Madison Middle School

Handbook

2025 - 2026

95 Upper Brush Creek Road
Marshall, NC 28753

Welcome to Madison Middle School!!!

2025-2026

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and students of MMS, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Madison Middle School! Home of the Patriots! We serve the 6th-8th grade student population of Madison County and currently, with a population of 460+ students, are the largest school within Madison County.

What we do: our Vision Statement at MMS- Helping students expand their potential and equip them with the mindset to become future leaders.

How we do: our Mission Statement at MMS- To promote and provide an equal and equitable education for all students to create a more empowered community.

These core values are what make up and drive MMS: Programing, Curriculum, PBIS Matrix, SEL programs, Free Breakfast and Lunch, Sports, After-school programs, Clubs, Community Out-reach, AIG, on-site Nurse and SRO personnel and many other initiatives are all designed with the idea of developing the whole child and the greater community of Madison County in which they live. At MMS we have created a family atmosphere and, as such, we encourage families to take part in our community here at MMS by volunteering, joining our PTO, maintaining regular contact with teachers, and participating in the various events we hold throughout the course of the year. We also encourage families to stay abreast of their student's academic progress by utilizing the parent portal on Infinite Campus or by reaching out with any questions or concerns regarding your child's education…It takes a village.

We at MMS are excited and look forward to the upcoming 2025-2026 school year. It is our pleasure that you are part of our MMS family. We look forward to seeing, sharing and working with you on our future—your child!

Regards,

Eric Blackman

MMS Principal

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School Contacts

Phone Numbers

Main Office - 828-649-2269

Fax Number - 828-649-1859

Please contact the main office to speak to a classroom teacher or have your call directed to any personnel listed below.

Administration:

- Principal - Eric Blackman
- Assistant Principal - Michelle Stevens

Office Staff

- Front Desk / Administrative Assistant - Annette Riddle
- Data Manager / Bookkeeper - Wanda Robinson

Support Staff

- Interventionist - Lisa Jenkins
- School Counselor - Kandace Rice
- School Counselor - Rachelle Ramsey
- School Nurse - Lisa Honeycutt
- School Social Work - TBD
- School Resource Officer - Josh Burnette
- Behavior Specialist - Pete Thomas
- Gear- Up Coordinator - Susan Wilson

Athletics

- Co-Athletic Director - Zachary Ball
- Co- Athletic Director - Becky Rector

Tips for Surviving Middle School as a Parent

1. Help your child manage homework time. Encourage them to aim high and always do their best work. Check with teachers to see how much time should be necessary to complete homework. See what your school offers to help you help your child, such as an agenda planner or some other homework reminder system, and/or a Website with helpful links.

2. Show interest in his studies by talking with them daily about what they are learning and doing in school (don't take "nothing" for an answer!). If you know your child has a project for science, get involved. The same goes for cheerleading, sports, and music — any extracurricular activities.

3. Discuss ideas and feelings about school, studies, and activities. Be realistic about what your child can and should be able to do. Don't expect great grades or high test scores if they are not capable. That expectation will only cause unnecessary frustration.

4. With your child, read and review the information that schools and districts provide. Be familiar with school, classes, student handbook, etc. All these will help you and your child successfully weave your way through the maze called middle school.

5. Contact counselors, administrators, and teachers periodically. Find out what your child should be learning, how they are progressing, and how you can help. Be a full partner in your child's education.

6. Be sure that they attend school on a regular basis. Even if they are absent for illness or another valid reason, they need to keep up with his studies. Call the school if your child will be missing a day, and find out what they need to do to make up for it.

7. Encourage her to pursue interests and make friends through extracurricular activities. Be certain, however, that they select no more than a few activities so they have adequate time for schoolwork. You must help them find a balance; this will take compromise and patience.

8. Get in their business. Who does your child hang out with? Follow up on any suspicions that you may have. It is better to be safe than sorry at this time of their life. Know where your child is at all times. Be clear and consistent with discipline and keep a close eye on technology use and social media.

9. Make it clear that she must follow school rules and policies. Teach them to respect people as well as property. Help them know right from wrong and what they must do when negative temptations come their way.

