony within the community, it is vital that we conduct ourselves with godliness at all times and adhere to moral purity. FEAST facilities

and activities are not a forum for dating or carousing activities. We ask that in all FEAST Co-op activities, the behavior between singles of the opposite sex be above reproach by avoiding the appearance of wrong-doing. Flirtations or suggestive communications are unacceptable behavior.

The FEAST Teaching Co-op reserves the right to make determination of what interaction is not considered satisfactory.

*“Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.” Ephesians 4:29-32*

## **FEAST CO-OP STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY**

By virtue of participation in the Co-op ministry, students and their families voluntarily accept the behavioral standards as stated by FEAST Co-op. All participants are expected and encouraged to exercise personal self discipline, restraint and genuine kindness toward others. In dealing with any offense that may arise, it is the desire of this ministry that the Biblical approach to discipline be applied as found in Matthew 18:15- 17.

*If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. If he listens to you, you have won your brother over. But if he will not listen, take one or two others along, so that every matter may be established by the testimony of two or three witnesses. If he refuses to listen even to the church, treat him as you would a pagan or tax collector.*

### **DISCIPLINARY MEASURES**

Forms of discipline may include fine, work assignments, probation, suspension or dismissal.

- Fines will not exceed the cost to repair or replace property damaged by the individual.
- Work assignments are to be completed exactly as requested within a specified time limit
- Probation may involve loss of privileges and exclusions from co-op activities or the use of the facility.
- Suspension is a removal from the Co-op with an option to reapply after a specified period. This normally requires an individual to leave the facility immediately.
- Dismissal is the last resort and means of permanent removal from the program. A dismissed individual may not be present in any facilities or at any functions related to this ministry without the written permission of the Co-op Committee Chairman.

The student and parent or adult guardian must accept this discipline measure with a good attitude or be dismissed from the Co-op without refund. At the discretion of the Co-op office, some offenses can result in immediate dismissal from the Co-op.

Fines, work assignments, probation and suspension may be levied by the Co-op Coordinator. Dismissal may only be levied by the Co-op Committee Chairman.

An individual may appeal a disciplinary action to the Co-op Committee. An appeal must be made in writing within seven (7) days after a discipline has been enforced.

# Dress Code

All students will conform to the following dress code. If a student is in violation of the dress code he will not be allowed to attend class until the violation has been corrected. If the violation cannot be corrected the student will be required to wait in the Co-op office until his parents can pick him up.

- Hair – Hair may not be dyed an unnatural color such as but not limited to green, red, blue etc. Boys may not have any facial hair. Hair is not allowed to be below the collar line of the shirt. And must be above the ears. No “extreme” hairstyles are permitted on campus
- Shirts – No muscle shirts, tank tops, spaghetti straps, mesh, form fitting, low cut shirts or blouses. Shirts must cover mid-drifts and backs. All shirts must have sleeves.
- Shorts – Boys may wear **dress** shorts (NO basketball shorts). Girls may wear knee length capris.
- Skirts- Skirts must be just below the knee or longer. It is recommended that elementary age girls wear shorts underneath their skirts.
- Pants- Pants are to fit securely around the waist. If needed a belt is to be worn. Hip huggers are not permitted. Form fitting pants are not allowed on campus. Students are not allowed to wear pants that drag on the floor.
- Clothing- Torn clothing is not permitted on campus. No clothing with inappropriate pictures or slogans may be worn. Clothing or accessories which can be construed as being gang related are not allowed.
- Body Piercing- Girls may have pierced ears. Only one set of earrings may be worn at any given time, one in each ear. Boys may not have any body piercing. Girls may only wear earrings in their ears, no other body piercing are acceptable.
- Hats- Boys may not wear hats inside the buildings.
- Tattoos – Tattoos are not permitted. If you have a tattoo it must be covered with clothing and/or band aides.
- Under garments- under garments are not to be visible, this also includes sport types and tops that resemble camisoles.

FEAST reserves the right to modify the dress code at any time. Please dress modestly while on the FEAST campus.

Due to so much variety in clothing styles, the FEAST Teaching Co-op reserves the right to make final determination of what dress is considered inappropriate.

## Summary of Rules of Conduct:

- Parents must watch over their children at all times.
- Students are only allowed on the covered patio, the lunch area, and in the portable building classrooms.
- Office phones are for emergency use only.
- Be good stewards of the facilities and parking lot by leaving each in a better condition than it was found. (Put the chairs back where they belong, trash in trashcans, etc.) Each person needs to take a personal interest and responsibility for keeping the facility clean. This includes EVERYONE. Please assist us in the enforcement of this rule by lovingly reminding those around you. Our care of the facilities is a reflection on all of us. Let us do everything unto the Lord.
- Food and drinks are only allowed in the lunch area. Food in classrooms is reserved for special class parties with permission from the Co-op office.
- Show respectful obedience to all FEAST staff, parents, teachers, and any adults on campus.
- Inappropriate language, conversations, and boy-girl situations are not acceptable and will be subject to discipline.
- Electronic equipment is not allowed (headphones, tape players, laptops, ipods, walkmans, electronic games, radios, etc.). Computers may be used in class only.
- No knives, guns, water guns, laser pointers or any other dangerous or distracting items are allowed at Co-op or on FEAST property. These items will be collected by teachers and will be turned in to the FEAST office.
- To ensure continued availability for everyone, FEAST property may not be taken from the FEAST facility without prior written authorization from the Facilities Use Committee. FEAST property and facilities must be properly secured after use.
- FEAST is not responsible for your personal belongings. Lost and found items will be donated to a needy charity at the end of the month.
- Advertising, surveys, or printed materials may not be distributed or left in any FEAST facility or FEAST sponsored activity, without written permission from the Facilities Use Committee.
- No skateboards, scooters, rollerblades, etc. on the premises.
- Dress code must be followed at all times.
- Gambling is prohibited.
- The possession of literature, pictures, posters or recordings presenting an indecent or immoral activity or ungodly belief or philosophy is prohibited.
- Use of tobacco, alcohol or narcotic drugs, or the implied use of these. is prohibited.

# **FEAST Statement of Faith**

- We believe the Holy Bible, both Old and New Testaments, to be the inspired Word of God, without error, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of man, and the Divine and final authority for all Christian faith and life.
- We believe in one infinite, true God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
- We believe Jesus Christ is true God and true man, having been conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. Having lived without sin, He truly died and was resurrected in His own body for our atonement and resurrection.
- We believe that only through His death by the shedding of His blood and His resurrection are we provided justification and salvation.
- We believe in the bodily resurrection of all mankind; for the believer to an everlasting dwelling with God, for the unbeliever to an everlasting, conscious hell without God.
- We believe that the ministry of the Holy Spirit is to glorify the Lord Jesus Christ, to convict men of sin, regenerate the believing sinner, indwell, guide, instruct and empower the believer for godly living and service.
- We believe in the imminent, bodily return of the Lord Jesus Christ.