Dear MACS Community,

Welcome to an exciting 2021-2022 school year! We are opening with five full days of in-person instruction and are ready to offer a robust curriculum and tiered academic supports delivered by our highly qualified staff.

MACS has a valued tradition of partnerships between the school and home. I hope that this calendar helps to strengthen that relationship by providing a tool for you to keep track of the many opportunities available throughout the year. Please be reminded that the restrictions of the pandemic may cause some of the events to be changed or rescheduled, and your flexibility and patience are appreciated. Be sure to check the District website (www.mexicocsd.org) frequently for updates and changes.

Let me know if you have any questions or concerns. You may reach me at the office (315) 963-8400, extension 5401, my cell phone (315) 200-9542, or email drunner@mexicocsd.org.

Thank you for partnering with us to educate the young people of this community.

Sincerely,

Donna Runner, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Visit the Mexico District website at Mexicocsd.org
ADMINISTRATION
Superintendent ......................................................Dr. Donna Runner
Asst Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction .........Colleen Root
Asst Superintendent for Teaching & Learning ..........Elizabeth DiCosimo
School Business Executive .......................................Sheila Roth
Director of Health, Physical Education & Athletics .........Andrew Gates
Director of Pupil Services .........................................Jennifer Stanton
Director of Technology, Data, and Innovation ...............Candace Fitzgerald
Interim High School Principal .....................................James Busco
Asst High School Principal .........................................James Busco
Middle School Principal .............................................Kimberly Holliday
Asst Middle School Principal .....................................Stacey Rebecchi
Mexico Elementary Principal ......................................Elizabeth Voegler
New Haven Elementary Principal ...............................Jennifer Granholm
Palermo Elementary Principal ....................................Peggy Scorzelli

DISTRICT PERSONNEL
Clerk of the Board of Education ................................Harmony Rice
School Business Manager .........................................JoAnn Bourgeois
Transportation Supervisor ........................................Melissa Clark
Director of Facilities III .............................................Michael Wood
Cafeteria Manager .....................................................Brenda Thomas

BOARD OF EDUCATION
President .................................................................James F Emery
Vice President .........................................................Darlene Upcraft
Member .......................................................................Chad Bigelow
Member .......................................................................Dennis Brooks
Member .......................................................................Connie Douglas
Member .......................................................................Amy Shaw
Member .......................................................................Susan Teifke
Student Member .........................................................Kendall Cuyler

Board of Education meetings typically are held on the second Thursday of each month. Board of Education workshop meetings are generally held on the fourth Thursday of the month. The term of office for Board of Education members is three years.

MEXICO ACADEMY & CENTRAL SCHOOLS
Inspiring Excellence and Leadership in All!

MISSION:
Educate and motivate our students to be successful, responsible citizens.

VISION:
Recognized as a school district that inspires excellence and leadership in all!

CORE BELIEFS:
• We put students first.
• All students can learn.
• We provide a safe, secure environment for all.
• Collaboration among students, staff, families and the community is essential to our success.
• Our schools are the heart of our community.
• We value creativity and innovation.
• We lead with honesty and integrity.
• Our supportive and rigorous learning environment nurtures the whole child.
• All are treated with dignity, respect and compassion.

WHEN YOU HAVE A QUESTION
If you have any questions relating to school or education, please contact your child’s teacher. If your child’s teacher is unable to provide the answers, they may direct you through the proper channels. If you need further clarification than the teacher provided, please contact your child’s building Principal. The building Principal is more than willing to provide assistance. If the building Principal is unable to resolve the issue, they may refer you to the District Office staff. If after contact District Office staff you still have further questions, you may contact the Superintendent (ext. 5401). Please know that while our elected school board members are not charged with the responsibility of resolving administrative matters, they are willing to listen if the aforementioned process has not resulted in clarification. It is our hope that working in a partnership with your child’s teacher, building Principal and other district staff members will satisfactorily resolve any questions that you may have.

Another avenue for communicating with our District is to utilize our “Let’s Talk” feature on our district website to submit questions, suggestions, compliments or concerns to a selected interest area. Each interest area is managed by a member of the district staff who will provide an answer within an allotted timeframe.

PARENT WRITTEN REQUEST
(NOT TO RELEASE STUDENT INFORMATION)
A parent or eligible student may request that directory information not be released. Such request must be made in writing. If you have questions concerning this policy, please contact the principal of the building your child attends. Under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA) two federal laws now require school districts to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of students who are juniors or seniors unless parents have submitted a written request not to disclose their child’s information. Written requests must be submitted to the main office at your child’s school by September 29, 2021.
### September 2021

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
1 | Staff Development Day  
Welcome back, staff!!!  
Staff Development Day  
JROTC Welcome Aboard  
Cookout for Freshmen 4:30-6pm | 2 | Freshmen Orientation 6pm  
Staff Development Day  
JROTC Welcome Aboard  
Cookout for Freshmen 4:30-6pm  
Board Meeting 6pm | 3 | Staff Off | 4 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
5 | **Labor Day**  
**NO SCHOOL** | 6 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
7 | First Day of School for K-12  
Modified Fall Sports Start | 8 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
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9 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
10 | Class of 2022  
Gertrude Hawk Fundraiser | 11 |  

---|---|---|---|---|---|---

**UPK SCREENING**  
**BUS SAFETY DRILL (K-12)**

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
12 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
13 | UPK Bus Run | 14 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
15 | Bus Safety Drill (Pre K)  
MS Disney Trip Meeting 6:30pm | 16 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
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17 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
18 | Oswegatchie Outdoor High  
Ropes Leadership Lab  
SU Band Day  
Class of 2022 Prom | 19 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
20 | ME Picture Day  
HS Picture Day | 21 | IT Professionals Day | 22 | NH Picture Day | 23 | Board Workshop 6pm | 24 | HS Homecoming Parade/  
Pep Rally/Dance | 25 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
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**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
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**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
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**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
29 | Pal Picture Day | 30 |  

**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
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31 |  

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**PAL BOOK FAIR**  
**ME BOOK FAIR**
SCHOOL BUS SAFETY

Make sure that your 911 house number can be seen by your bus driver.

SAFETY SKILLS WHEN WAITING FOR THE BUS:

A. Please walk safely to your bus stop.
   REASON: Always be careful near traffic and avoid strangers.

B. Please arrive 10 minutes early.
   REASON: Too early - you are waiting alone too long.
   Too late - you could get hurt rushing to the bus.
   Buses can't wait more than 30 seconds.

C. Please wait quietly away from the road.
   REASON: Cars don't always stay on the road. If you are running
   you might go into the road by accident.

D. Please walk towards bus only after bus driver signals it's safe.
   REASON: The bus might skid as it stops or traffic not stop right away.
   The driver signals when it's safe to load.

SAFETY SKILLS WHEN RIDING THE BUS:

A. Please do not distract the driver.
   REASON: The driver's full attention must be on driving.
   Distractions take the driver's eyes off the road.

B. Please keep body inside the bus.
   REASON: Trees, trucks, and utility poles have caused bad injuries
   to children hanging out windows.

C. Please be respectful of other riders.
   REASON: Every student deserves a safe ride to school.
   Quiet talking with friends is OK.

D. PLEASE KNOW HOW TO EVACUATE YOUR BUS.
   REASON: Keep the aisles and floor clear. Know where emergency
   exits are located and how to use them.

SAFETY SKILLS WHEN LOADING THE BUS:

A. Please use the handrail.
   REASON: A fall on the stairs could hurt.

B. Please do not bring large, sharp, or breakable items on the bus.
   REASON: In the event of an accident you would be thrown against
   whatever you are carrying.

C. Please use a backpack or book bag to keep belongings together.
   REASON: You could be injured if picking up things they have
   dropped near the bus as the driver cannot see them.

D. Sit down immediately, stay seated.
   REASON: A quick start could knock you down if you are not seated.
   Stay in your seat until time to get off.

SAFETY SKILLS WHEN CROSSING IN FRONT OF THE BUS:

A. Walk 15 giant steps ahead of the bus until you can see the
   driver's face.
   REASON: The driver must always be able to see you.
   If you drop something near the bus leave it and after the bus
   leaves tell an adult so they can retrieve it.

B. Wait for the driver's signal.
   REASON: The driver will signal when it is safe to cross.
   Be sure you know the driver's signals.

