Dear MACS Community,

Welcome to School Year 2023-2024! We are proud to present our annual calendar for your use. This calendar is one of our key communication links between the community and the District. Inside you will find a monthly listing of the events scheduled for the school year, as well as information related to policies and procedures that are important to our scholars and their families.

We have a proud tradition of collaboration between the school and home. I hope that you find this calendar helpful in strengthening that relationship by providing a tool for you to keep track of the many opportunities available throughout the year. Check the District website (www.mexicocsd.org) frequently for updates.

Please contact me if you have any questions or comments. You may reach me at the District 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

This calendar is provided to our families and community as a reference for a variety of information. In the following pages you will find important events that are occurring all year long in each of our buildings. You will also find numerous notices and reminders on multiple topics such as transportation, registering for Pre-K and Kindergarten, bus drills, early dismissal days, vacation days, etc. Please note that this calendar goes to print in mid-August and at the time it is the most accurate calendar we can offer you. However, changes may occur due to unforeseen circumstances. For that reason — we recommend that you also refer to communications from your child’s school as well as our district webpage at www.mexicocsd.org to confirm that the dates or times haven’t changed for an event that you are planning to attend. Thank you.
August 2023

Board of Education Workshop Meeting 6pm (DO Boardroom)
BOE Business Meeting 6pm (DO Boardroom)
Varsity Football Starts
All other JV/V Fall Sports Starts
UPK/K Screening at NH
UPK/K Screening at ME
UPK/K Screening at PAL
Stuff-A-Bus Supply Giveaway, MMS, 8am
UPK/K Screening at ME
UPK/K Screening at NH
Board of Education Workshop Meeting 6pm (DO Boardroom)
UPK/K Screening at NH
UPK/K Screening at ME
Freshman Orientation 6pm HS
FOR UP-TO-DATE CHANGES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS, PLEASE VISIT: WWW.MEXICOCSD.ORG
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.

ADMINISTRATION
Superintendent ......................................................... Dr. Donna Runner
Asst. Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction .......... Colleen Root
Asst. Superintendent for Teaching & Learning ............ Elizabeth DiCosimo
School Business Executive ........................................... Sheilla Roth
Director of Health, Physical Education & Athletics .......... Andrew Gates
Director of Pupil Services ............................................ Jennifer Stanton
Director of Technology, Data, and Innovation .............. Candace Fitzgerald
High School Principal .................................................... Christopher Soluri
Asst. High School Principal ......................................... TBD
Middle School Principal ................................................ Kimberly Holliday
Asst. Middle School Principal ...................................... Laurie Nohle
Mexico Elementary Principal ...................................... Elizabeth Voegler
New Haven Elementary Principal .................................. Jennifer Granholm
Palermo Elementary Principal ....................................... Robert Briggs

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 Uprcraft
Member ................................................................. Chad Bigelow
Member ................................................................. Dennis Brooks
Member ................................................................. Amy Shaw
Member ................................................................. Susan Teifk
Member ................................................................. Sobrina Vazquez
Student Member ....................................................... Ethan Becker

Board of Education meetings typically are held on the first and third Thursday of each month. Board of Education workshops are held on the first Thursday of the month with business meetings on the third Thursday. The term of office for Board of Education members is three years.

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 use our Tip Line feature found on the District Website and on each school’s homepage. You can report a concern or share a comment. You may remain anonymous or leave contact information and District staff will follow-up in a timely fashion.

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, 2023.
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<td><strong>LABOR DAY</strong> NO SCHOOL</td>
<td>Welcome Back Staff Staff Development Day</td>
<td>FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL for UPK-12 Students Separate UPK Bus Run/ Parent Orientation All Other Fall Modified Sports Start</td>
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<td>PAL PTC Meeting 4pm ME PTC Meeting 6pm NH PTC Meeting 3:30pm</td>
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<td>HS Picture Day Dollars for Scholars 4:30 pm HS</td>
<td><strong>TOWN HALL</strong> with Dr. Runner 6pm, Zoom</td>
<td><strong>Board of Education Business Meeting 6pm (MS Aud)</strong></td>
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**NH AND 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 the bus only after bus driver signals it’s safe.
   REASON: The bus might skid as it stops or traffic may 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 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!