10. Encourage him to get to know his counselor and to maintain contact throughout their middle-school years, if possible. Not only will the counselor be invaluable in supporting their academic path, they are one of many potential adult role models for your child.

11. Consistently acknowledge and reward efforts at school. Many parents expect the school to provide the incentives for their child's accomplishments. While schools do have a lot of motivation programs, parents need to recognize their child's successes too. When your child works hard, your acknowledgement motivates him to persist.

Welcome to Madison Middle School for the 2025-2026 School Year!

We are excited to partner with our students, parents and the broader community for an excellent year of learning and growth. This handbook outlines our school's expectations and policies. We strongly encourage you to read it thoroughly to ensure a smooth and successful school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact your child's teacher or an administrator. For detailed information on any Madison County Schools Board Policies referenced in this handbook, please visit MCS Board Policies.

Student Fees

Locker Fee - $5.00 for yearly rental
Science Fee - $10.00 each year
Technology Usage Fee - $25 each year

Lockers

Lockers and locks will be issued to students by their homeroom teacher. Each student is responsible for keeping their locker clean and locked. It is advised that students do not share their locker combination with others. Students are asked to keep their locker locked at all times as this is the safest place to keep personal items. Lockers are the property of Madison Middle School and are subject to search at any time.

Visitors

Parents are always welcome at MMS! To ensure student safety all visitors must stop at the front office, sign in, and receive a visitor's pass prior to going anywhere in the building. Students are not allowed to bring students, friends or relatives to school with them. Anyone wishing to volunteer on a regular basis must complete a volunteer application through Central Office.

Inclement Weather Procedures

Should Madison County Schools choose to close school due to inclement weather, this announcement will be made via the school messenger all call system, broadcasted on News 13, and will be posted on the school's website and Facebook page. Remote days could potentially be called, it is the responsibility of the student to complete the work sent home in preparation for a remote day being called by the school system, students will be responsible for returning work back to teachers on the day following the school closure.

Lunch Charges

Breakfast and lunch are provided free of charge through the Community Eligibility Provision through the USDA. There is a second chance breakfast and second lunch which students must purchase, and there is a charging cap of $10. Students who reach the charge cap, will not be able to charge for a second meal until their account is paid in full. Additional snack items can be purchased at lunch for an additional fee, students must have money on them or in their account in order to purchase.

Medication

MMS recognizes that students may need to take medication during school hours. Authorized school personnel may administer medication prescribed by a health care practitioner upon the written request of a student's parent per MCS Board Policy 6125. Parents need to ensure appropriate paperwork is complete and on file with the school nurse for any medication a student may need to have administered during the school day.

Home to School Communication

Madison Middle School will communicate with parents through phone calls, emails, and through the Infinite Campus parent portal. Some grade levels send out weekly newsletters to keep parents informed of upcoming events and important information. Our school's website and facebook page are always kept up to date with the latest news and information from the school as well. The school administration will utilize the school messenger feature through Infinite Campus to communicate important events and information to parents each week as well. Please make sure all parent contact information is up to date in our information system. Should you change addresses, cell phone number or email addresses please share this with the front office.

Cell Phones and Personal Electronics

Students are permitted to possess personal electronic devices on school property, however phones and all personal electronic devices are to be powered off and placed in students lockers between the hours of 7:30am and 3:00 pm. The devices may only be used under the following conditions 1. With teacher permission, before 7:55am 2. After the bell rings for the end of the school day. If a student needs to contact a parent/guardian, they can come to the office or student services after obtaining permission from their teacher. Please refer to the discipline matrix for violations of the cell phone and personal electronics policy.

Personal Property

MMS faculty and staff are not held liable for any damage or loss that may occur to students' personal items. Students are encouraged not to bring their own personal items to school; however, if they bring personal items they should be locked in their locker. Personal property might include but not limited to headphones, airpods, earbuds, cell phones, smart watches, purses, handheld gaming devices, personal electronics devices, tablets, etc. Personal property is subject to search by school officials when there is reasonable suspicion that the search will turn up evidence that the student has violated either school rules or the law.

