



AUGUST

Monthly Mustang

McCARDLE



DATES TO KNOW

Tues. 8/11: Late Night

Registration (Office open until 7:00PM)

Thurs. 8/13: Back to School Night (5:30-7:00PM)

Mon. 8/17: First Day of School

8/17-8/28: K-6 iReady #1

Diagnostic Window

Tues. 8/18: Early Release (TK/K: 12:15 & Gr. 1-6 1:15PM)

Thurs. 8/20: First Day of Preschool

Tues. 8/25: Early Release (TK/K: 12:15 & Gr. 1-6 1:15PM)

Instruction Begins: 8:15AM

Regular Dismissal: TK/K: 1:20PM
Gr. 1-6: 2:20PM

CONTACT US

559-451-4540

577 E Sierra Ave, Fresno, CA 93710

<https://mccardle.fresnounified.org>

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome back, Mustangs!

We are thrilled to welcome our new and returning students and families to the 2026-2027 school year! We are energized and ready to guide and empower every student to achieve more and take their learning to the next level.

At McCardle Elementary School, we are committed to creating a positive and engaging learning environment built on high expectations and enriching academic and social-emotional learning opportunities for every child. We are dedicated to helping each student grow, learn, and thrive.

As the principal of McCardle Elementary, I am excited to partner with our Mustang community to continue to build a learning environment where students, staff, and families are valued, supported, and inspired to do their best. This year's theme, "**Y2A: Year to Achieve [More]**," reflects our commitment to continuous growth and excellence. Together, we will focus on strong routines, clear expectations, and a supportive yet rigorous learning environment where every student feels a sense of belonging and is empowered to reach their full potential.

Back-to-School Night will be held on Thursday, August 13, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. We will begin in the cafeteria, where I will introduce myself and share important information about Title I & Parent Engagement. Classroom doors will open at 6:00 p.m., where teachers will provide essential information to help your child have a successful start to the school year. Kona Ice will also be on campus, so be sure to stop by and enjoy a special treat with your family!

I cannot wait to meet each of you and work together to make this an incredible year of learning, growth, and achievement. Thank you for being a part of our Mustang community. Let's make 2026-2027 a Year to Achieve More as we continue Empowering Excellence at McCardle Elementary!

Mrs. Thao, Principal

ANNOUNCEMENTS & REMINDERS

Clear and consistent communication is essential to your student's success. Important information will be announced on

ParentSquare, (handbook, newsletters, weekly messages, events, etc.), **ATLAS** (Emergency Cards and Grades), and **Social Media**.

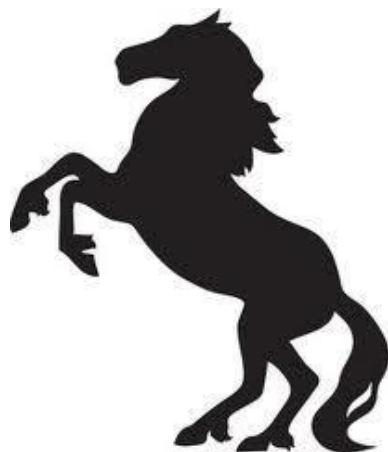


ParentSquare



1. Download and open the ParentSquare App.
2. Enter your email or cell phone number. (this must match what you have in Atlas, our student database)
3. Tap **Continue**.
4. Enter your registration code sent by Email or Text and tap **Continue**.
5. Create your password and confirm your password.
6. Verify your student/s and contact information.

McCardle Elementary School Parent Handbook 2026-27



Gina Thao, Principal
Holly Zuccarini, Vice Principal

Home of the Mustangs

McCardle Elementary School
577 E. Sierra Ave.
Fresno, CA 93710
(559) 451-4540
FAX (559) 451-4543
Attendance: (559) 451-4541

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Welcome Message from Principal

Welcome to McCardle Elementary School for the 2026–27 school year. We are thrilled to welcome our new and returning students and families to the 2026–2027 school year! We are energized and ready to guide and empower every student to achieve more and take their learning to the next level.

At McCardle Elementary School, we are committed to creating a positive and engaging learning environment built on high expectations and enriching academic and social-emotional learning opportunities for every child. We are dedicated to helping each student grow, learn, and thrive.

As the principal of McCardle Elementary, I am excited to partner with our Mustang community to continue to build a learning environment where students, staff, and families are valued, supported, and inspired to do their best. This year's theme, "**Y2A: Year to Achieve [More]**," reflects our commitment to continuous growth and excellence. Together, we will focus on strong routines, clear expectations, and a supportive yet rigorous learning environment where every student feels a sense of belonging and is empowered to reach their full potential.

If you have questions about your child's progress or behavior in school, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher. Your child's teacher are more than happy to provide you with more specific information and ways in which you can help support him/her to be successful inside and outside of the classroom.