C. If clear, cross quickly. If not clear, return to curb.
   REASON: If it isn't safe to cross, move back to the side of the road.
   Don't just stand waiting in the road.

SAFETY SKILLS WHEN UNLOADING THE BUS:

A. ALL ELECTRONICS ARE TO BE OFF AND PUT AWAY.
   REASON: Cell phones, I-pods, MP3 players, electronic games,
   etc. may cause distraction. Students need to focus on their
   surroundings and potential dangers. No headphones or earbuds.

B. Avoid loose clothing, drawstrings and hanging straps.
   REASON: These items can get caught in handrails and other
   parts of the bus. You could be dragged and injured

C. Check before you step.
   REASON: Be sure no cars are trying to pass on the shoulder.
   Be sure you have enough room to move away from the bus.

D. Move at least 15 feet away from the bus right away.
   REASON: If you can touch the bus you are too close.
   Don't walk alongside the bus. The bus can be very dangerous.

E. Go directly home.
   REASON: Be sure to stop at home before you go to a
   friend's house to play or visit. Stay away from strangers!
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<td>ME PTO Mtg 7 pm</td>
<td>Pal PTC Mtg 5pm</td>
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<td>18</td>
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<td>NH Open House 7-12 Band Concert 7pm</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>ME Open House</td>
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<td>24</td>
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<td>Rachel's Challenge Presentation Day 7/8 Gr. &amp; HS Fall Chorus Concert 7pm</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>NH Picture Retakes HS Chain Reaction Day Start date: Mod Volleyball &amp; Mod Boys Basketball MS Open House 6 - 7:30pm</td>
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**October 2021**

- **October 1, 2021**
  - HS Principal's reception 2:15-2:45 welcome to our school (GAPP)
  - ASAP starts

- **October 2, 2021**
  - Districtwide Go Home Early Drill
  - End of 5-Week Marking Period

- **October 3, 2021**
  - Columbus Day NO SCHOOL
  - Class of 2022 Krispy Kreme Fundraiser

- **October 4, 2021**
  - ME PTO Mtg 7 pm
  - Pal PTC Mtg 5pm

- **October 5, 2021**
  - 4th Grade Beginning Band Night @ 6pm (MS)
  - HS Open House

- **October 6, 2021**
  - NH PTC Mtg 7 pm
  - MS Picture Day Board Meeting 6pm

- **October 7, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 8, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 9, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 10, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 11, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 12, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 13, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 14, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 15, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 16, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 17, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 18, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 19, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 20, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 21, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 22, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 23, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 24, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 25, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 26, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
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- **October 27, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 28, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 29, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 30, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

- **October 31, 2021**
  - 5-Week Progress Reports
  - Go Home

**RED RIBBON WEEK • BAND SARA LEE PIE FUNDRAISER 10/25-11/8**
UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN
Each of the district’s elementary buildings offers Universal Pre-K (UPK). UPK is a free half-day preschool program. Children eligible for UPK must be age 4 by December 1st of the year they are in UPK. Students are required to have a completed physical exam, lead test results, and mandated immunizations for entrance into the program. Transportation will be provided upon request. Registration for UPK will begin in March. Contact the District Registrar, Stacey Rohling (x5400), for further information.

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION
Registration for children entering kindergarten in September will be held in each elementary school during April and May. Children must be five years of age before December 1 of the year of registration. Parents may wait until the child is six years of age before entering their child in school, if the child has not reached his/her sixth birthday before December 1. If there are extenuating circumstances, students born between December 1 and December 31 may be considered for kindergarten. Parents are reminded to bring a birth certificate (or other proof of child’s age), a certificate of immunization, completed medical physical form, custody papers (if applicable) and proof of residency. Registration is conducted at the District Office by the District Registrar. It includes a review of records. Each elementary building will schedule a screening appointment, which involves various classroom activities. State law requires that all children entering school be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis, polio, measles, rubella, mumps, hepatitis B and varicella. Parents should be advised that in accordance with the law, kindergarten children who do not have complete immunizations on record will not be picked up or allowed into school on the first day. They will not be allowed to return until a certificate of required immunization is presented to school officials.

HEALTH SERVICES
A Registered Nurse is in each school building and offers a variety of services to students. Physical examinations are required for all students that are new to the Mexico School District, those participating in extra-curricular sports (grades 7-12), and all students in grades PreK, K, 1, 3, 5, 7, 9 and 11. It is recommended that physical examinations be performed by your child's health care provider. However, the school will provide examinations free of charge with written parental consent. Parents may request to be present during a school examination. Additional screening measures, including height, weight, body mass index, blood pressure, vision, hearing, and scoliosis are performed at various times throughout a child's school attendance. New York State Education Law requires that BMI (body mass index) and weight status group be included as part of each student’s school health examination. Our district may be selected to report summary data (no names or information about individual students) to the New York State Department of Health. You may choose to have your child’s information excluded from this survey report; contact your school nurse for further information.

IMMUNIZATION POLICY
New York State Law requires immunization for school entrance/attendance. No student will be enrolled in our schools without the required immunizations. Requirements are satisfied by one of the following: proof of completed immunization provided by the child's health care provider. Proof of the beginning of immunization by the child’s health care provider, health care provider’s statement that immunization would be harmful to the child’s health; a written, signed statement by the parent or guardian stating that they have sincere and genuine religious beliefs that prohibit immunization of the child. Supporting documentation may be requested.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AND MEXICO ELEMENTARY HEALTH CENTERS
With our partners ConnexCare, our School Based Health Centers provide prompt, convenient, quality, medical, dental, and mental health care to students enrolled in and attending Mexico High School, Mexico Middle School, and Mexico Elementary. Our list of services provided include treatment of illnesses, minor injuries, monitoring and treatment of chronic illnesses, allergy injections, immunizations, annual physical exams etc. Prescriptions for acute or chronic illnesses can be sent electronically to your pharmacy. We also offer behavioral health services to students and their families. There are no out-of-pocket charges for services provided at the SBHC. Insurances will be billed. If you do not have medical coverage, ConnexCare has Outreach Coordinators that can assist you in obtaining insurance coverage. You DO NOT have to change primary care doctors or transfer records. Enrollment is required and forms can be accessed at the following link: https://www.connexcare.org/SchoolBased/EnrollmentForms. Each building will have specific information, posted on their website, at the beginning of the school year.

MEDICATION IN SCHOOL
A written order from a health care provider is required by New York State Education Law to administer medication in schools. The written order needs to include the student’s name, name of the medication and the frequency and dosage prescribed. This includes all over the counter medications, such as ibuprofen, and cough drops. A written permission from the parent is required to administer the medication as prescribed. A verbal or telephone request is not sufficient. An adult must deliver the medication to school in the original container. Medications are not to be sent on a school bus. In some cases, older students with a specific physician’s order, may be allowed to carry their own medications if they are determined to be self-directed (inhalers, Epi-pens).

DENTAL SCREENINGS
NYS recommends students entering a new school district or entering Grades: K, 2,4,7, and 10 to provide a dental health certificate.

MEDICAL INSURANCE FOR UNINSURED CHILDREN
New York State has a health insurance plan for children, called Child Health Plus. Depending on your family's income, your child may be eligible to join either Children’s Medicaid or Child Health Plus. Information may be obtained at www.health.state.ny.us/nysdoh/chplus/ or 1-800-698-4543.

STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE
The District carries a student accident insurance policy for school-related injuries through Pupil Benefits Plan, Inc. If your child is injured in a school sponsored activity, you have 45 days from the date of injury to seek medical treatment or to submit claim. After 45 days, you must submit all medical bills to your own health insurance carrier. Once your own carrier has paid covered expenses, you may submit that balance to the District on a Pupil Benefits claim form. The school will fill out its section and, as the Parent/Guardian, you must complete the “Parent Section.” On the back of the claim form, attach a copy of the Explanation of Benefits or Rejection Notice from your insurance carrier and mail the claim form to Pupil Benefits Plan, Inc. to the address specified on the claim form. If you have no personal medical insurance, simply fill out the Pupil Benefits claim form and submit an itemized bill with it. Claim forms are available at the District Office. Please note: Pupil Benefits is a scheduled benefits program and may not cover all out of pocket expense. Claims must be submitted within one year of the accident.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS
The school encourages the practice of safety and takes its responsibility seriously for the care of the student body. In addition to safety checks of school equipment, buses, and buildings, regular fire drills, emergency bus exit drills and other emergency drills are held. All school activities are carefully supervised. Parents are urged to do their part by limited student driving, teaching bicycle safety, instructing children to cross roads only where safe to do so, and teaching respect for bus drivers who enforce rules to protect children. Home accidents are not treated in school except in case of emergency. Accidents at school, no matter how minor, should be reported immediately to the teacher in the class they occur or to the school nurse.