Energy Drinks and Coffee Drinks

ABSOLUTELY NO Energy Drinks will be allowed by students in the building. Students may bring soft drinks to be consumed during lunch, however the drink may not leave the cafeteria after the lunch period has ended. Students may bring coffee drinks (ex. Starbucks) but these must be consumed and disposed of by the end of morning announcements 8:05am.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Attention to academic standards is important, however, we recognize the benefits of students' involvement in extracurricular activities. Extracurricular activities include ball games, special programs, dances, field trips, clubs, after-school programs, etc. The MMS Student Code of Conduct applies to all extracurricular activities. Improper conduct could result in loss of privileges to participate in these activities. Dates and times for all activities will be given in advance. For safety reasons students should be picked up immediately following the

event. Students must be in attendance for a minimum of half the school day to be eligible to participate in any extracurricular activity.

Field Trips

Field trips are an extension of the classroom and require parent permission for student participation. Students participating in any outside activity sponsored by the school shall be under the direct authority of the teachers and chaperones in charge. The principal may prohibit a student from participating in field trips if there are behavioral or safety concerns. School dress code applies for all field trips.

PBIS - Positive Behavioral Interventions and Support

As part of the PBIS program here at MMS, we feel that it is important to acknowledge students who go above and beyond in class and around the school each and every day. PBIS rewards students based on their Academics, Attendance, and Attitude. We are looking for students to be A++ students here at MMS. Students who meet the PBIS requirements of passing three out of 4 core classes, have no more than 8 days of unexcused absences, and have no more than one day of ISS or No OSS, will get to participate in the following PBIS incentives..

- ☐ Monthly Extra Recess Time
- ☐ Nomination by teachers to be recognized as student of the month, students of the month receive a special treat and are entered into a drawing for various gift cards.
- ☐ Winter PBIS trip to Bowling or Snow Tubing
- ☐ Spring PBIS trip to Dollywood

Click Here to Access the MMS PBIS Matrix

Bus Transportation Policy

The Madison County Board of Education recognizes the importance of safe and orderly buses during their routes to and from school. As it is outlined in MCS Board Policy 4317 school bus transportation is a privilege not a right. Students at all times while riding a school bus or other school vehicle shall observe the directive of the bus or vehicle driver. A student will be subject to disciplinary action for any violation within this policy and those covered in the MCS Board Policy 4317. **Minor offenses will merit a warning and repeated minor offenses and / or major offenses will result in bus suspension, parent notification, and possible removal from the bus for an extended period of time.**

Minor Offenses	Major Offenses
- Failure to keep bus clean - Loud and boisterous talking - Disruptive and inappropriate behavior - Refusing to meet the bus on time and delaying the bus schedule - Failure to remain in a seat while the bus is in motion - Not sitting in assigned seat - Spitting on the bus, seats or floors - Other inappropriate behavior that disrupts the orderly operation of the bus.	- Spitting on others - Stopping, impeding, delaying or detaining a bus - Disturbing the peace, order or discipline on a bus - Refusing to obey the driver's instruction or instructions of other school authorities while waiting for, riding or leaving a school vehicle - Tampering with or willfully damaging the bus or school vehicle - Hanging arms, head, body parts or objects out of the windows - Playing, throwing objects, getting out of seat or otherwise distracting the driver's attention by participating in disruptive behavior. - Excessive display of affection - Failing to observe established safety rules and regulations. - Unauthorized leaving the bus when in route - Use or possession of any weapon - Fighting, smoking, vaping, using profanity, possession or using drugs or intoxicating beverages, or otherwise violating any other board policy or school rule while on a school bus or other school vehicle.

Transportation Changes

A written note with parent/guardian's name and phone number must be given to the office by 9:00 AM on the day of the change. The front office will confirm the transportation change and will return the note to the student to pass on to the bus driver. Except in an emergency, transportation changes will not be made over the phone.

Madison Middle School Discipline Policy

MMS Code of Conduct/Student Expectations

It is our hope and expectation that students leave Madison Middle with an exceptional education and the personal skills to self monitor their behavior and hold themselves accountable for their actions. There are two categories for documenting inappropriate behaviors: Minor Incidents and Office Referrals.