I cannot wait to meet each of you and work together to make this an incredible year of learning, growth, and achievement. Thank you for being a part of our Mustang community. Let's make 2026–2027 a Year to Achieve More as we continue Empowering Excellence at McCardle Elementary!

Mrs. Gina Thao,
Principal

Fresno Unified School District Mission, Vision, Goals & Guardrails

OUR MISSION

We nurture and cultivate the interests, intellect, and leadership of our students by providing an excellent, equitable education in a culturally proficient environment.



OUR VISION

Where students, families, and staff are valued and empowered to achieve their greatest potential.

GOALS

GOAL 1 EARLY LITERACY

The percentage of 1st graders who are proficient in literacy based on iReady results will increase from 48% in June 2024 to 80% June 2030.

GOAL 2 LITERACY INTERVENTION

The percentage of 3rd-8th grade students who are more than one year behind as measured by Smarter Balanced (SBAC) English Language Arts (ELA) who make more than one year's growth will increase from 30% in June 2024 to 50% by June 2030.

GOAL 3 COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS

The percentage of students graduating from high school who are college and career ready based on CCI will increase from 43% in June 2024 to 64% by June 2030.

GOAL 4 LIFE SKILLS

The percentage of 6th, 8th, and 12th grade students who demonstrate benchmarked competencies in the skills listed in the Portrait of a Learner using age-appropriate assessments will increase by X% in June 2027 to Y% by June 2030.

GUARDRAILS *synthesized version*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

No major decisions will be proposed to the Board without a community engagement plan.

EQUITABLE ACCESS

Goals will be met without excluding distinct and/ or vulnerable groups such as African American, English Learners, Foster Youth, Homeless or Students with Disabilities.

EFFECTIVE STAFF

Hiring, promotion or lateral movement of staff will only occur with those who are meeting standards.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Goals will be met without compromising the health and wellness of students and staff.



McCardle School Mission

The mission of McCardle Elementary School encompasses the strong belief that only through strong cooperation among students, parents, and school staff, can the best educational program be provided. We seek to assure that all students are treated with respect and kindness while maintaining high academic expectations for them. We commit to providing the differentiated instruction necessary to assure the success of all students. We recognize the value of parents in the educational process and will continue to work to assure their involvement in the school. We will continue to work in a courteous and professional manner. We value the grade level standards for instruction provided through the California Department of Education and commit to working to the best of our ability in assuring that each child meets these standards as he/she passes through the grade levels.

McCardle School Vision

McCardle's vision is to create responsible citizens and lifelong learners. It is McCardle's belief that all members of the community make important contributions to the work of the school which is teaching and learning. McCardle "starts with the end in mind" by defining what students need to know, understand, and are able to do upon leaving McCardle school. The articulated school wide goals are:

- The school as a community
- A standards-based curriculum with coherence
- A strong learning climate
- A commitment to character

McCardle Staff Roster 2026–2027

Principal Office Manager

Gina Thao
Soua Moua

Vice Principal Office Assistant

Holly Zuccarini
Corina Gomez

Pre-School

Fatima Vasquez Room 1

Fourth Grade

Brenda McLain Room 30
Marissa Anderson Room 29

Transitional Kindergarten

Foua Chang Room 2
Khou Vang Room 3

Fifth Grade

Gabriel Jimenez Room 17
Minnie Hildreth Room 28

Kindergarten

Maria Castro Room 4
Panouly Her Room 5

Sixth Grade

Manuel Artigas Room 24
Lisa Strickland Room 25

First Grade

Jana Cronin Room 6
Lori Snyder Room 7

SPED

Joanna Sanchez Room 8 1-2 MM SDC
Megan Duvall Room 15 3-4 MM SDC
Manzanita Ayers Room 32 5 MM SDC
Jeremy Jackson Room 32 6 MM SDC
Katherine Woolley Room 28 RSP
Britane Brown Room 18 DHH INF
Shannon Ito Room 22 DHH PS
Malena Reyes Room 21 DHH TK/K
Stephanie Rubio Room 20 DHH 1-3
Michelle Recek Room 13 DHH 1-3 ESN
Stephanie Murphy Room 23 DHH 4-6
Alexis Gonzalez Room 12 DHH 4-6 ESN

Second Grade

Arriane Ashton Room 9
Jenni Howells Room 10

Third Grade

Jenielle Warkentin Room 14
Michelle Tynan Room 16
Julia Kleiber Room 17

Support Staff

Dulce Avila ASES Coordinator
Amanda Cantu School Psychologist

Instructional Assistants

2026-27 McCardle Elementary Parent Handbook

Sara Castaneda	Extended Learning Coordinator
Laura Hanrahan-Chesi	Music
Ethan Howell	ASES Paraprofessional
Monica Jacobs	Library Tech
Pam Kwan	CT
Georgianne Maldonado	Speech Therapist
Ashley Walton	Instructional Coach
Ashley Osegueda	ASES Paraprofessional
Cody Olivieri	Campus Safety
Sally Caviss	Art
Victoria Perez Hernandez	ASES Paraprofessional
Mona Portillo	Cafeteria
Lakela Wright	Cafeteria
Carlos Obeso	Plant Coordinator
Houa Yang	Custodian