SIGN UP USING THE QR CODE
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<td>ME Picture Retake Day</td>
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<td>HS Portrait retakes/ Senior panoramic</td>
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<td>Daylight Saving Time Ends Set Clocks BACK one hour</td>
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<td>MCJROTC Birthday Ball HS Gym 5-9pm</td>
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<td>HS Fall Play</td>
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<td>End of 10-Week Marking Period HS Fall Play</td>
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<td>JV/V Winter Sports Start</td>
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<td>1/2 day Parent Teacher Conferences (Elem, MS) No Pre-K MS Evening P/T Conf; starting 5pm</td>
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<td>Traveling Art Exhibit</td>
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<td>MS Musical 7PM – MS AUD</td>
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<td>MS Picture Retakes HS Evening of Art</td>
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NOTICE TO STUDENTS, PARENTS, AND STAFF REGARDING USE OF CAMERA SURVEILLANCE ON SCHOOL PROPERTY.
For the safety of our students, staff and visitors, the School District employs camera surveillance equipment for security purposes. Surveillance cameras will generally be utilized only in public areas where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy. Public areas may include school buses, building entrances, hallways, parking lots, front offices where students, employees, and parents come and go, gymnasiums during public activities, cafeterias, and supply rooms.
District surveillance cameras will not be installed in private areas such as restrooms, locker rooms, changing areas, private offices or classrooms.

VISITORS SCREENING – RAPTOR SYSTEM
The Mexico School District utilizes the Raptor screening system for all visitors requesting access to our school buildings. The Raptor system performs a background check, which includes the Sex Offender Registry. All visitors must present government issued identification and pass the Raptor screening process in order to be provided a visitor badge and be granted access to school buildings.

In order to ensure that no unauthorized persons enter buildings, all visitors to the schools during the school day will report to the school main entrance to receive authorization before visiting elsewhere in the building. Temporary ID stickers will be issued to temporary employees, contract staff, vendors, volunteers and visitors each time they need to enter a school building during school hours. The ID sticker is to be worn in a highly visible manner while in the building or while on school grounds. The sticker needs to be surrendered when reason for entry is complete or no later than the end of the school day. Unauthorized persons will not be permitted in school buildings or on school grounds. School administrators and school employees are authorized to take appropriate action to prevent such individuals from entering building and from loitering on grounds.

We encourage parents and other citizens of the district to visit classrooms and observe the work of the schools. The Board of Education believes that there is no better way for the public to learn what the schools are actually doing. If parents wish to observe their child in class, they should submit a request to the principal. The teacher and building principal will then establish with the parent the most appropriate time, day, and frequency of visitation.

HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION IS PROHIBITED AT SCHOOL
Students should never feel that it is not safe to come to school and participate in all school activities. They should never be prevented from concentrating on schoolwork because another student or a school staff member is teasing them, making fun of them, pushing them around, or threatening them in some way, because of race, color, weight, national origin (where a family come from), ethnic group, religion, religious practices, disability, sexual orientation, gender, sex, or for any other reason.
A student may not act toward another student in a way that reasonably makes that other student unable to concentrate on their school work, because of the other student’s race, color, weight, national origin, ethnic group, religion, religious practiced, disability, sexual orientation, gender, or sex, or for any other reason. It is against school rules for any student or school staff member to do this by physical actions or by verbal statements, including electronic messages. This kind of conduct is prohibited on school property, on school buses, and at all school-sponsored events.
If you know of a situation that involves harassment or discrimination, please complete the complaint form found on the district website and contact the appropriate dignity act coordinator(s):

Mr. James Busco, Asst. Principal ......................... 315-963-8400 x5317 (HS)
Ms. Stacey Rebecchi, Asst. Principal .....................315-963-8400 x4200 (MS)
Mrs. Lisa Voegler, Principal ...................................315-963-8400 x2310 (ME)
Mrs. Jennifer Granholm, Principal ........................315-963-8400 x3500 (NH)
Mrs. Margaret Scorzelli, Principal ..........................315-963-8400 x1000 (PE)
Mrs. Elizabeth DiCosimo
District Dignity Act Coordinator ................................315-963-8400 x5413

NON-DISCRIMINATION POLICY
Mexico Academy & Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs, activities, employment and admissions; and provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups. The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Mrs. Sheilla Roth, School Business Admin............... 315-963-8400 x5407
MEXICO GOLD CARDS
All MACS district residents age 62 or older are eligible to attend sporting events, plays and concerts free of charge. Citizens need only present their Mexico Gold Card to gain free admittance. Gold cards can be obtained from the District Office.

BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM
Breakfast..................................................K-12.................FREE
Lunch..................................................K-12.................FREE
Adult.....................................................$4.25

School meals provide nourishment that allows students to excel in the classroom and lead happy, healthy lives. They also help families stretch their food budget. This school year, Mexico School District is proud to be able to offer free meals to all students, thanks to a waiver granted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Even as our district continues to provide free meals to all students, we still ask families to submit school meal applications. These applications are used for more than determining eligibility for free and reduced-price meals. These include: receiving Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) benefits to help purchase food, waiving test or other fees, and determining education funding for the school or district. An application for the free/reduced meal program is available in the calendar insert or it can be downloaded from the district’s website or contact the MACS Food Service Dept. at (315) 963-8400 x5071 and one will be mailed.

The School Meal Program must meet tight Federal meal guidelines. Our meals meet specific nutrient guidelines to ensure we are meeting children’s nutrition needs. All meals are nutritionally balanced and include a serving of fruit and/or vegetable, milk, protein and grains/bread. To count as a NYS Federal reimbursable meal every child must select a fruit or vegetable. Snacks and a la carte items can be purchased in each school. We accept cash, check (made out to Mexico School Lunch Fund) or credit card via MySchoolBucks.com. My School Bucks makes paying for extras easy, convenient, private and secure. Enrollment is free and allows you to view the last 90 days of meal history and/or make payments. In order to use the optional online prepayment service, a fee of $2.75 is assessed by the processing company to cover bank fees each time. For more information on how to use this service, please visit www.myschoolbucks.com.

Our School Meal Program wishes you and your children a healthy and productive year!

For all grade levels we encourage parents and guardians to set up a prepaid account by sending in cash, check (payable to MACS Lunch Fund) or money order. Parents can also prepay by credit or debit card by setting up a prepaid account at www.myschoolbucks.com.

EMERGENCY CLOSING
The Superintendent may find it necessary to close the district schools or dismiss them early when hazardous weather conditions or other emergencies threaten the health and welfare of students and staff. Schools will not be closed merely to avoid inconvenience. While it may be prudent under certain circumstances to excuse all students from attending school, to delay the opening hour, or to dismiss students early, the Superintendent has the responsibility to see that the instructional program and other operational activity is continued to the extent possible. For this reason, if conditions affect only a single school, only that school may be closed.

In making this important decision many factors are considered, including current road conditions, weather forecasts, plowing schedules, other school closings and similar information. Always, the Superintendent’s final decision will be made with the best interest of students in mind. Buses are often safer vehicles in heavy snow than automobiles. It is sometimes safer for children to remain in school rather than be sent home early on slippery roads when the weather forecast predicts a break in the weather. When buses are picking students up during early dismissals, no automobile access to the loading area will be permitted. This is to help to safeguard all students and to permit buses to load students efficiently.

When it becomes necessary to close schools because of weather or other emergencies, announcements will be made over TV stations in the listening area, including: WSTM (Channel 3), WTVH (Channel 5) and News 10 Now (Channel 10). This same procedure is used if the closing is issued during the school day. Notices will also be posted on the district website and social media pages. Students will return home by the normal procedure. Parents who are away from home during the day should make arrangements for someone to take care of their children when there are school closings. Announcements will be made as soon as a decision is made concerning school closing, delayed openings, and early dismissal. In the event that it is necessary to close the school for all or part of any day, all activities involving students before and/or after school are also canceled.