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.
**SUN** | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THU** | **FRI** | **SAT**
--- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | ---
1 | 2 | PAL Open House 6-7:30pm  
ME Picture Day | 4 | MS Open House 6-7:30pm | 5 | BOE Workshop Meeting 6pm  
(Do Boardroom)  
NH Picture Day  
PAL Picture Day | 6 | 5-Week MP Ends  
Go Home Early Drill | 7 |  

**PAL BOOK FAIR**

8 | 9 |  
**COLUMBUS DAY/INDIGENOUS PEOPLES’ DAY**  
NO SCHOOL | 10 | HS Open House 6pm  
NH PTC 3:30pm / PAL PTC 4pm  
ME PTO 6pm  
Dollars for Scholars 4:30pm HS | 11 | 4th Grade Beginning Band Night,  
MS Aud | 12 |  

**FIRE PREVENTION WEEK**  
**HS SPIRIT WEEK**

15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | TOWN HALL  
with Dr. Runner 6pm, Zoom | 19 |  
**HALF-DAY PK-4 Only**  
BOE Business Meeting  
6pm MS Aud | 20 |  

22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | Mexico Idol, HS  
HS Picture Retakes | 26 |  
7/8 Fall Band and  
Chorus Concert 7pm MS Aud  
NH PTC Fall Festival 5:30pm  
ME PTO Halloween Bingo 6pm  
PCT Halloween Movie Night | 27 |  
**NO SCHOOL**  
Staff Development Day | 28 |  

**RED RIBBON WEEK**

29 | 30 | Modified Volleyball & Modified Boys Basketball Start | 31 |  

**FRENCH WEEK 10/30 - 11/3**
UNIVERSAL PRE-KINDERGARTEN
The Mexico Central School District offers a Universal Pre-Kindergartnen program to children who will be four years old by Dec. 1 of the year they enter Pre-K. The Mexico Central School District Pre-K is free of charge. Classes are located at Mexico Elementary, Palermo Elementary and New Haven Elementary. Beginning in the 2022–23 school year, the district transitioned from a half-day Pre-K option to full day Pre-K offerings. Transportation is provided to the school within your attendance zone. Students are required to have a completed physical exam, lead test results, and mandated immunizations for entrance into the program. 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 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 Dec. 1. If there are extenuating circumstances, students born between Dec. 1 and Dec. 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 pre-K, 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 index) and weight status group be included as part of each student’s school health assessment. Our district may be selected to report summary data (no names index) and weight status group be included as part of each student’s school health examination.

IMMUNIZATION POLICY
New York State Law requires immunization for school entrance/attendance. No student shall 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 or health care provider’s statement that immunization would be harmful to the child’s health.

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 any of our five schools. Students at Mexico Middle School, Palermo Elementary and New Haven Elementary are served primarily at the MS Health Center, while Mexico High School and Mexico Elementary students are seen at the Mexico Elementary SBHC, which opened last school year. 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 Tylenol, ibuprofen, and cough drops. A written permission from the parent isrequired 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 tojoin either Children’s Medicaid or Child Health Plus. Information may be obtainedat 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. You must first 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 expenses. 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 where they occur or to the school nurse.
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**OCTOBER 2023**

- **November 5**: Elementary All County Band and Chorus; Fulton HS
- **November 6**: HS Clubs and Groups Photo Day
- **November 7**: PAL PTC 4pm
- **November 8**: ME PTO 6pm
- **November 9**: NH PTC 3:30 pm
- **November 10**: NH Picture Retakes
- **November 11**: 10-Week MP Ends
- **November 12**: NHS Induction 6pm HS Aud
- **November 13**: JV/V Winter Sports Start
- **November 14**: ME Picture Retakes
- **November 15**: Dollars for Scholars 4:30pm HS
- **November 16**: BOE Workshop Meeting 5pm Tour, 6pm Meeting
- **November 17**: HS Auditorium
- **November 18**: TOWN HALL with Dr. Runner 6pm, Zoom
- **November 19**: HALF-DAY Early Dismissal
- **November 20**: PK-8 P/T Conferences
- **November 21**: (Elementary Evening Conferences 5-6:30)
- **November 22**: MS Musical 2pm and 7pm MS Aud
- **November 23**: MS Picture Retakes
- **November 24**: MS Musical 7pm MS Aud
- **November 25**: NYSSMA Area All State Festival; Phoenix
- **November 26**: MS Musical 2pm and 7pm MS Aud

**NOVEMBER 2023**

- **November 27**: HS Parent/Teacher Conferences 6-7:30 HS
- **November 28**: 6-7:30 HS
- **November 29**: 6-7:30 HS
- **November 30**: 6-7:30 HS