Delphine Akyelken	Rhonda Blueian
Estefany Cantu Hernandez	Carla Gastelum
Monet Masterton	Paula Mejia
Josefina Morales	Hope Orozco
Ronnie Real	Delores Rios
Jennifer Salgado	Gabriela Sanchez
Sandra Silva	Jolene Spires
Janet Trent	Matthew Trent
Sava Vang	Tahlia Vang

NTA

Erika Gonzalez	Yevi Kglyan
Inez Salas	Rosie Zuniga
Stephanie Zavacky	

Important Dates 2026–27

August 13, 2026	Back to School Night
August 17, 2026	First Day of School
September 7, 2026	Labor Day Holiday
October 12, 2026	No School – Staff Inservice Day
October 26–30, 2026	Parent Teacher Conferences
November 11, 2026	Veteran's Day Holiday
November 23 – 27, 2026	Thanksgiving Holiday
December 21 – Jan. 8, 2027	Winter Break
January 18, 2027	Martin Luther King Holiday
February 8, 2027	Lincoln Holiday
February 15, 2027	President's Day Holiday
March 8, 2027	No School – Staff Inservice Day
March 22 – 29, 2027	Spring Break
May 31, 2027	Memorial Day Holiday
May 27, 2027	Open House/Spring Fling Festival
June 10, 2027	Last Day of School

Early Dismissal Dates (65 minutes early):

8/18/26	8/25/26	9/1/26	9/15/26	9/22/26	9/29/26	10/6/26
10/20/26	11/3/26	11/17/26	12/1/26	12/8/26	12/15/26	1/12/27
1/26/27	2/2/27	2/23/27	3/2/27	3/16/27	4/6/27	4/13/27
4/20/27	4/27/27	5/4/27	5/11/27	5/18/27	6/1/27	



Arrival & Dismissal

DAILY SCHEDULE:

Transitional Kindergarten/Kindergarten
Grades 1-6

8:15 am – 1:20 pm
8:15 am – 2:20 pm

ARRIVAL:

Students are expected to arrive at school by 8:10 am and are not permitted on the playground before 8:05 am. **There is no adult supervision until 7:45 am.** Students wishing to eat breakfast at school must enter the school through the Sierra Avenue (West Gate) entrance.

RELEASE DURING SCHOOL HOURS:

Parents/Guardians who wish to have a student released before the end of the school day must come in to the office to sign the student out. Teachers will not release students without approval of the office. Students will only be released to adults listed on the student's emergency card that is on file. Students will be called from the classroom at the time of parent arrival in order to limit the amount of lost instructional time.

DISMISSAL:

Students are to go directly home following dismissal, unless they are enrolled in the After School Program or athletics. Please meet your child at dismissal time in front of the school and not at their classrooms or school halls. Supervision is provided for 10 minutes following dismissal, after that time, students are not to be on the school grounds. Students that are not picked up within 10 minutes following dismissal will wait in the office for parents/guardians to arrive. Students will be allowed to make phone calls from the office. Habitual late pick-ups will be referred to Child Protective Services.

Attendance & Tardies

Good attendance is a big part of a student's success in school. Please support your child's learning by making every effort to ensure that your child is at school on time each day.

Students who arrive between 8:15 and 8:45 am will be marked tardy in the classroom. Students who arrive after 8:45 am will be marked tardy by the office. If your child is absent from school for any reason, please contact the school office on the morning of the absence at **(559) 451-4541**. Please be specific when reporting the reason for the absence (cold, flu, chicken pox, etc.). Absences due to illness, medical or dental appointments, and emotional incapacitation are considered "excused" for attendance purposes. Any other reason is an "unexcused" absence. District Policy states that we must verify your child's absence if he/she is not in school. Students who have 3 or more absences or excessive tardies will be referred to the District Attendance Review Board.



Please do not send your child to school if he/she is ill. Students cannot attend school if they have had a 100.0+ fever within the last 24 hours, or if they have vomited within the last 24 hours. Please bring in a doctor's note if your child has been seen by the doctor.