UNUSED EMERGENCY CLOSING DAYS
In the event of unused emergency closing (snow days), the following schedule will be used:

- If one unused snow day-There will be no school on Friday, May 27, 2022.
- If two unused snow days-There will be no school on Friday, May 27, 2022, and Tuesday, May 31, 2022.
- If three or more unused snow days-The last week of school in June will be shortened. In that case parents and guardians will be notified of the modified schedule.

ADDITIONAL EMERGENCY CLOSING DAYS
In the event that all six emergency closing days are used, additional make-up school days for students and staff will be required. These make-up days will begin on April 18 and work backwards as follows:

- 1st additional day required: Monday, April 18, 2022
- 2nd additional day required: Thursday, April 14, 2022
- 3rd additional day required: Wednesday, April 13, 2022
- 4th additional day required: Tuesday, April 12, 2022
- 5th additional day required: Monday, April 11, 2022

Please plan accordingly.

TRESPASSING ON SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPERTY
Registered sex offenders are not permitted on school district property without prior written authorization from the Superintendent and/or his designee. If there is a justifiable need to be on school property, a request must be submitted in writing to the Superintendent, noting all specific reasons, dates, times and location. A list of sex offenders with authorization will be maintained at each school building in either the main office or attendance office and will be updated on a regular basis.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation as the safety of our students is our main priority.

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**January 2022**

**DECEMBER 2021**

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**Jan 2**
- HS Band Popcorn Fundraiser
  1/3-1/24

**Jan 3**
- PTO Mtg @ 4pm
- Pal PTC Mtg @ 5pm

**Jan 4**
- NH PTC Readers from Birth 5pm
  Start date: Mod Wrestling, Mod Girls Basketball, Mod Boys Swimming

**Jan 5**
- Board Meeting 6pm

**Jan 6**
- NH PTC Mtg 7pm

**Jan 9**
- Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
  NO SCHOOL

**Jan 10**
- HS Flower Sale 1/18-2/14

**Jan 11**
- HS Variety Show Auditions 1/31-2/15

**Jan 12**
- Board Workshop 6pm

**Jan 16**
- HS Regents
  Early Dismissal (Records Day) K-8 only

**Jan 17**
- Half Day for Students

**Jan 18**
- HS Regents
  Early Dismissal (Records Day) K-8 only

**Jan 19**
- HS Regents
  Early Dismissal (Records Day) K-8 only

**Jan 20**
- HS Regents
  Early Dismissal (Records Day) K-8 only

**Jan 21**
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**Jan 28**
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  Early Dismissal (Records Day) K-8 only

**Jan 29**
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**Jan 30**
- HS Regents
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**Jan 31**
- HS Regents
  Early Dismissal (Records Day) K-8 only
OPT-OUT POLICIES 2021-2022

Mexico Academy and Central School District Opt-Out Policy for Publishing Student Photographs and Student Work on the Mexico Academy and Central School District Websites and in District-Related Publications

During the course of the year, your child’s name, work and/or image may be selected to highlight his or her accomplishments for publication on our website, on a teacher-created website linked to the district’s site or on other District media communications. The District believes that there is significant educational value in sharing these accomplishments. We feel it enhances communications between home and school, it extends learning opportunities beyond the classroom and creates a sense of pride for students.

Mexico Academy and Central School District Opt-Out Policy for Non-Instructional Internet Access

As part of the instructional process, internet access is available to students and teachers in the Mexico Academy & Central School District. Our primary goal in providing this service to teachers and students is to promote educational excellence in schools by facilitating research, resource sharing, innovation, and communication.

Mexico Academy and Central School District will take precautions to restrict access to controversial materials. However, on a global network it is impossible to control all materials and a user may discover controversial or objectionable information. The use of the Internet is a privilege, not a right, and inappropriate use may result in a forfeiture of those privileges and/or other disciplinary procedures. All users of the District’s internet services must abide by the District’s Acceptable Use Policy, located at www.mexicocsd.org under District, Instructional Technology Program, Technology Plan & AUP (please review).

The Mexico Academy & Central School District firmly believes that the valuable information and interaction available on this worldwide network far outweighs the possibility that users may procure material that is not consistent with the educational goals and philosophies of the District. Therefore, the Internet is a valuable resource and may be used by students during instructional time and during non-instructional time, such as study halls.

Opt-Out Option: Parent Written Request to Deny Internet Access During Non-Instructional Time. If a parent chooses not to allow their child to have access to the internet during non-instructional times, such request must be made in writing and sent to your child’s school annually. If you have questions concerning this policy, please contact the principal of the building your child attends.

ACADEMIC INTERVENTION SERVICES (AIS)

Academic Intervention Services are additional instructional and/or student support services that supplement the instruction provided in the general curriculum. They are intended to assist students who are at risk of not achieving the New York State Learning Standards in English Language Arts, Mathematics, Social Studies and/or Science.

Students will be eligible for AIS if they score below the designated performance level on the Elementary or Intermediate State assessments. Students in grade 9-12 will be eligible for AIS if they score below the approved passing grade on any Regents exam required for graduation in ELA, Mathematics, Science or Social Studies.

In grades where no state assessments are given, students will be eligible for AIS if they are determined to be at risk of not achieving State Standards according to the criteria established by the District.

COUNSELING AND PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES

The district employs school psychologists, school social workers and counselors who provide evaluation and guidance to our students on multiple levels. If you have a concern about your child’s learning or emotional development, his or her ability to make good choices, to build and maintain good relationships or his or her career choices, please contact the office of the school for support.

SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PROGRAM

Mexico employs full time New York State certified Speech and Language Pathologists. Instruction takes place in five major areas: language, auditory and visual skills, semantics, social speech, and articulation. Formal diagnostic testing determines which students are in need of speech and language therapy. How to communicate and absorb knowledge through the use of language is a critical set of skills essential to learning.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

A variety of program alternatives are available to meet the varied needs of exceptional students. The Mexico District provides special education to all students identified by the CSE. They include:

- a) Regular education with modification
- b) Regular class with related services
- c) Consultant teacher services
- d) Integrated co-teaching services
- e) Resource instruction
- f) Special class(es)

The Mexico District has created district run special class and also contracts with CITI BOCES for the provision of special education services for the moderately to severely disabled student. Such programs take the form of special classes with varying student-teacher ratios. Also, MACS contracts with CITI for certain related services such as counseling, itinerant teacher of the visually impaired, and the hearing impaired. In addition, our students participate in the multi-occupational programs provided through CITI. If you suspect your children may have a learning problem, contact your building Principal or Director of Pupil Services to discuss your concerns.
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#### Events

- **February 1:** NH PTC Readers from Birth 5pm
- **February 2:** ME BOE Elementary Spotlight Board Meeting 6pm
- **February 4:** NH PTC Mtg 7pm
- **February 6:** Pal Educational Band Concert 6pm (Pal)
- **February 8:** ME PTO Mtg 7pm Pal PTC Mtg 5pm
- **February 9:** ME Educational Band Concert 6pm (ME)
- **February 10:** NH PTC Mtg 7pm HS Hallway Decorating
- **February 11:** NH Virtual Valentine’s Day Dance HS Hallway Judging/Pep Rally
- **February 12:** HS Winter Spirit Week End of HS Flower Sale ME Educational Band Concert 6pm (ME)
- **February 13:** ME Educational Band Concert 6pm (ME)
- **February 14:** HS Jr/Sr volleyball game vs faculty Board Workshop 6pm
- **February 15:** MS Quarterly Awards
- **February 16:** NH Educational Band Concert 6pm (NH)
- **February 17:** HS Winter Spirit Week HS WINTER SPIRIT WEEK MID-WINTER RECESS NO SCHOOL
- **February 19:** MS Quarterly Awards

#### Observations

- **February 20:** 21 22 23 24 25 26
- **February 27:** 28
INTERPRETERS FOR HEARING-IMPAIRED PARENTS
The school district will provide an interpreter for the hearing-impaired parent if a written request for the service has been submitted to and received by the building principal within 10 days prior to the school initiated academic and/or disciplinary meeting, scheduled meeting or activity.

The school district will provide an interpreter for hearing impaired students participating in extra-curricular activities if a written request for the service is submitted and received by the building principal within 10 days of the event. Forms are available at each school office.