- ☐ Minor Incidents are actions that are addressed by the classroom teacher that may result in silent lunch, lunch detention, classroom bounce, recess detention or other appropriate consequences. Minor incidents are monitored by administration.
- ☐ Office Referrals address multiple or repeated minor incidents and major offenses. These are handled by the principals. Principals will communicate with the student, parents, teachers and student services as needed to address the referral. Consequences for office referrals may include Conference/Lunch Detention (in the ISS room), In School Suspension(ISS)/Out of School Suspension (OSS)/Expulsion. Examples of Major Offenses which will be immediately referred to the MMS principals are listed below. These will result in suspension and/or legal action as deemed necessary.
    - ☐ Drugs, alcohol, tobacco, vapes
    - ☐ Harassment
    - ☐ Theft or vandalism of property
    - ☐ Disrespectful behavior towards other students and staff
    - ☐ Assault on any student (verbal or physical)
    - ☐ Weapons (real or simulated)
    - ☐ Communicating threats or harm
    - ☐ Sexual behaviors
    - ☐ Fighting
    - ☐ Sexual, Racial or Religious
    - ☐ False fire alarms or bomb threats
    - ☐ Bullying/Cyberbullying

- ☐ Students who spend a full day in ISS or OSS will not be allowed to participate in extracurricular activities such as sports, clubs, dances, etc.

Madison Middle School Discipline Plan			
Teacher	Teacher	Teacher/Student Services/ Administration	Administration
Level 1 Behaviors	Level 2 Behaviors Minor Incident	Level 3 Behavior Office Referral	Level 4 Behavior Office Referral
● Disrupts teaching and learning ● Excessive talking ● Failure to follow teacher directions ● Unprepared for Class ● Out of seat ● Tardy ● Cell-phone violation	● Repeating Level 1 Behavior ● Misuse of school property ● Horseplay ● Disrespectful behavior ● Physical Aggression ● Bullying or harassment ● Defiance ● Lying/Cheating	● Repetition of Level 2 behavior ● Aggressive/Foul language not directed towards staff ● Blatant disrespect ● Physical Aggression ● Bullying or harassment ● Defiance ● Lying/Cheating ● Cutting Class	● Fighting ● Aggression/ Profanity directed at Staff ● Intimidating Others ● Racial Slurs ● Sexual harassment ● Possession/Use of drugs, weapons, cigarettes, alcohol, or vapes ● Theft/Vandalism ● Student behavior not responding to teacher and/or Student Services interventions
Level 1 Responses	Level 2 Responses Minor Incident	Level 3 Responses Office Referral	Level 4 Responses Office Referral
● Verbal or non-verbal redirection ● Expectations and procedures taught and reviewed regularly ● Follow-through of discipline plan ● Utilize bounce rooms	● Silent Lunch ● Parent Phone call ● Withhold privileges ● Teacher consequences ● Restitution or apology ● Problem solving with student	● Problem solving with student ● After-school Detention ● Parent Conference (documented) ● Work Detail ● Continued teacher consequences ● Consult student services/ assistant principals ● Restrictions on field trip attendance ● In School Suspension	● Parent notification by administrator ● Restriction of activities/privileges ● Disciplinary probation ● Work Detail ● In school Suspension ● Out of School Suspension ● Restrictions on field trip attendance

Discipline Grid

The following will be used for Level 3 and 4 Behaviors / Office Referrals
Parents will be notified of referrals resulting in consequences