Traffic & Parking Safety

Students are to be dropped off and picked up from the front gate on Sierra Ave. The area east of our school on Callisch Avenue is reserved for bus pick-up and drop-off. Our parking lot becomes very congested during arrival (7:55–8:15 am) and dismissal. Please help us to keep our school safe for your children by adhering to the following traffic and parking rules:

1. Use the appropriate parking lot, Entrance and Exit gates.
2. For the safety of our students and staff, part of the **east parking lot will be temporarily locked and closed from 7:40–8:15AM and 2:00–2:25PM**. *If you need access to the handicap parking during arrival/dismissal time, please do not hesitate to call the office so we can open the parking lot.
3. Park in the appropriate parking stalls when attending school functions. Please do not park in stalls that are designated for staff or Handicapped Parking.
4. Do not stop and park at the stop sign as the flow of traffic does not allow enough room for another vehicle to pass safely.
5. Please do not honk near classrooms, neighbors, or parking lot.

Bicycles, E-Bikes, Skateboards, Scooters, E-Scooters and Rollerblades

Riding a bicycle to school is a privilege and rules must be observed for the safety of students. Bicycles are not to be ridden on school grounds. All riders must be equipped with helmet and safety pads, as required by law. Riders must provide their own lock and

bicycles must be locked to the bike rack during school hours. E-bikes, Skateboards, scooters, e-scooters, and rollerblades are not allowed. The school is not responsible for stolen or damaged Bicycles, E-Bikes, Skateboards, Scooters, E-Scooters and Rollerblades.



Emergency Cards

Emergency cards support your child's safety at school. Please complete the first day packet documentation and Emergency Cards and return them immediately. These cards contain vital information on whom to contact in case of an emergency. Students will only be released from school to persons listed on the Emergency Card. These contacts also indicate which number to call first for discipline or if an emergency arises. A parent's signature is needed on the bottom of the Emergency Card which also acknowledges that should an emergency arise which requires immediate medical attention, school officials have the authorization to take whatever emergency steps are needed to protect the health of your child. It is the parents' responsibility and essential for your child's safety that the school office be informed of any changes of information during the school year. Emergency card information may also be updated throughout the year on the ATLAS Parent Portal. *The district is transitioning to an electronic method of getting this information; therefore, anticipate any upcoming changes.

Insurance

Information for school insurance may be obtained in the school office. This insurance is not mandatory. The Fresno Unified School District carries no accident or medical insurance on students. Any expense resulting from injury at school or on the way to and from school is the parents' responsibility. If a student participates in team sports, they must provide insurance information.

Breakfast & Lunch Program

McCardle Elementary provides free breakfast and lunch for all students. Breakfast is served from **7:45–8:05 am**. Students who plan to eat breakfast must arrive in the cafeteria no later than 8:05 am; breakfast will not be served after this time. Meals include locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables. They are satellite meals prepared at the Nutrition Center and delivered to our school daily. An additional milk or milk for a cold lunch may be purchased for 25 cents. All children must either eat a school lunch or bring a sack lunch. Fresno Unified schools promote a healthy and nutritious food choices; therefore, students are not allowed to drink soda or any carbonated drinks, eat hot chips like Hot Cheetos or Takis

while at school. Candy is only acceptable if it is a dessert in a lunch. If you choose to send a snack for recess time, please only send nutritious snacks.

Medication at School



Any student who is required to take medication during the school day **must have** a "Medication at School" form completed and signed by the student's physician and parent. This form is **renewed each year**. Students are not allowed to carry any medication with them during the school day. If a doctor prescribes an inhaler to be carried with the student, the "Medication at School" form must be completed and parents must provide written verification that the student knows how to use the inhaler appropriately. At the end of the school year, all medication will need to be picked up from the nurse's office.

Phone Messages

The office is the hub of the general operation of the school, making it a very busy place. Parents are encouraged to discuss and make all necessary after-school arrangements with their child each day BEFORE the child goes to school. Use of telephones by students is discouraged. Phone calls will not be put through to classrooms during instructional time. The office staff will take messages for teachers to return parents' phone calls.

School Communication & Weekly Message

All School Communication will be provided on Parent Square and/or the Class Dojo app. If you are not connected with our school through Parent Square and Class Dojo, ask your child's teacher how to join. Additionally, a weekly principal message is sent out via Parent Square each Sunday evening. Please take note, so that you may be informed of events scheduled at McCardle Elementary.



1. Download and open the ParentSquare App.
2. Enter your email or cell phone number. (this must match what you have in Atlas, our student database)
3. Tap **Continue**.
4. Enter your registration code sent by Email or Text and tap **Continue**.
5. Create your password and confirm your password.
6. Verify your student/s and contact information.



ClassDojo

Parent Concerns

If at any time a parent/guardian feels they need to contact the school about a situation or concern dealing with their child, we encourage the parent/guardian to first contact the child's teacher to try to resolve the issue. If after the parent/guardian meets with the teacher and the situation is unresolved, the principal or designee will meet with the parent/guardian and the teacher to try to resolve the issue. If a parent/guardian would like to arrange a meeting with the principal or designee, please call the school office to schedule an appointment.