COMMITTEE ON PRESCHOOL SPECIAL EDUCATION
Each school district in New York State is required to have a Committee on Preschool Special Education (CPSE). Programs are available through the county for disabled children between the ages of 3-5. If you believe your preschool child is experiencing delays in any area, contact the Office of Pupil Services for an evaluation at no cost to you.

COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL EDUCATION
Each school district in New York State is required to have a Committee on Special Education (CSE). The Board of Education must annually appoint the members of the CSE which must include a teacher or administrator of special education, a school psychologist, the pupil’s teacher, a special education teacher, a parent of a student with a disability who resides in the district, and a school physician. The chairperson of the CSE is the Director of Pupil Services. The main function of the CSE is to work with parents in developing recommendations to the Board of Education regarding their child’s classification, evaluation, and educational program. Parents who are concerned about their child’s learning progress or emotional development and believe their child may require special education services can make referrals directly to the CSE by contacting the Office of Pupil Services – 963-8400 ext. 5405.

HOMELESS CHILDREN AND UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH
If you lost your housing and now live in a shelter, motel, vehicle, campground, doubled-up with family or friends, on the street, or in another type of temporary housing, your child may be able to receive help through a federal law called the McKinney-Vento Act. Under this act, eligible children have specific rights related to attending school. If you believe that your housing situation may qualify your child for services, please contact our Homeless Liaison, Carolyn Maloney at the New Haven Elementary (315) 963-8400.

WHEN YOU HAVE A QUESTION
If you have any concern relating to school or education, your child’s teacher can usually provide the answers or can direct you to the proper authority. If you are dissatisfied with the response, the building principal has the authority to solve classroom problems and provide assistance. The principal may, for special problems, refer you to the District Office staff. You may contact the Superintendent (ext. 5401) to discuss matters that you feel have not been satisfactorily resolved with your child’s principal. If you are still dissatisfied, your school board members are always willing to listen and provide assistance where possible. These elected board members however are not charged with the responsibility to resolve administrative matters. It is expected that parents work in partnership with their child’s teacher, building principal and other district staff members to resolve problems.

RESPONSIBILITY TO RESOLVE ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
It is expected that parents work in partnership with their child’s teacher, building principal and other district staff members to resolve problems.

COMPLAINTS AND GRIEVANCES
Educational programs are offered without regard to sex, race, color, national origin or disability. Furthermore, an individual shall have the right to present complaints and grievances free from coercion, interference, restraint, discrimination or reprisal. Should an individual feel they have been discriminated against, they should immediately contact the Title IX Section 504/ADA Coordinator (Elizabeth DiCosimo, 16 Favor Rd. Suite A Mexico, NY 13114) to express their concern. Individuals not satisfied with the resolution by the building principal may appeal their decision to the School Superintendent.
**March 2022**

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**Events**

- **March 1:** Music in our Schools Month, Youth Art Month
- **March 2:** NH PTC Readers from Birth 5pm
- **March 3:** Board Meeting 6pm
- **March 4:** HS Semi-Formal
- **March 6:** ME Gertrude Hawk Sale begins
- **March 8:** ME PTO Mtg 4pm, Pal PTO Mtg 5pm
- **March 9:** Spanish/ German Club Variety Show Ticket Sales Start, NH PTC Mtg 7pm
- **March 10:** End of 25 Week Marking Period
- **March 11:** Daylight Saving Time Begins, Set Clocks AHEAD one hour
- **March 12:** Staff Development Day, NO SCHOOL, FOR STUDENTS
- **March 13:** MIOSM Concert I, Pal Chorus, 7/8 Chorus, HS Chorus 6:30pm (HS)
- **March 14:** Board Workshop 6pm
- **March 15:** NH Spring Pictures, HS Variety Show Rehearsals 3/18-3/23, 25 Week Progress Report Go Home
- **March 16:** Board Workshop 6pm
- **March 17:** NH Spring Pictures, HS Variety Show Rehearsals 3/18-3/23, 25 Week Progress Report Go Home
- **March 18:** HS Mardi Gras Magic
- **March 19:** HS Community Connection Event
- **March 20:** JV/V Spring Sports
- **March 21:** MIOSM Concert 2, NH Chorus, 5/6 Band, HS Chorus 6:30pm (MS), HS Mardi Gras Magic
- **March 22:** MIOSM Concert 3, ME Chorus, 5/6 Chorus, 7/8 Band, HS Women’s Chorus 6:30pm (MS)
- **March 23:** Elementary Grade 3 & 4 ELA CBT Testing Day 1
- **March 24:** Elementary Grade 3 & 4 ELA CBT Testing Day 2
- **March 25:** MIOSM Concert 3, ME Chorus, 5/6 Chorus, 7/8 Band, HS Women’s Chorus 6:30pm (MS)
- **March 26:** ME BOOK FAIR
- **March 27:** ME BOOK FAIR
- **March 28:** ME BOOK FAIR
- **March 29:** ME BOOK FAIR
- **March 30:** ME BOOK FAIR
- **March 31:** ME BOOK FAIR

**Additional Events**

- **Bus Safety Drill (Pre K – 12)**
- **ME Musical 7PM, HS AUD**
- **ME Book Fair**
- **NYSSMA Area All-State Festival**
- **HS Variety Show 5:30pm**

**ELA CBT Testing Window 3/29 - 4/5**
PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION 2021-2022
Dear Parent/Guardian/Students/School Staff:

New York State Law, Section 409-F, effective July 1, 2001, requires all public/ non-public elementary and secondary schools to implement an Integrated Pest Management Program/Plan (IPM), and requires that periodically throughout the school year, we provide written notification regarding potential use of pesticides, to all students, persons in parental relationship, faculty and staff.

The Mexico Central School District will develop and maintain a “Prior Student Notification List” of all persons who have requested the written notification 48 hours prior to application of certain pesticides. NOTE: The following pesticide applications are not subject to the prior notification process when:

- the school remains unoccupied for a continuous 72 hours following application
- anti-microbial products are used
- non-volatile, tamper resistant rodenticide bait stations are placed in areas inaccessible to children
- non-volatile, tamper resistant insecticidal bait stations are placed in areas inaccessible to children
- silica gels, sand, and other non-volatile ready to use pastes, foams or gels are placed in areas which are not accessible to children
- boric acid and disodium octaborate tetrahydrate is used
- EPA designated bio-pesticides are used
- EPA exempts the materials under 40CFR152.25 aerosol products with a directed spray, in containers of 18 fluid ounces or less, are used to protect individuals from an imminent threat from stinging/biting insects, including venomous spiders, bees, wasps and hornets.

If an emergency application becomes necessary to ward off an imminent threat to human health, and the exposed individuals have a relation to any persons listed on the 48 hour Prior Notification List, a good faith effort will be made to send written notification to those listed.

To request a 48 hr. prior notification, please go to www.mexicocsd.org and complete the request form.

ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTIFICATION 2021-2022
In accordance with the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act of 1987 (AHERA), a copy of the Mexico Academy & Central School District Asbestos Management Plan is available for review by appointment at the Mexico Academy & Central School District Business office during business hours.

Please contact the LEA Designee at 315-963-8400 ext. 5413 if you would like to set up an appointment or if you have any questions.
**APRIL 2022**

- **10th Grade Spring Sports**
- **ELA CBT MAKE-UPS:** 4/1 - 4/8
- **Band Disney World Trip:** 4/6 - 4/11
- **Spring Break:** No School
- **Math CBT Testing Window:** 4/26 - 5/9
- **Math CBT Make-Ups**
The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA, 20 USC §1232g) requires school boards to establish policies on student records and directory information. In accordance with the law, Mexico Academy and Central School District's School Board's Student Records policy (7240) contains the following information you should be aware of:

- Parents and eligible students have the right to inspect and review a student's educational records.
- A student's parent or eligible student has the right to seek to correct parts of a student's records that he or she believes to be inaccurate, misleading, or in violation of student rights.
- This right includes the right to a hearing to present evidence that the record should be changed if the district does not alter it according to the parent or eligible student's request. The right of any person to file a complaint with the Department of Education if the District violates FERPA.

The district will limit the disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in student records except: (1) by the prior written consent of a student's parents or an eligible student, (2) as directory information, or, (3) under certain limited circumstances as permitted under FERPA.