MMS Discipline Plan	1st Offense	2nd Offense	3rd Offense
Attendance			
Being in an unauthorized / undesignated area, Loitering/Failure to attend class or activity, Cutting Class	ISS-1	ISS-2	ISS-3
Leaving Class w/o permission	ISS-1	ISS-2	ISS-3
Leaving Campus w/o permission	ISS-3	OSS - 3	OSS-5
Bus Violations			
Getting off bus at an unauthorized stop	PD	PD	PD
Getting off the wrong bus intentionally	PD	PD	PD
Misconduct (Refer to specifics throughout discipline grid)	PD - 3 Days of bus suspension	PD - 5 Days of bus suspension	PD - 10 days of bus suspension
Drugs/Alcohol			
Alcohol (possession, use, distribution are different codes) (reportable offense)	OSS (3-5)	OSS (3-5) + JP	PD OSS/LTS/JP
Controlled substance (possession, use, distribution are different codes) (reportable offense)	OSS (5-10)/LTS	LTS/Expulsion/ SBD	LTS/Expulsion/SBD
Distribution or sale of drugs/alcohol (reportable offense)	LTS/Expulsion/SBD	LTS/Expulsion/ SBD	LTS/Expulsion/SBD
Possession of someone else's Rx (reportable offense)	OSS(5-10)	LTS/Expulsion/ SBD	
Possession of own Rx	PD/ISS/OSS	PD/OSS	OSS
Possession of OTC medicine	PD/ISS	PD	PD
Possession / Use of Drug paraphernalia (reportable offense)	PD/OSS(5-10)	PD/OSS(5-10)	LTS/Expulsion/ SBD
Endangering Acts			
Aiding and Abetting a School	PD/ISS(1-4)	PD/ISS(4-6)	PD/OSS(1-3)

Disturbance (Disorderly Conduct)			
Assault resulting in injury (med. attn.) (reportable offense)	**LTS/Expulsion/ SBD/ Behavior Threat Assessment**	**PD**	**PD**
Fighting, Assault, Affray	**PD/OSS(3-4)**	**PD/OSS(4-6)**	**PD/OSS/LTS - Behavior Threat Assessment conducted**
Horseplay (Excessive)	**PD/LD/ISS(1-3)**	**PD/ISS(3-5)**	**PD/OSS**
Possession of a Weapon (reportable offense)	**LTS/Expulsion/ SBD**	**PD**	**PD**
Inappropriate Item on Campus			
Inappropriate Item on Campus	**ISS (1-2) / PD**	**ISS (2-3) / PD**	**OSS -2**
Possession or Use of Vape, E-Cig, pods, etc. (inappropriate item on campus)	**ISS (3)/Teen Intervene**	**ISS(5)/Teen Intervene**	**OSS(3) - Referral to Juvenile Mediation**
Tobacco possession or use	**ISS (3)/Teen Intervene**	**ISS(5)/Teen Intervene**	**OSS(3) - Referral to Juvenile Mediation**
Misconduct			
Deceiving school official/forging signatures/falsifying documents	**ISS (1)**	**ISS (2)**	**ISS (4)**
Disruptive Behavior	**PD-LD/ISS**	**ISS (1-3)**	**ISS (3-5)**
Inappropriate Student dress	**PN**	**PN**	**PN/ ISS (1-3)**
Indecent Exposure	**PD/OSS(1-3)**	**PD/OSS(3-5)/ threat assessment**	**LTS/Expulsion/SBD**
Student/Staff Relations			
Aggression/Assault on staff	**See board policy**	**See board policy**	**See board policy**
Communicating threats/Threatening acts to the staff	**OSS / PD / Behavior Threat Assessment Conducted**	**See Board Policy**	**See Board Policy**
Profanity/Disrespect/obscene gestures directed to staff	**PD - ISS/OSS**	**PD - ISS/OSS**	**PD-OSS**
Refusal to comply with a reasonable request	**PD-LD/VW**	**ISS (1-3)**	**ISS (3-5)**