Personal Items at School

Small personal items should be left at home (toys, plushies, smartwatches, etc.). Backpacks, pencil boxes, and general school supplies should be left in the classroom during the school day. Please be sure to mark personal items and articles of clothing that a student may take off during the school day with his/her full name. Materials left unattended on the school grounds are at the student's own risk. The Lost and Found racks are located in the west hallway near the Library. Small items (jewelry, glasses, keys, etc.) are kept in the office. Items not claimed at the end of the school year will be donated to a local charity.

Parties at School

School parties are limited in number and are planned with the approval of the classroom teacher and principal. Please consult with your child's teacher **PRIOR** to bringing treats or planning a class party to plan for any allergen considerations. Balloons, flowers, and other similar deliveries to individual students will remain in the office until the end of the day. Remember – **ALWAYS** talk to the teacher **BEFORE** bringing special treats.



Cell Phone and Smartwatch Policy

Fresno Unified School District Administrative Regulation 5139 states ***“Elementary school students are not permitted to possess or use portable communication devices on district elementary school campuses or at district-sponsored activities except upon the approval of the principal for medical reasons as required by Board Policy.”*** At McCardle Elementary School, if a cell phone/smartwatch is seen or being used during instructional time, or if it disrupts the learning environment, the phone will be confiscated and kept in the school office until a parent/guardian claims the phone from the principal. The school is not

responsible for any loss or damage to cell phones or smartwatches that are taken from students in violation of this policy. **No camera cell phones may be used by students on campus at any time.** Consequences for violating this policy, including suspension or expulsion, are at the discretion of the administrator.

Homework Policy

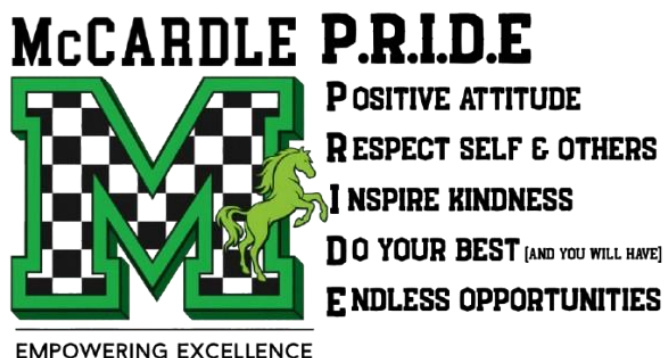
Homework is an integral part of each student's education at McCardle Elementary. All students are expected to complete their homework on time and to the best of their ability, as assigned by their classroom teacher. Parents can help their children with this important study and organizational skill by:

1. Providing a study area at home, free from distractions.
2. Providing a designated time each day for homework.
3. Encouraging the child and offering positive reinforcement.
4. Supervising the completion of homework and giving assistance, if needed, without doing the homework for the child.
5. Discussing concerns with the child's teacher if the child is struggling with homework.

Homework Requests

If your child is absent from school and you wish to request his/her homework, please call the school office before 11:00 am on the day of a student's absence. This will give the teacher time to prepare the materials and send the homework to the office for pick-up after 2:20 pm. **Independent Study Packets** can be arranged if your absence meets district criteria and the contract is completed one week in advance. See the Office Assistant for information about this process.

McCardle Elementary's Guidelines for Success "P.R.I.D.E"



McCardle School Rules

1. Follow directions when given.
2. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
3. Show school respect and use appropriate school language at all times.

General Playground Rules

1. Walk to the playground when excused from classroom.
2. Stay at least 10 feet away from fence on west boundary of school (by houses).
3. Stay out of all areas that are out-of-bounds.
4. Do not run on blacktop except when playing approved games on the blacktop.
5. Do not climb on benches, tables, fences, or backstops.
6. Do not crowd or push while waiting in line.
7. Do not play in or around restrooms.
8. Do not take another student's possessions (snacks, jackets, or playground equipment).
9. Do not participate in any activity that could cause injury (tackle football, wrestling, tag games, karate, play fighting, slide tackling in soccer, etc.).
10. Wear appropriate shoes.
11. Show respect to all adults supervising the playground. DO WHAT THEY SAY!
12. When the bell rings to end recess, walk quickly and quietly to your line and follow the Straight Line CHAMP expectations.
13. No bicycles, skateboard, or scooters are to be ridden on school property.
14. No rollerblades or "heelys" are to be worn on school property (property includes sidewalks in front and on the Callisch side of the school).
15. All snacks must be eaten at the outside lunch tables (snacks should be nutritious). No "Takis" or "Hot Cheetos" are allowed on campus.