The district's student record policy designates the following personally identifiable information as directory information which may be disclosed, with administrative approval, without prior consent:

- The student's name
- The names of the student's parents
- The student's address
- The student's date of birth
- The student's class designation (i.e. 1st grade, 10th grade, etc.)
- The student's extracurricular participation
- The student's weight and height if a member of an athletic team
- The student's photograph
- The school or school district the student attended before he or she enrolled in Mexico Academy and Central School.

RELEASE OF INFORMATION TO OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS
The District may disclose any and all educational records, including disciplinary records and records that were created as a result of a student receiving special education services under Part B of IDEA, to another school or postsecondary institution at which the student seeks or intends to enroll.
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MACS COMPREHENSIVE STUDENT ATTENDANCE POLICY
This plain language summary is provided to communicate clearly the intent of MACS Board of education Policy #7110 (Comprehensive Student Attendance Policy) Highlights of the Policy are included for your information. The full text of this policy is available upon request or may be viewed on the District website: www.mexicocsd.org.

Objectives of the Policy:
To increase school completion for all students and to improve student achievement.

To identify patterns in student attendance in order to design improvement efforts.

EXCUSED AND UNEXCUSED STUDENT ABSENCES, TARDINESS, EARLY DEPARTURES AND LATE ARRIVALS

Excused Absences – Examples:
- Personal illness, illness or death in family, impassable roads for school buses, religious observance, quarantine, required court visits, attendance at health-related appointments or hospitals, approved college visits, approved cooperative work programs, military obligations, out-of-school suspension with tutoring, other administratively-approved reasons.

Unexcused Student Absences – Examples:
- Truancy, family vacation, hunting, babysitting, haircut, obtaining a learner’s permit, road test, oversleeping, out-of-school suspension without tutoring, other administratively-disapproved reasons.

Student Absence Notification by Parents
All absences are “unexcused” until a signed, written parental notification is received with a reason for the student’s absence. The notification must be received from parent/guardian within 10 school days of the absence.

Student Attendance/Course Credit
In any credit-bearing course, course credit will be lost if more than 10% of class is missed due to unexcused absence unless made up in a manner of prescribed by building procedures.

Properly excused absences, tardiness and early departure will not be counted as absence for purpose of determining course credit. School work missed due to absence for any reason must be made up in order to maximize student achievement. In Grades K-8, excessive absences, tardiness, early departures or late arrivals may be a factor in retention.

DISCIPLINARY CONSEQUENCES THAT MAY BE IMPOSED FOR UNEXCUSED STUDENT ABSENCE
Grades 5-12: Detention, in-school suspension, and or denial of participation in extracurricular and interscholastic activities may be imposed in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

For All Grades:
Parents/guardians will be notified by the District periodically – either by phone and/or letter – to discuss their child’s absences, tardiness, early departures or late arrivals, the importance of regular attendance and if applicable, intervention strategies.

DISTRICT RESPONSIBILITIES TO PROMOTE GOOD STUDENT ATTENDANCE
- Communicate intent of the Comprehensive Student Attendance Policy to all parents and students.
- Educate students and parents about how good school attendance can improve student success.
- Record attendance on a period-by-period basis and analyze individual student attendance patterns.
- Contact students and parents when attendance patterns interfere with student achievement.
- Develop effective intervention strategies to improve individual student attendance problems.
- Develop building procedures by which students can make up unexcused absences.
- Provide incentives and enforce disciplinary consequences to promote good student attendance.
- Analyze district and building attendance for evidence of patterns of absenteeism.
- Annually review this Policy in order to improve District responses to student attendance problems.
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**MAY 2022**

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**GRADE 4 SCIENCE PERFORMANCE MAKE-UPS: 5/25 - 6/3**

**ELEMENTARY GRADE 4 WRITTEN SCIENCE TESTING MAKE-UPS**

**HS SHERBURNE PAGEANT OF BANDS**

**HS REGENTS**

**SUMMER VACATION BEGINS!**
MEXICO CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT SPORTS SEASONS

Fall Sports
J/Varsity: Monday, Aug. 23, 2021
MS/Modified Football: Aug. 30, 2021
All other MS/Modified sports: Sept. 7, 2021

Winter Sports
MS winter season 1: Oct. 27, 2021 – Volleyball & Boys Basketball
J/Varsity: Nov. 15, 2021
MS winter season 2: Jan. 5, 2022 - Wrestling & Girls Basketball

Spring Sports
J/Varsity: March 21, 2022
MS/Modified: April 18, 2022

MACS INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC AGREEMENT PHILOSOPHY:
Winning has often been considered the measure of success. However, at Mexico we feel that winning is only one component to the total development of our student-athletes. Of considerably more importance is the development of the person, affording each student-athlete the opportunity of becoming all that he or she is capable of. Thus, the athletic program, which is centered around the welfare of the students, is a vital part of the total education program.

To fully utilize the potential in athletics for educational experiences, the Interscholastic Athletic Program:
- Is regarded as an integral part of the total educational program and is conducted so that it is worthy of such regard.
- Supplements rather than serves as substitutes for basic physical educational programs and intramural athletic programs.
- Is subject to the same administrative control as the total educational program.
- Is conducted by persons with adequate training either in physical education or through coaching certification programs.
- Is conducted so that the physical welfare and safety of participants is protected and fostered.
- Is conducted in accordance with the letter and spirit of the rules and regulations of the league, state, and national athletic associations.

This agreement (statement of personal commitment) signed by student-athletes, parents, and guardians is an acknowledgment of the understanding of the rules and procedures and their participation in the interscholastic athletic program. Participation on a Mexico Academy & Central High School District Athletic Team is a privilege, which should elicit great pride in you, your family, your school and community. A willingness to abide by training regulations and behave as a good citizen is necessary for the success of our student-athletes and our athletic program. A good basic rule to follow would be, never do anything which will have adverse effect on your ability to perform, or create an unfavorable impression of yourself and family, your team, your school, or your community. Every student-athlete is required to sign this statement of personal commitment. Your signature communicates your willingness to set a positive example, adhere to basic concepts of good citizenship and follow proper training practices.

Parents’ and Guardians’ signatures acknowledge this commitment. Please read and understand the whole document, which was developed by coaches, parents, teachers, student-athletes, and administrators in 2008. If there are any questions, please call the Director of Athletics at 963-8400 extension 5019. The student-athlete must submit a properly signed agreement to the team coach of the sport they are entering. The signed agreement, along with all other required forms, will allow the student-athlete the opportunity to participate in the first practice. The student-athlete will keep the white copy of the agreement, the team coach will keep the pink copy of the agreement, and the yellow copy of the agreement will be filed in the Director of Athletics’ Office. The following training rules and behavioral expectations are in effect for all Varsity, Junior Varsity and Modified Interscholastic Student Athletes in the Mexico Academy and Central School District.

The Athletic Agreement is in force the entire sports season from the date of the first official practice of the team sport through the last possible date of that sport’s activity including sectional and intersectional activity.

I. Health Practices and Rules
Due to the harmful effect upon the health of the individual, at any time, all athletes who participate in interscholastic athletics shall not:
- Use, consume, sell, purchase, give away, or possess tobacco products, including smokeless tobacco and chewing tobacco.
- Use, possess, consume, buy, sell, give away, or be under the influence of alcohol, marijuana, anabolic steroids, all other contraband/illegitimate substance, physically or mentally altering substance, stimulant, depressant, prescription or non-prescription drug or any substance represented as such (a look alike).

A student-athlete may use a medication prescribed by a physician.

A. Reporting Alleged Violations and Due Process
The following events will take place upon notification to the Principal, Assistant Principal, or Director of Athletics of a possible violation by a credible source:
- The Director of Athletics and Assistant Principal will conduct a thorough investigation of the alleged violation. Parents/Guardian of the student-athlete will be contacted/notified of the allegations and status of the investigation. The athlete(s) and/or students in question will be interviewed. The Director of Athletics and Assistant Principal may gather additional information from adults, parents, teachers, and coaches. If it appears the Code has been violated, the Athletic Review Board will be convened to hear the facts.
- A date and time will be established within five (5) school days from the decision of the Athletic Review Board to hear the results of the investigation and make their ruling. The Athletic Review Board is a panel of five (5) approved school representatives consisting of two (2) coaches, two (2) teachers, and chaired by the High School Principal.