Student Relations			
Aggressive Behavior	ISS (1-3)	ISS (3-5)	OSS (1-3)
Cell Phone and Personal Electronics Policy Violation and Cell Phone Misconduct	Conference with an Administrator, Phone is turned in to the office and student will pick up at the end of the day	PD/ Phone turned into the office and a Parent will have to pick the phone up from school	Contract will be put in place and cell phone will be kept in the office each day
Communicating Threats to a student	PD/ISS/OSS/ threat assessment conducted	PD/OSS/ threat assessment conducted	PD/OSS/ threat assessment conducted
Cyber-bullying	ISS (1-2)	ISS (3-5)	OSS
Distribution of inappropriate videos/images (Misuse of Technology)	ISS (3)	OSS/PD	OSS/PD
Harassment Disability, Racial, Religious, Sexual Orientation (verbal, written, Cyber, etc)	ISS (1-3) / Referral to counseling	PD / OSS (3)	PD-OSS
Hazing	PD/ISS (1-3) / Referral to counseling	PD /OSS (3)	PD/OSS
Inappropriate Behavior	PD/LD/ISS(1-3)	PD/ISS(3-5)	PD/OSS
Mutual sexual conduct between two students	PD/OSS(1-3)	PD/OSS(3-5)	PD/OSS (5-10)
Profanity/Obscene Gestures(Inappropriate Language/Disrespect)	PD/LD/ISS(1-3)	PD/ISS(3-5)	PD/OSS
Recording inappropriate video/images(Misuse of Technology)	ISS(1)	ISS(2)	PD/ISS(4)
Violations of the Law			
False fire alarm/discharging fire extinguishers	OSS	OSS-juvenile petition	LTS/Expulsion SBD
Theft	ISS(1-3)/ juvenile petition	ISS(3-5) juvenile petition	LTS/Expulsion SBD
Threat of Physical Attack/violence with a firearm/weapon	LTS/Expulsion / Behavior Threat Assessment conducted		

Property Damage	**ISS(2) & Restitution**	**ISS(4) & Restitution**	**PD-OSS & Restitution**
Unlawfully setting a fire	**LTS/Expulsion SBD**		

** Principal Discretion or alternate plans may be implemented with specific students
** Any behavior deemed inappropriate for a school environment will be dealt with at the principal's discretion

Code Legend
PN - Parents Notified
ISS - In School Suspension
OSS - Out of School Suspension
LTS - Long Term Suspension
PD - Principal's Discretion
LD - Lunch Detention
SBD - School Board Decision

Severe Clause and Disclaimer

The administration reserves the right to accelerate students to advance or different consequences for expectation violations according to the severity of the incident and to handle any incident that is not covered in this handbook in a timely and appropriate manner. An attempt will be made to contact the parents/guardian each time ISS/OSS is assigned. Upon recommendation of a Long Term Suspension, the students will go before the hearing officer.

After 7 full days of ISS per academic year, OSS may be used. Depending on the offense, OSS may be used before ISS. After 10 full days of OSS, the student may be suspended long term based on recommendations to the superintendent.

If a student spends at least one day or more in ISS, they will not be allowed to participate in any extracurricular activities such as sports events, clubs, dances, etc. for that day. Further disciplinary action may be taken by a teacher / club sponsor or coach.

Note: Suspension from school includes all school related activities. Participation in ISS/OSS may include occasional cleaning of school, school grounds, trash pick up, etc, or some other community service activity around the school. Having ISS/OSS will result in the loss of class trip participation, school dances, events, and / or school privileges.

Madison County Schools Policy 4353: Long Term Suspension, 365 Days Suspension
MCS Board Policy 4353 (link provided to view policy)

Madison County Schools Policy 4370: Student Discipline Hearing Procedures
MCS Board Policy 4370 (link provided to view policy)

Click Here to Access Prohibition Against Discrimination, Harassment, and Bullying Policies

Tobacco, Vapes, and Smoke-less Tobacco Policy

The use or possession of tobacco, vapes, and smoke-less tobacco is not permitted on school grounds or at school events. Consequences for possessing and or using these products will result in an office referral, disciplinary action, and confiscation of the device/product. Multiple infractions could result in juvenile mediation and / or charges.

Teen Intervene

Teen Intervene is a substance awareness and abuse program used at MMS and designed by the Madison County Health Department. The program includes counseling sessions to discuss hazards of substance abuse. Students who are in possession of a substance (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or vapes) or using a substance at school (alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or vapes) will be enrolled in Teen Intervene.

Dress Code Policy

MCS Board Policy Code 4316

Students are expected to adhere to standards of dress and appearance that are compatible with a safe and effective learning environment. Dress that is appropriate for the school is the responsibility of the parents/guardians and students. We encourage families to discuss appropriate dress for various situations and environments that their child will encounter outside the home and assist their child in making conscientious choices when considering appropriate dress.