Responses to Misbehavior

If any school-wide or classroom rule is violated, staff will respond as follows:

Level of Misbehavior	Description	Adult Response
Level 1 Mild Behavior	Minor misbehaviors that can be adequately corrected at the time they occur and which <u>do not require documentation</u> .	A staff member observing a Level 1 infraction corrects the student at the time, in the setting.
Level 2 Moderate Behavior	Misbehaviors that, while not requiring immediate administrative involvement, <u>do require documentation</u> . These are behaviors that require a consequence (e.g., detention, lose a privilege, phone call/note home, etc.).	A staff member observing a Level 2 infraction corrects the student at the time and assigns a correction, and completes a behavior incident report.
Level 3 Severe Behavior	Serious misbehaviors that require immediate <u>administrative involvement and written documentation</u> because: *the misbehavior is illegal or so severe that the student's continued presence in the setting poses a threat to physical safety. *misbehavior poses a threat to adult authority, such that they may lose control of the situation if the student remains in the setting.	A staff member observing a Level 3 infraction has the student escorted to the office or notifies the office for assistance and then completes the referral form. 

Notification Regarding Expulsion

The Fresno Unified Board of Education approved the following Notification Regarding Expulsion:

The following offenses will warrant a mandatory referral for expulsion:

- Possessing loaded or unloaded firearms
- Brandishing a knife at another person
- Unlawfully selling a controlled substance
- Sexual assault (including attempt) or sexual battery
- Possessing an explosive

The offenses listed above will not be tolerated in the school buildings, school grounds, and buses, going to or coming from lunch or school or at any school-sponsored activity.

For all other violations, the principal shall have the discretion to recommend expulsion of a student. If expulsion is recommended, the Board shall order the student expelled only if it makes a find of either or both of the following:

- That other means of correction are not feasible or have repeatedly failed to bring about proper conduct
- That due to the nature of the violation, the presence of the student causes a continuing danger to the physical safety of the student or others.

Dress Code: Educationally Appropriate Dress & Appearance



The responsibility for the dress and appearance of a student rests primarily with the student and their parents or guardians. In the interest of maintaining an appropriate learning environment, the district believes in the following basic principles:

- * All students are encouraged to dress in a manner that is appropriate, comfortable and conducive to an active academic school day.
- * Students should be able to wear clothing without fear of or actual unnecessary discipline or body shaming.

- * The student dress code should serve to support all students to develop a body-positive self-image.
- * The district standard dress and appearance policy is gender neutral and applies to all students equally regardless of gender on school campuses and at school-sponsored functions and will be enforced consistently and fairly by all members of the school staff
- * Clothing and hairstyles are a matter of personal choice (except for schools with uniforms). The school shall be concerned only when these impact on the health and safety of students and staff.

Examples of inappropriate clothing include:

- clothing where the torso is exposed, i.e., tube tops, half shirts, halters
- clothing that is see-through. (clothing must be opaque)
- clothing or accessories which show profanity, obscene words or pictures, sexually suggestive statements, or incites to violence
- clothing representing gang-related activities
- clothing where the entire thigh is exposed, such as micro minis or short shorts.
- bathing suits or cut-offs
- the wearing and carrying of tobacco promotional items, or items promoting controlled substances (drugs) and/or alcohol,
- clothing where undergarments are exposed
- clothing that has text that is libelous, bullying, constitutes harassment or discrimination
- footwear must be worn at school and all functions
- no backless footwear for elementary students (crocs must be in "sports or 4x4 mode")

Additionally, site leadership may establish a site-specific dress code addendum in the following circumstances:

Times when students are engaged in extracurricular or other special school activities and where the standard dress and appearance policy would not be appropriate for the activity.

Schools may set their own site-specific addendum relating to hats, caps and other head coverings. There shall be no restriction on student head coverings worn for bona fide religious purpose.

Consequences of Dress & Appearance Code Violations

Site Leadership can determine consequences for dress and appearance code violations provided these consequences are applied consistently and equitably. Except under

exigent circumstances, suspension or expulsion will not be used as a consequence for the violation of a dress code.

Site Staff shall provide students opportunity to remedy the violation. Opportunities to remediate may include, but are not limited to, parental contact or offer of exchange of clothing. Any discipline that shall arise out of dress code violations shall have minimal loss of instructional time as its goal.

If a parent/guardian or student disagrees with the site administrator's decision on a standard violation, the parent/guardian or student shall attempt to resolve the problem by requesting a personal conference with the site administrator. If the problem cannot be resolved informally to the parent/guardian or student's satisfaction, the site administrator's decision may be appealed to the Superintendent's designee, whose decision shall be final.

Dangerous or Disruptive Violations. Dress or appearance-violations that cause actual disruption of the educational environment, result in actual violation of law or other school rules, including hate-crime laws, or cause actual injury may result, at the discretion of the district Administration, in more serious disciplinary action, up to and including expulsion without regard to the policy set forth above for standard violations. The process for appeal of these dangerous or disruptive violations shall be consistent with standard district disciplinary procedures.