The student-athlete in question maintains full athletic eligibility until the Athletic Review Board has rendered a decision.

The Student Handbook supersedes the Athletic Agreement for violations that occur on school grounds. The Director of Athletics or Assistant Principal will then present information to the Athletic Review Board. The student-athlete and/or his/her parents/guardians will also have the opportunity to present information on their behalf to the Athletic Review Board.

The Athletic Review Board has rendered their decision, the student-athlete and the parents/guardians will be notified of that decision. If a violation is confirmed, the Principal will notify the student-athlete and their parents/guardian of the suspension/punishment for the full penalty.

B. Disciplinary Action
Violations occur as First Offense, Second Offense, and Third Offense and are cumulative over a two (2) year period. A violation that takes place after two (2) years from the date of the First Offense penalty will be treated as a First Offense penalty.

First Offense: The student-athlete will be suspended a minimum of one contest or up to a maximum of one-third of the sport’s contests, inclusive of all scrimmages and contests. The penalty will carry over into the student-athlete’s same sports season if the complete penalty is not fulfilled. (Example: Soccer, Fall 2014 will carry over to Soccer, Fall 2015)

Second Offense: The student-athlete will be suspended a minimum of one-third of the sport’s contest or up to one-half of the sport’s contests, inclusive of all scrimmages and contests. If the violation occurs beyond the mid-point of the season, the penalty will carry over into the same season the following year if the complete penalty is not fulfilled. (Example: Soccer, Fall 2015 will carry over to Soccer, Fall 2016)

Third Offense: The student-athlete will be suspended from all interscholastic athletic participation for one year from the date of violation, minimally, and suspension up to the remainder of his/her high school career as a maximum. Violations of the contract are cumulative for a two-year period and begin with the student-athlete’s first violation. The student-athlete must apply in writing to the Athletic Review Board for possible reinstatement into the MACS inter-scholastic athletic program. A student-athlete under the penalties from the first or second offense will continue to practice with his/her team and attend all contests unless otherwise prohibited by the Coach and Athletic Director. The student-athlete will not be allowed to dress for or participate against other schools in either scrimmage or game situations.

CARRY-OVER ALTERNATIVE:
Students in grades 7-11: In the event the penalty is not fulfilled in the “same” sport season and a carry-over is necessary, it will be determined by the Athletic Director and the Athletic Review Board.

Any penalty not fulfilled will carry over into the student-athlete’s next sports season. Community Service will be required to fulfill the penalty if it is not completed by the end of the spring sports season. The Principal and Athletic Director will determine the number of hours of community service. Failure to fulfill the requirements of the penalty will result in the student-athlete being declared ineligible to participate in graduation ceremony.

C. Disciplinary Actions
Any violation of the student’s obligation with respect to team conduct or sportsmanship will be determined by the coach and will range from a warning to a denial of participation of the team through two athletic contests.

Any penalty that results in denial of participation for a period greater than two contests will carry over to the following season.

D. Appeal
Any appeal of the Athletic Review Board’s decision may be appealed to the Superintendent or his designee.
Procedures by which violations are reported and determined:

Any student, staff member, or other visitor should report any violation of this code of conduct to the Superintendent of Schools, building administrator, or his/her designee. At this time a determination will be made as to the specific violation.

II. Good Citizenship: Community, School and Team

Each player represents his/her team, school and community. Consequently, any behavior which brings embarrassment or negative attention to these groups may result in disciplinary action to the player as determined by the coach, Athletic Director or Principal. Examples of inappropriate conduct or lack of good citizenship are as follows:

• Causing/inciting harm to another person. Includes bullying or cyberbullying.
• Causing damage to personal or any school property (including opponents).
• Conduct detrimental to the integrity of the program or unbecoming of a MACS Student-Athlete.
• Poor sportsmanship or lack of good citizenship in reference to school representatives, classmates, teammates, opponents, officials, spectators and any community member.

A. Reporting Alleged Violations

The coach, Athletic Director, or Principal may be notified of any possible violation by a credible source. The Athletic Director will conduct an investigation of the report.

B. Disciplinary Action

Violation of the student's obligation under the Student Handbook may result in a denial of participation in athletics if the disciplinary action results in more than (3) periods of in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension. Also, repetitive school disciplinary problems may result in denial of participation for a period to be determined by the Coach and Athletic Director, or Principal. Any proposed denial of participation for more than two contests must be brought before the Athletic Review Board. If the period of denial of participation is more than two contests as a result of the consequences specified by the Student Handbook, then the Athletic Review Board is not involved.

C. Appeal

The only decision that may be appealed to the Superintendent is the Athletic Review Board's decision. The decision of the School Superintendent or his designee is final.

III. School Conduct

An athlete is expected to govern his/her conduct in accordance with the rules of the “High School Student Handbook.” All students are given a copy of the Student Handbook at the beginning of the year.

A. Reporting Alleged Violations

The Principal or Assistant Principal will be notified of any possible violation of the Code of Conduct, and will investigate the report.

B. Disciplinary Action

Any violation of the student's obligation with respect to team conduct or sportsmanship will be determined by the coach and will range from a warning to a denial of participation of the team through two athletic contests. Any penalty that results in denial of participation for a period greater than two athletic contest will be brought before the Athletic review Board. After reviewing the full report, the Athletic Review Board may implement the coach's recommendation or modify it to a minimum of the two-contested suspensions.

C. Appeal

The only decision that may be appealed to the Superintendent is the Athletic Review Board's decision. The decision of the School Superintendent or his designee is final.

ADDITIONAL POLICIES

Academic Eligibility: Coaches check student grades on School Tool to see if students are completing assignments and passing courses (refer to Student Handbook).

Attendance: Students must be in attendance in order to participate in practice or competition that day. Exceptions for legal tardiness (i.e., medical/dental appt., court appearance, funeral) can be made only with permission of the Principal, Assistant Principal, Athletic Director, or the School Nurse. A student-athlete who misses part of the school day due to illness must have the School Nurse evaluate her/his ability to participate in a practice or contest that day. Students who are too ill to attend class will typically be deemed too ill to participate in practice or a contest the same day. Any unexcused tardiness, after 8:15 a.m., may result in denial of participation in practice or contest that day as determined by the Principal. Students who are repeatedly tardy may lose athletic privileges for those days tardy.

Participation in Physical Education Class: Physical Education Class is part of the required curriculum for graduation in New York State: therefore, students not participating in Physical Education class (without a valid excuse) may not participate in a practice or contest that day.

Quitting a Team: Athletic participation is meant to teach commitment and responsibility. Therefore, student-athletes may not leave a squad beyond the initial tryout period without consequences unless mutually agreed upon by the coach and player.

Care of School Equipment: Take care of school equipment and return it personally to the coach in a timely manner upon leaving a team or at the conclusion of the season. Never wear school-issued uniforms or equipment for personal use without permission of the coach or Athletic Director.

Quitting a Team: Athletic participation is meant to teach commitment and responsibility. Therefore, student-athletes may not leave a squad beyond the initial tryout period without consequences unless mutually agreed upon by the coach and player.

Care of School Equipment: Take care of school equipment and return it personally to the coach in a timely manner upon leaving a team or at the conclusion of the season. Never wear school-issued uniforms or equipment for personal use without permission of the coach or Athletic Director.

Injuries: Report to their coach any injury or change in physical condition that affects their ability to safely participate in athletic practices or contests.

Suspension (OSS and ISS): Any action that results in more than three (3) periods of in-school suspension, or out-of-school suspension will be handled according to the District Discipline policy. Student-Athletes will not be allowed to tend/participate in practice and/or a game situation during the time of in-school or out-of-school suspension. In addition, according to the District Discipline policy, each suspension will be followed by seven (7) days of social suspension, which allows student-athletes to practice with their team but not allowed to attend any after school activity such as, but not limited to: (dances, plays, concerts, fundraisers, etc.). Missed contests during the out-of-school suspension may count toward the violation of the Athletic Agreement.

The Athletic Agreement is in force the entire sports season from the date of the first official practice of the team sport through the last possible date of that sport’s activity including sectional and intersectional activity.

By signing this agreement, we acknowledge that we have read and understand the rules and consequences. This agreement must be signed by both parents/guardians and student-athlete and submitted to the sport coach before the student-athlete is allowed to participate.