- ☐ School dress/accessories should not pose a significant distraction or threaten the health or safety of the student, classmates, or staff.
- ☐ Clothing must include a top and bottom, or the equivalent (ex. Dresses), and shoes.
- ☐ Clothing must cover from the neck to midthigh and everything in-between, including private parts and undergarments while sitting and/or moving throughout daily school activities.
- ☐ Clothing must include opaque fabric (not sheer/see through), covering the front, sides (under arms and shoulders), and back.
- ☐ Accessories including chains, padlocks, studs/spikes, etc. are not permitted.
- ☐ Students should be recognizable at all times. Face, eyes, and ears should be visible at all times.
- ☐ Hats, hoods and sunglasses should not be worn indoors; masks (other than for medical reasons) are not permitted.
- ☐ Clothing and accessories must be free from words/logos/designs depicting or promoting/advocating items included, but not limited to: violence, criminal activity, tobacco, alcohol or drug use, pornography, nudity or sexual acts, gang identifiers, or hate speech.

Students who violate dress code will be asked to change into appropriate clothing or asked to contact a parent or guardian to receive new attire. Continual violations of the dress code may result in disciplinary action.

Technology / Student Device User Policy

MCS Board Policies 3225/4312/7320 Technology Responsible Use

MMS students use laptops and power cords that are almost five years old. They will be needed and must be preserved for the foreseeable future. There are no replacements! With this in mind the following general guidelines will be in place at MMS concerning laptop use.

- ☐ Laptops and power cords will be issued one per student and will remain at MMS for the entirety of the school year.
- ☐ If/when remote days are called computers will not be sent home. Teachers will provide non-computer reliant work for students.
- ☐ Students will not be allowed to take laptops home to complete "make-up work".
- ☐ Neither food nor drinks should be on the desk or consumed during computer usage.
- ☐ Breakfast and lunch will be eaten and put away before computers are taken out.
- ☐ If a computer is broken/severely damaged by a student they will not be issued another one until it is paid for by the student or the computer is returned from Dell Tech Computers Repair Center, after being repaired. Until that time students will be provided paper copies of all work. For on-line testing and state assessments students will be loaned a laptop that will be returned immediately after testing.
- ☐ Laptops are on a 365 day, one incident cycle. If there are two incidents within that year, a student will pay for the repairs or not be issued another computer until the laptop can be repaired.
- ☐ If a student damages another student's computer then the student who did the damage is liable for that device, and will be responsible for damages and replacement fees.

There is a non-refundable $25 Technology user fee to all students.

Lost or First Party Vandalism (broken or damaged laptop) Replacement fee is $425

Click Here to Access the MMS Student Device User Agreement

Click Here to Access the MMS Student Laptop Use Guidelines

Attendance School Board Policy 4400

This policy allows each student eight (8) unexcused absences per semester before any make up sessions are required. Once the student has missed the 9th day, he or she will be required to attend after school (Two after school sessions will make up one absence). Illnesses, quarantine, death in the family, medical or dental appointments, court proceedings, religious observance, family emergencies, out of school suspension and educational opportunities (must be approved by the attendance committee prior to missing school) are excusable reasons and will count as an excused absence. ***However, the parent/guardian must provide a doctor's note or parent signed note depending on the reason for the absence, explaining the absence within five (5) days upon returning to school in order for the absence to be considered excused. Notes will not be accepted after five (5) days and it will be coded as an unexcused absence. MMS will only accept 2 parent notes per school year.***

Parents will be notified when students have accumulated three (3) unexcused absences and six (6) unexcused absences within a school year by a letter home from school. When a student reaches ten (10) unexcused absences, they may be in violation of the Compulsory Attendance Law (G.S. 115C-378).

Once a student has exceeded eight (8) unexcused absences and do not make up days in after school, the following actions may be taken to avoid future absences:

1. The parent/guardian and student will be asked to meet with the School Attendance Committee to discuss the students' attendance.
2. The parent/guardian and student may be asked to attend a meeting with the Madison County Truancy Board which consists of members from the School System, Health Department, DSS and the Department of Justice.
3. Court Petition filed for truancy.
4. Possible DSS referral

Athletics School Policy Contract

For Coaches-Parents-Athletes

Madison Middle School's protocol for all sports seasons per NCHSAA Policy.