Parent/Staff/Pupil Compact

In order to gain the most support in educating your child, this compact has been developed. It details the roles of staff, parents, and students as we prepare students for college and career readiness.

McCardle Elementary School

Staff Section:

I understand the importance of the school experience to every student and my role as an educator. Therefore, I will voluntarily:

- ◆ Foster/encourage parent/teacher partnerships
- ◆ Receive training in strategies to effectively communicate with parents
- ◆ Teach California adopted grade level standards, skills, and concepts that provide high quality curriculum instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment
- ◆ Strive to address the individual needs of your child
- ◆ Communicate with you regarding your child's progress
- ◆ Provide a safe, positive and healthy learning environment for your child
- ◆ Communicate homework and classroom expectations
- ◆ Correct and return appropriate work in a timely manner
- ◆ Support your child's primary language and culture
- ◆ Show respect to self and others at all times
- ◆ Provide opportunities for parents to volunteer, participate and observe in child's classroom

Student Section:

I know that my education is important and that I am the one responsible for my own success. Therefore, I agree to carry out the following responsibilities to the best of my ability:

- ◆ Attend school every day on time and ready to learn
- ◆ Review my class work with my parent(s) weekly
- ◆ Return completed homework on time
- ◆ Follow school rules and be responsible for my own behavior at all times
- ◆ Ask for help when needed
- ◆ Show respect to self and others at all times
- ◆ Demonstrate Mustang PRIDE:
 - Positive Attitude
 - Respect Self & Others
 - Inspire Kindness
 - Do Your Best and you will have
 - Endless Opportunities

Parent Section:

I understand that my participation in my child's education will help his/her achievement and attitude. Therefore, I will voluntarily:

- ◆ Foster/encourage parent/teacher partnerships
- ◆ Attend Back to School event, Parent/Teacher conferences, Open House, and other events
- ◆ Encourage my child to engage in reading activities for at least 20 minutes every day
- ◆ Provide a quiet place/time for my child to complete his/her homework
- ◆ Make sure my child gets adequate sleep and has a healthy diet
- ◆ Adhere to the school's homework, discipline, dress code and attendance policies
- ◆ Participate in district opportunities for parenting training
- ◆ Support all elements of the Parent Involvement Policy adopted by the FUSD School Board.
- ◆ Show respect to self and others at all times

Parent Involvement Policy

The staff and administrators at McCardle Elementary School encourage all parents to become involved in the education of their children. We believe that by working together as a team, we will provide the best education for all students. There are many ways to become involved:

School Site Council (SSC)

Representatives are elected by parents and serve a two-year term of office. The primary function of the SSC is to assist with the annual development of the Single Plan for Student Achievement (SPSA) and to participate in on-going progress monitoring and shared decision-making of schoolwide programs within the SPSA. Meetings are held at a time designated by the council. All parents are invited to attend.

English Language Advisory Committee (ELAC)

Parents with students whose primary language is other than English, may be elected members of this Committee. The primary function of the ELAC is to assist with the development and progress monitoring of instructional programs to ensure the needs of English Learner students are met.

Parent Coffee Hours

Parents and community members are provided with bi-monthly opportunities to participate in their child's education and communicate with school administrators. These meetings may include opportunities for parents to learn about how to help students at home, understand school programs, policies, and procedures, and information on other topics of interest. Students perform by grade level at these meetings.

P.T.A.

The McCardle Parent-Teacher-Association is an organization of parents and staff working together and dedicated to the goals of encouraging and enriching the lives of our children. The members of the P.T.A. work very hard to promote an atmosphere of closeness between the home and school. All parents, grandparent, and other adults interested in McCardle are encouraged to join. Evening meeting are scheduled every month at 5:00 pm. You need not be a member of the PTA to attend the monthly meetings.

Visitors to Campus

In order to ensure that McCardle is a safe and secure learning environment for students and staff, all parents, volunteers, and visitors must sign in and out on the computer system and wear a visitor's badge while on campus. Please be prepared to show state identification if you are planning to visit a classroom or pick up a student early.



Volunteer Policy

We encourage parents/guardians and other members of the community to share their time, knowledge, and abilities with our students. As part of the Fresno Unified School District commitment to providing a safe and secure learning environment for all students, Board Policy requires that you complete a volunteer application form, have your fingerprints cleared and approved (*fee is paid by the volunteer) at the school where you intend to serve. Requirements for volunteers include:

1. Complete the FUSD Volunteer Application Form and return it to the McCardle office. Our office staff will make a copy of your picture ID and attach it to your application. You will be notified once approved by the classroom teacher or the Office Manager.
2. If you wish to serve as a volunteer on a frequent or prolonged basis, or for a school activity in which you would be required to supervise students, it is required that you are fingerprinted (at your own expense) through the FUSD Human Resources Department prior to commencement of service.