VISITOR’S CODE OF CONDUCT

The Section III member schools are seriously concerned with unsportsmanlike incidents occurring in several athletic contests involving member schools during recent seasons. The section has met to consider this problem and we are in need of your support in permitting our competition to be conducted under more orderly conditions.

Spectators, along with coaches and players, are an integral part of the athletic contest. They are part of the school community, and their actions are viewed as actions of the school program. In an effort to ensure a good sportsmanship atmosphere for all school events we have adopted the following Visitor’s Code of Conduct:

The following Code of Conduct applies to any licensees, invitees, and all other persons, whether or not their presence is authorized, upon district property, and also upon or with respect to any other premises or property under the control of the district.

All visitors will behave in a manner that demonstrates respect for students, teachers, administrators, personnel, other visitors, the educational process, and the law. Conduct considered inappropriate and unacceptable:

No visitor shall:

• Obstruct or disrupt the teaching, research, administration, disciplinary procedures or other school district activities;
• Willfully cause physical injury to any other person nor threaten to do so, for the purpose of compelling or inducing such other person to refrain from any act which he/she has a lawful right to do, or to do any Act which he/she has a lawful right not to do; physically restrain or detain any other person, nor remove such person from any place where he/she is authorized to remain, except that students may be restrained as permitted under Policy 7350, Corporal-Punishment Complaints, or when the person is acting in lawful defense of him/herself or another person; nor remove such person from any place where he/she is authorized to remain, except
VIOLATION OF CODE OF CONDUCT

Range of remedial measures for violation of Code of Conduct and procedures by which they are imposed and carried out: According to Board Policy #3410-R, in the case of any apparent violation of these rules, which, in the judgment of the Superintendent or his/her designee, does not pose any immediate threat of injury to person or property, such school official may make reasonable effort to learn the cause of the conduct in question and to persuade those engaged therein to desist and to resort to permissible methods for the resolution of any issues which may be presented. In doing so, such official shall warn such persons of the consequences of persistence in the prohibited conduct, including removal of his/her authorization to remain upon school grounds, and ejection from any district properties where their continued presence and conduct is in violation of these rules. Furthermore, the Superintendent or his/her designee may apply to the public authorities for any aid which he/she deems necessary in causing the ejection of any violator of these rules and he/she may request the Board’s Counsel to apply to any court of appropriate jurisdiction for an injunction to restrain the violation of threatened violation of such rules.

Range of remedial measures to be taken for incidents involving use of illegal substances, weapons, physical force, violation of individual rights, and threats of violence:

Weapons
According to Board Policy #3410, a visitor found possessing a fire-arm, dangerous weapon or weapon look-a-like on school property shall be asked to leave school property and administration will determine if further action needs to be taken, including notification of law enforcement.

Illegal substances
Any visitor who is guilty of possessing or using illegal substances will be immediately removed from school property by police authorities, if necessary.

The intentional use or threatened use of physical force and threats of violence.
Any visitor who is guilty of the above named violation will be immediately removed from school property by police authorities, if necessary. The injured party or Administration may initiate legal action.

Violation of individual rights
Any visitor who willfully interferes with rights of students, faculty, staff, administration, or other persons legally on school property shall be subject to warning, ejection from school property, and possible legal action as outlined above.

Procedures to inform local law enforcement of code violations that constitute a crime:
Any visitor who commits a code violation that constitutes a violation of any state, federal, or local law shall be referred to police authorities for investigation and arrest if appropriate.

CODE OF CONDUCT—ROLE OF THE STUDENT

Students attend and participate in the school programs, in accordance with Board Policy #7110, so that they may develop to their fullest potential. With this in mind, they are to:

1. Take advantage of the academic opportunities offered at school activities. Support and participate in school activities. Attend school regularly and punctually. Excuses for absences or tardiness must be in writing and signed by a parent or guardian. (See Student Attendance Policy on next page).
2. Support
3. Attend
4. Remain on the school campus during the school day. Permission to leave must be given in writing by an administrator.
5. Be self-controlled, reasonably quiet and non-disruptive in classrooms, hallways, school buses, on school property and at school activities. Respect the right of others to secure an education in an environment that is orderly and disciplined.
6. Be clean and dress in compliance with standards of sanitation and safety, and in a fashion that will not disrupt classroom procedures
7. Be reasonable, modest, self-controlled, including refraining from public displays of affection with other students, and considerate in relationships with other students.
8. Strive for mutually respectful relationships with teachers and comply with all directives of teachers and administrators.

Obey the school rules against the use of and possession of alcohol, tobacco, drugs, or dangerous weapons on school property or while attending school-sponsored activities.
Be informed regarding student rights and responsibilities and comply with all rules and regulations of this policy.
### MACS INSTRUCTIONAL CALENDAR 2021-2022

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**September 1 - Staff Development Day**
**September 2 - Staff Development Day**
**September 6 - Labor Day**
**September 7 - Classes Begin**

#### October 2021

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**October 11 - Columbus Day Holiday**

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**November 3 - Staff Development Day**
**November 11 - Veterans’ Day (Observed)**
**November 24 - 26 - Thanksgiving Recess**

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#### Faculty Development Days
- September 2: Staff Development Day
- November 3: Staff Development Day
- June 6: Staff Development Day
- June 14-23: Regents Exam Days
- April 11: Staff Development Day

#### MACS Dollars for Scholars

**CORDIALLY INVITES YOU TO BECOME INVOLVED WITH OUR ORGANIZATION.**

**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR THE FOLLOWING MONTHLY MEETINGS AND THE ACTIVITIES CURRENTLY TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR THE COMING ACADEMIC YEAR.**

**MEETINGS WILL BE HELD AS NOTED AT 6:30pm IN THE HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER’S ROOM**

**Meeting Dates:** September 21  November 16  February 15  April 19  June 21

- October 19
- January 18
- March 15
- May 17

**WILL YOU HELP A MACS SENIOR THIS YEAR?**

All contribution are tax deductible. 100% of your gift is given to MACS Students.

**Our Website:** macs.dollarsforscholars.org

**What is MACS Dollars for Scholars?**

Dollars for Scholars is a chapter of Scholarship America. The Program was established to aid communities in developing their own scholarship programs and to serve and support existing affiliates. The MACS district community members joined in 1986; membership allows our chapter to operate at a legally constituted public scholarship foundation within our chapter area.

Dollars for Scholars is comprised of community volunteers who believe that our young people have great potential; our goal is to help them realize their potential through awarding scholarships to assist with furthering their educations beyond high school. It is important to note that MACS Dollars for Scholars is a volunteer organization, all money raised is awarded to local MACS Students. Since 1986, 17,599 students from MACS have been awarded scholarships totaling $399,835

**How is the money raised?**

Funds for local distribution are raised through a variety of events sponsored by the local chapter. Some of our annual activities are the memory lights at the High School, participating in Christmas in Mexico, as well as many other small activities. We are always looking for Volunteers to help at any of our events, please note the monthly meeting dates if you would like to help out.

**How are scholarships awarded?**

Applicants must be a MACS senior planning to enroll in a college, university, vocational or business school, and must register and complete a profile on the Dollars for Scholars website. Information must be registered by midnight of the scheduled date in March. Please check with our School Counselors for assistance. Students interested in applying should listen for announcements in school and watch for announcements on our Facebook and Instagram pages: MACS Dollars for Scholars.

Recipients of Dollars for Scholars awards are determined by the local Awards committee, using the Scholarship America guidelines. Scores and awards are based on seven categories, with the computer automatically doing five and committee doing the other two. MACS graduates declare their intentions to attend a specific school, and the award checks are mailed directly to those institutions; MACS graduates receive their scholarships in August for the start of the fall semester. Recipients are responsible for notifying Dollars for Scholars if their choice of school has changed.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies: Elizabeth DiCosimo, 16 Favor Road, Suite A, Mexico, NY 13114, 315-963-8400 x5413 or 315-402-8068. Inquiries concerning the application of the Mexico Academy & Central Schools non-discrimination policies may also be referred to the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights (OCR), 32 Old Slip, 26th Floor, New York, NY 10005, telephone (646) 428-3800 (voice) or (800) 877-8339 (TTY).

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**In the event that all six emergency (snow) days are used, make up days would be made up on the first available recess period (i.e. February/April break week).**