**DECEMBER 2023**

- **December 1**: Elementary All County Band and Chorus; Fulton HS
- **December 2**: HS Drama Club Fall Play 7pm
- **December 3**: HS Drama Club Fall Play 7pm
- **December 4**: FRENCH WEEK 10/30 - 11/3
- **December 5**: BUS SAFETY DRILLS
- **December 6**: HS Drama Club Fall Play 7pm
- **December 7**: HS Drama Club Fall Play 7pm
- **December 8**: HS Drama Club Fall Play 7pm
- **December 9**: NH Picture Retakes
- **December 10**: 10-Week MP Ends
- **December 11**: VETERANS DAY
- **December 12**: NO SCHOOL
- **December 13**: NHS Induction 6pm HS Aud
- **December 14**: JV/V Winter Sports Start
- **December 15**: ME Picture Retakes
- **December 16**: Dollars for Scholars 4:30pm HS
- **December 17**: BOE Workshop Meeting 5pm Tour, 6pm Meeting
- **December 18**: HS Auditorium
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- **December 23**: MS Musical 2pm and 7pm MS Aud
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- **December 25**: MS Musical 7pm MS Aud
- **December 26**: NYSSMA Area All State Festival; Phoenix
- **December 27**: MS Musical 2pm and 7pm MS Aud
- **December 28**: MS Musical 7pm MS Aud
- **December 29**: 6-7:30 HS
- **December 30**: 6-7:30 HS

**DECEMBER 2023**

- **December 31**: NO SCHOOL
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.

VISITOR AND VOLUNTEER 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.

Parents and other citizens who wish to volunteer or chaperone during the school year must also complete the MACS Volunteer Application Form and receive approval by the Board of Education.

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 comes 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. Christopher Soluri, Principal .......................... 315-963-8400 x5319 (HS)
Ms. Kim Holliday, Principal .................................315-963-8400 x4200 (MS)
Mrs. Lisa Voegler, Principal ..................................315-963-8400 x2310 (ME)
Mrs. Jennifer Granholm, Principal .........................315-963-8400 x3500 (NH)
Mr. Robert Briggs, Principal .................................315-963-8400 x1018 (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 Executive.........315-963-8400 x5407
**NOVEMBER 2023**

1. **15-Week MP Ends**
   - 5th Grade Chorus and Winter Band Concert 6pm MS Aud
   - 6th Grade Chorus and Winter Band Concert 7pm MS Aud
   - NH PTC 3:30pm / PAL PTC 4pm
   - NH Virtual Readers From Birth

2. **HALF DAY**
   - Early Dismissal PK-12
   - ME PTO 6 pm

3. **HS Band and Chorus Concert**
   - 7pm HS Aud

4. **BOE Workshop Meeting**
   - 5pm Tour, 6pm Meeting
   - NH Cafeteria

5. **ME Elementary Chorus Concert**
   - 6pm MS Aud

6. **BOE Business Meeting 6pm**
   - MS Aud

7. **NH Elementary Chorus Concert**
   - 6pm MS Aud

8. **TOWN HALL**
   - with Dr. Runner 6pm, Zoom
   - MS 7/8 Chorus and Band Winter Concert 7pm MS Aud

9. **NH PTC 3:30pm / PAL PTC 4pm**

10. **NH Virtual Readers From Birth**

11. **HOLIDAY RECESS**

12. **NO SCHOOL**

**JANUARY 2024**

1. **15-Week MP Ends**
   - 5th Grade Chorus and Winter Band Concert 6pm MS Aud
   - 6th Grade Chorus and Winter Band Concert 7pm MS Aud
   - NH PTC 3:30pm / PAL PTC 4pm
   - NH Virtual Readers From Birth

2. **HALF DAY**
   - Early Dismissal PK-12
   - ME PTO 6 pm

3. **HS Band and Chorus Concert**
   - 7pm HS Aud

4. **BOE Workshop Meeting**
   - 5pm Tour, 6pm Meeting
   - NH Cafeteria

5. **ME Elementary Chorus Concert**
   - 6pm MS Aud

6. **PAL Elementary Chorus Concert**
   - 6pm MS Aud

7. **NH Elementary Chorus Concert**
   - 6pm MS Aud

8. **TOWN HALL**
   - with Dr. Runner 6pm, Zoom
   - MS 7/8 Chorus and Band Winter Concert 7pm MS Aud