3. It is recommended, although not required, that volunteers keep Tuberculosis (TB) testing up-to-date (at your own expense).

4. Volunteers shall act in accordance with district and site policies and regulations.

McCardle School offers a wide variety of opportunities for parent and interested adult volunteers. From crossing guards to P.T.A. members, from classroom assistance to coaches for activities, volunteers are invaluable. Our school truly values the help that volunteers provide, and we recognize the valuable role each volunteer plays in the education of our students. We ask that when volunteering, please do not bring other children into the classroom as it is a distraction to the learning environment.

After School Education & Safety Program (A.S.E.S.)



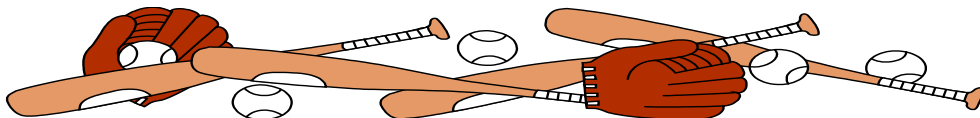
The After School Education & Safety Program (ASES) is offered by a grant from the State of California. This program is free of cost and operates each day that school is in session. Instruction is provided by a qualified instructor, and the program includes opportunities to participate in academic subjects, sports/outside games, and study/homework time. Good attendance and behavior is expected in order to maintain enrollment.

ASES runs daily from the dismissal of the regular school day until 6:00 pm.

ALL STUDENTS MUST BE PICKED UP PROMPTLY. Failure to pick up on time will result in a phone call to Child Protective Services and dismissal from the program. Participation in ASES is governed by staff vs. student ratios. All enrolled students were placed in a lottery and families will be contacted in the order of acceptance. For further information, please contact the Extended Learning Coordinator at (559)477-0214.

Athletics

Athletics are a part of Fresno Unified School District Goals: *All students will engage in arts, activities and athletics.* In accordance with this goal, we will offer a full athletic program for students in grades 5 and 6. There are no costs associated with the athletic program. Sports are offered during the fall, winter, and spring seasons and may include flag football, volleyball, cross-country, basketball, track, and softball. Cross Country and Track will be open to 3rd-6th Grade students who are in good academic standing.



Team member responsibilities include:

1. Attend practice regularly
2. Support other team members
3. Demonstrate good sportsmanship at all times

4. Maintain a good attitude, effort, and behavior both inside and outside of the classroom

Consequences include:

1. First Offense: Warning
2. Second Offense: Suspension from the up-coming game
3. Third Offense: Dismissal from the team

Student Recognition & Awards

HONOR ROLL/MERIT LIST – GRADES 2-6

The McCardle Honor Roll/Merit List is a means of giving recognition to students for their academic achievement, effort, and citizenship. Students are recognized quarterly during an awards assembly. The criteria for receiving these awards are:

- ◆ Principal's Award – 4.0 GPA
- ◆ Honor Roll – 3.5–3.99 GPA
- ◆ Merit List – 3.0–3.49 GPA

CITIZENSHIP AWARDS – GRADES K-6

Students who demonstrate outstanding citizenship each quarter will be recognized during an awards assembly that will take place at the end of each instructional period. The criteria for receiving this award are:

- ◆ All O's in Social Skills and Work Habits on the report card
- ◆ No office referrals or suspensions from school

PERFECT & EXCELLENT ATTENDANCE AWARDS – GRADES K-6

Students who have zero absences and zero tardies (Perfect Attendance) and those who have 2 or less infractions (Excellent Attendance) each quarter will be recognized during an awards assembly that will take place at the end of each instructional period.

BLOCK M – GRADES 4-6

The Block M award reflects a broad base of student participation in school activities, academic achievement, and community service on behalf of the McCardle Mustang. In order to earn Block M, students in grade 4 must earn 16 points, 5th grade students must earn 18 points, and 6th grade students must earn 20 points. At the end of the semester, students submit a form that shows how many points the student has earned. The first time this award is earned, students receive a Block M chenille letter and each semester following, they can earn a Mustang pin to place on their letter.

MAGNIFICENT MUSTANGS

One student from each classroom will be selected as Mustang of the Month based on Mustang PRIDE. Magnificent Mustangs will be recognized in a flyer posted on Class Dojo and receive a certificate.

Mustang Pride

Positive Attitude

Respect Self & Others

Inspire Kindness

Do Your Best and you will have

Endless Opportunities!



** The rules and policies outlined herein do not constitute all rules and policies governing or applying to our school. However, those discussed here tend to address areas of greatest concern to parents.*