Eligibility is based on age, grades, attendance, and disciplinary actions. The proper paperwork must also be on file prior to each season (updated sports physical, pledge, concussion, and Covid forms).

Students must be enrolled at Madison Middle School.

Any athlete who quits a sport while in season, is not eligible to participate in workouts or tryouts for another sport until the sport the athlete was participating in is over.

Age

A student shall not participate on a middle school team if he/she turns fifteen (15) years of age before August 31st of the current school year.

Grades

Each and every student must be passing 5 of 6 classes (70%) at the end of each semester to be eligible to participate in sports for the next semester.

***Q1 & Q2 (1st semester)- Spring Sports…Q3 & Q4 (2nd semester)- Fall/Winter Sports (no F1)**

*If a student is not meeting these criteria by the end of the 1st & 2nd semester then that student is no longer eligible to continue the current sport season nor are they eligible for the next sport season. (This includes not being eligible to act as a manager)

*A student who is promoted at the end of the school year to the next grade meets the academic standard requirements for the new school year. (However, to be eligible to play fall & winter sports prior to the end of 1st semester- students must meet the academic requirement & meet the attendance requirement from 2nd semester of previous school year). (This includes not being eligible to act as a manager).

Attendance

Each and every student-athlete must be present at school each and every day. (There are exceptions that will be taken into consideration)

*A student must be in attendance at least 85% of the total number of instructional days in the previous semester. **(Total # of Excused & Unexcused Absences Count)**

*All medical, dental, and other appointments must be scheduled prior to 11:30am on school days. Students must be signed in before 11:30am. Any student signing into the office after 11:30am, will be ineligible for sport participation for that day (workouts, practices, games, etc).

-If a student arrives at the start of the school day, is signed out for a medical appointment, and then returns to school immediately after the appointment and is signed back in prior to 1:00pm then that student can remain eligible for sport participation.

Disciplinary Actions

Each and every student-athlete will be expected to follow all school sanctioned rules and consequences set forth by Madison Middle School and Madison County Schools (4300 section of Board policy) at all times. A student athlete's actions both in and out of school must reflect positively on the district and school community or the participant will not represent the school in any athletic activities.

*Students receiving disciplinary actions not resulting in ISS or OSS will be handled by the administration, athletic director, and coaches on an individual basis.

*Students receiving ISS for block periods…will be eligible to participate for that day. Consequences will be decided on by the athletic director and coaches as they deem fit.

*Students receiving ISS or OSS for full day(s)…will not be eligible to participate for that day(s) whether that be workouts, practices, or games (both home or away). Students cannot be present with the team on such days.

*Students receiving ISS or OSS for more than 3 days consecutively **(1st Offense)…**will result in immediate removal from the team during the season in which they are participating.

*Students receiving ISS or OSS for more than 3 days consecutively **(2nd Offense)...**will result in immediate dismissal from all athletic teams/season for the remainder of that calendar year. **(Final Offense)**

Annual Public Notices

At the beginning of each academic year, school districts are required, pursuant to federal and state laws and regulations, to provide students and their parents with certain annual notices. The Madison County Schools Annual Notices for the 2025-2026 school year can be found on the Madison County Schools website. Should you desire a hard copy of these public notices you may obtain one at your child's school office, at the links below, or at the office of the Superintendent of the Madison County Schools located at 5738 US Hwy 25-70, Marshall, NC 28753

A. **Student Records: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)**
B. **Non-Discrimination: Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972; The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504); and The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA)**
C. **Homeless Students: McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act**
D. **Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment**
E. **Student Health: N.C.G.S. § 115C-375.4**
F. **North Carolina Safe Surrender Law** For more information, visit www.safesurrender.net
G. **Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act**
H. **Use of Pesticides: N.C.G.S § 115C-47.**
I. **Student Restraint/Seclusion/Isolation**
J. **Free or Reduced School Lunch**
K. **Student Discipline Policies**
L. **Student and Parent Complaint and Grievance Procedures**
M. **Equal Access to Facilities**
N. **Information Regarding Advanced Courses**