9. **NH PTC 3:30pm / PAL PTC 4pm**

10. **NH Virtual Readers From Birth**

11. **HOLIDAY RECESS**

12. **NO SCHOOL**
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
Mexico School District is excited to announce that all schools in the district have been approved to participate in the Community Eligibility Program through the New York State Education Department for the school year 2023-2024. What this means for our students is that any student that attends school in the Mexico District will receive one breakfast and one lunch daily for FREE during the entire 2023-2024 school year. We will continue to sell at extra charge ala carte items such as an extra entrée, chips, ice cream, milk, or juice, etc.

Our meals must meet tight Federal meal 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 and Federal reimbursable meal every child must select a fruit or vegetable. Snacks and ala 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. 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 http://www.myschoolbucks.com. Our/School Meal Program wishes you and your children a healthy and productive year.

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 24, 2024.
- If two unused snow days-There will be no school on Friday, May 24, 2024 and Tuesday, May 28, 2024
- 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.
- 1st additional day required Monday, April 22, 2024
- 2nd additional day required Tuesday, April 23, 2024
- 3rd additional day required Wednesday, April 24, 2024
- 4th additional day required Thursday, April 25, 2024

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 their 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.
OPT-OUT POLICIES 2023-2024

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 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 meet the criteria established by the District. 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 Academy 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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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.

TRANSLATION SERVICES AVAILABLE
MACS provides translation and interpreting services through an outside vendor should it be needed. Contact the district office with any questions and to receive further information about how to utilize these services.

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 District superintendent.
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**BUS SAFETY DRILLS**

- NO SCHOOL
  - Staff Development Day
  - JV/V Spring Sports Start

- PAL PTC 4pm
- ME PTO 6pm
- NH PTC 3:30pm
- HS Mardi Gras Magic

**ME BOOK FAIR**

- Music in Our Schools Month Concert 2, 7-12 Choirs 6pm
- HS Aud
- Dollars for Scholars 4:30pm HS

- TOWN HALL
  - with Dr. Runner 6pm, Zoom

- BOE Business Meeting 6pm
  - MS Aud
  - HS Variety Show 7pm HS Aud

**RECESS DAY**

- NO SCHOOL

Other events:

- State Robotics Competition
- RECESS DAY
- Community Connections Event 10-1 HS
PESTICIDE NOTIFICATION 2023-2024

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 2023-2024

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.
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STUDENT RECORDS POLICY

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 the 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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**APRIL 2024**

- **May 2024**
  - 2024 BOE Workshop Meeting and Budget Hearing 6pm MS Aud
  - K Screening PAL

**JUNE 2024**

- 2024 K Screening PAL
- PAL PTC Mother/Daughter Tea, Father/Son Event 6pm
- Junior Prom at River Vista

**STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK**

- **May 2024**
  - NYS 5th Grade Science Test
  - French Honor Society Induction
  - NH Chorus Concert 6pm MS Aud
  - TOWN HALL with Dr. Runner 6pm Zoom

- **June 2024**
  - 35-Week MP Ends
  - K Screening ME and NH
  - NYS 8th Grade Science Test
  - NYSSMNA Solo and Ensemble Festival MS

**MEMORIAL DAY**

- **May 2024**
  - NO SCHOOL

- **June 2024**
  - NO SCHOOL
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 as 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 6-12: 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.
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JUNE 2024

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JULY 2024

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SUMMER VACATION BEGINS!
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 (2) blocks 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 to 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 alleged violations will be reported to the coach who will determine whether the report is accurate or not. The coach will determine whether a violation has occurred, and the Athletic Director will be notified of the decision.

B. 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 denial of participation of the team through two athletic contests.

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 she or he 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.

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 cyber bullying.
- 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

If the violation did occur, the Athletic Director will consult with the principal and coach, to determine appropriate disciplinary action. The penalty, implemented by the Athletic Director, may range from a warning to denial of participation with the team through two athletic contests.

Any penalty that results in denial of participation for a period greater than two athletic contests will be brought before the Athletic Review Board. After reviewing the full report, the Athletic Review Board may implement the Athletic Director’s recommendation or modify it to a minimum of the two-contest suspension.

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.

IV. Team Conduct/Sportsmanship

It is important for all athletes to follow team rules and display good sportsmanship during practices, games, or team activities. Examples of misconduct related to these expectations include:

- Insubordination to coaches, staff or officials
- Obscene gestures, swearing, provocation
- Fighting within the team or athletic contests
- Stealing
- Horseplay
- Tardiness to practice
- Unsportsmanlike conduct (in addition to any league or section sanctions)
- Other disciplinary situations, which may arise as a team member.

A. Reporting Athletic Violations

Any alleged violations will be reported to the coach who will determine whether the report is accurate or not. The coach will determine whether a violation has occurred, and the Athletic Director will be notified of the decision.

B. 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 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 contests 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-contest suspension.

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

I. Extracurricular Activities

Extracurricular activities include: athletics, clubs, competitions, drama, musicals, selective organizations, etc.

Students involved in school-supported activity programs are expected to exemplify good citizenship both on and off school grounds. The student must display good behavior both in practice and during games and activities.

Students found to be in violation of the code of conduct will be subject to the corresponding range of consequences and may also face consequences from a one game or activity suspension up to the dismissal from the team or the group.

The use, possession, sale or distribution of alcohol or other controlled substances or the use and/or possession of drug paraphernalia is prohibited. Students are also prohibited from the use or possession of tobacco and tobacco products. See pages 8 and 9 of the district code of conduct for definitions of; Illegal Substances, Tobacco Products and Under the Influence.

A conference will be held to review the affected student’s violation with the student, a parent, the coach or the advisor, the Building Principal, and/or the Athletic Director.

The penalties will range from a one game or activity suspension to dismissal from the team or the group. If suspended from a game or an activity, the student must attend practices.

Individual coaches and advisors may set up rules pertaining to their particular sport or activity. Students will be informed of these rules and are required to abide by them.

Students who are members of an athletic team, and who receive a school suspension from the Building Principal for any conduct related disciplinary infractions, will have their suspension reviewed for training rules violation(s).

Any student who has issues or concerns of any kind regarding their participation in a sport or activity will bring it to the attention of the coach or the advisor and expect an appropriate decision.

Any member of the team or group that is aware of another student’s issues or concerns will bring it to the attention of the coach or advisor so that such dissatisfaction can be addressed.

When related to interscholastic sports, the Athletic Director will be consulted if the matter cannot be resolved between the coach and the student(s).

When related to other school-supported activities, the Building Principal will be consulted if the matter cannot be resolved between the advisor and the student(s).
A. Academics
Students in extracurricular activities must balance the roles of being a full-time student and a part-time participant in the extracurricular activity. Our expectations are that students can:
1. maintain passing averages in their courses;
2. seek extra help from staff when needed to help them maintain passing averages; and
3. always place a high level of importance on their academic achievement.

However, should a student fall below a grade of 65 in a class, the following policy will be enforced:
After the first five weeks of the start of a course, administration runs grades for all students. If a student is failing a course(s), the following policy will be implemented:

Level 1: A student failing a course(s) is expected to seek academic help from their teacher on a regular basis. The student will receive a warning and has two school weeks to improve their grade to passing (grade of 65 or higher). With assistance from administration, the student and a parent must schedule a conference with the teacher(s) to draft a plan of action to bring up the grade in the course(s) to a passing level. At the end of the two-week period, the administration will generate a new grade report. If the student is not failing that course(s), they remain fully eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Otherwise, the student moves to Level 2.

Level 2: If the student is still failing the course(s), they cannot participate in games, performances, competitions, or any events associated with extracurricular activities until the grade(s) is passing. They may continue to attend rehearsals, practices, meetings, or other routine activities associated with the extracurricular activity. At the end of the two-week school period, the administration will generate a new grade report. If the student is passing the course, they remain fully eligible to participate in extracurricular activities. Otherwise, the student moves to Level 3.

Level 3: If the student is still failing the course(s), they cannot participate in practices, rehearsals, meetings, or other routine activities associated with the extracurricular activity and cannot participate in games, performances, competitions, or any events associated with the extracurricular activity until they have a passing grade(s). The student is fully eligible to participate when they are passing the course(s).

At the completion of a course, the policy resets.

B. Attendance
In order to participate in practice or rehearsal, a game or activity on a given day, a student must be in attendance before 10:00 AM. Absentees are the only exception to this. Students with late arrival are expected to be in school by their designated time period.

Any absence on the day in question must be for a legal reason, with a written excuse submitted to the school. Any student absent on a Friday will not be able to participate in any event on the following Saturday, unless the parent presents a written valid reason for absence – if the student was under a doctor’s care, the doctor should provide the student with a medical release to participate in the sport or the activity.

Each student participant is expected to be at every scheduled practice or rehearsal, game or activity unless they have a medical excuse or legal excuse from the office, one of their teachers, or their parents.

Students who plan to be absent from a practice or rehearsal, game or activity must personally notify the coach or advisor prior to the practice or rehearsal, the game or activity that they expect to miss. Students that are absent from practice(s) or rehearsal(s) may be withheld from participation for either a portion or all of their next game or activity. A student’s absence may result in a loss of conditioning or lack of awareness of new team or group strategies that would place the student behind their team or group members in these areas. Students are expected to be in attendance the day after a game or activity.

No student will quit a team or group without first talking with the coach or the advisor and explaining the reason for leaving the team or group. It is the responsibility of the student to confer with the coach or the advisor regarding their reason(s) for quitting.

The student must set up a meeting with the coach or the advisor within two school days from the last day of participation for this discussion. Any and all equipment must be returned upon termination of participation. If a student quits a team or a group without first talking with the coach or the advisor and explaining the reason for leaving the team or the group or fails to return any and all equipment upon termination of participation, they may be disqualified from participating on an athletic team or in a group at the discretion of the Athletic Director or Building Administrator.

a. 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.

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

c. Suspension (OSS and ISS): Any action that results in more than two (2) Blocks 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 attend/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.

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 sportsmanlike 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 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 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;
- Willfully damage or destroy property of the district or property under its jurisdiction, nor remove or use such property without authorization;
- Without permission, expressed or implied, enter into any private office of an administrative officer, member of the faculty or staff member;
- Enter upon and remain in any building or facility for any purpose other than its authorized uses or in such manner as to obstruct its authorized use by others;
- Without authorization, remain in any building or facility after it is normally closed;
- Refuse to leave any building or facility after being directed to do so by an authorized administrative officer, member of the faculty or staff member;
- Obstruct the free movement of persons and vehicles in any place to which these rules apply;
- Willfully damage or destroy property of the district or property under its jurisdiction, nor remove or use such property without authorization;
- Without permission, expressed or implied, enter into any private office of an administrative officer, member of the faculty or staff member;
- Disrupt or prevent the peaceful and orderly conduct of classes, lectures and meetings or interfere with the freedom of any person to express his/her views, including invited speakers;
- Have in his/her possession upon any premises to which these rules apply, any rifle, shotgun, pistol, revolver, or other firearm or weapon without...
the written authorization of the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, whether or not a license to possess the same has been issued to such person (peace officers are excluded from this prohibition); • Use, possess, sell or distribute alcohol or controlled substances as defined in Board policy 7320, Drug and Alcohol Abuse; • Willfully incite others to commit any of the acts herein prohibited with specific intent to procure them to do so; and/or violate any federal or state statute, local ordinance or Board policy.

Dress considered appropriate and acceptable:
All visitors will dress suitably and in compliance with standards of sanitation and safety.

Dress considered inappropriate and unacceptable:
No visitor shall wear attire bearing an expression or insignia, which is obscene or libelous, which advocates racial or religious prejudice, which refers to drugs or alcohol, or which is insensitive to the thoughts, feelings, and rights of others, and which is provocative or revealing, is prohibited.

Language considered appropriate and acceptable:
While embracing free expression of ideas, it is expected that all language is respectful of the rights of others.

Language considered inappropriate and unacceptable:
No visitor shall use profane or obscene language, or language that willfully incites others to violate this code of conduct.

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.

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. 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.

**Violent behavior**
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.

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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.

**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.
9. Keep language and gestures respectful and free of profanities and obscenities.

Respect private, public, and school property.

**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.

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.

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Be informed regarding student rights and responsibilities and comply with all rules and regulations of this policy.
MACS DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

Cordially invites you to become involved with our organization. Please mark your calendar for the following monthly meetings tentatively scheduled for the coming academic year:

**MEETING DATES:**

- September 19, 4:30pm
- October 10, 4:30pm
- November 14, 4:30pm
- December 12, 4:30pm
- January 16, 4:30pm
- February 13, 4:30pm
- March 19, 4:30pm
- April 16, 4:30pm
- May 21, 4:30pm
- June 18, 4:30pm

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

All contributions 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.

**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.

**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 committe 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).