

Moulton Middle School

**660 College Street
Moulton, AL 35650
(256) 905-2460**



Student and Parent Handbook 2026 - 2027

**Principal - Michael Hathorn
Assistant Principal - Teri Ferguson
Counselor - Jamie Layman
Counselor - Cheryl Letson**

For up to date information on Moulton Middle School's Parental Involvement, please check out our Facebook page or website at mms.lawrenceal.org.

If you would like to view a copy of our Continuous Improvement Plan, it is available in the office, library, and school website.

Lawrence County Schools 2026-2027 School Year Calendar

August 2026						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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30	31					

September 2026						
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October 2026						
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November 2026						
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December 2026						
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27	28	29	30	31		

Dates	
5-6 Aug	Teacher PD/Workdays
7-Aug	Teacher Institute
10-11 Aug	Teacher PD/Workdays
12-Aug	Students First Day
7-Sep	No School--Labor Day
23-Sep	E-Learning/Data Day
9-Oct	End of 1st Quarter
12-13 Oct	No School--Fall Break
19-Oct	Parent & Teacher Conf/E-Learning
11-Nov	No School--Veteran's Day
23-27 Nov	No School--Thanksgiving Holidays
18-Dec	End of 2nd Quarter
21 Dec-Jan1	No School--Winter Break
4-Jan	Teacher PD/Workday
5-Jan	Semester 2 Begins
18-Jan	No School--Martin Luther King Day
15-Feb	No School--President's Day
12-Mar	End 3rd Quarter
29 Mar-2 Apr	No School--Spring Break
30-Apr	E-Learning/Data Day
27-May	End 4th Quarter
28-May	Teacher PD/Workday
31-May	Closed for Memorial Day

Grading Periods	
10-Sep	Q1 Progress Report
16-Oct	Q1 Report Card
12-Nov	Q2 Progress Report
7-Jan	Q2 Report Card
5-Feb	Q3 Progress Report
18-Mar	Q3 Report Card
22-Apr	Q4 Progress Report
3-Jun	Q4 Report Card

Graduation	
21-May	LC Signature School
24-May	Lawrence County High
25-May	East Lawrence High
27-May	Hatton High

January 2027						
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February 2027						
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March 2027						
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April 2027						
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May 2027						
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30	31					

	Student Days
	E-Learning Days
	No School
	Teacher PD/Workdays
	End of Grading Period
	Teacher & Staff Institute

Q1=42 Days Q3=47 Days
Q2=42 Days Q4=49 Days
S1=84 Days S2=96 Days
SY2027=180 Student Days
SY2027=187 Teacher Days



PARENTS' RIGHT-TO-KNOW

(A) **QUALIFICATIONS-** At the beginning of each school year, a local educational agency that receives funds under this part shall notify the parents of each student attending any school receiving funds under this part that the parents may request, and the agency will provide the parents on request (and in a timely manner), information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers, including, at a minimum, the following:

(i) Whether the teacher has met State qualification and licensing criteria for the grade levels and subject areas in which the teacher provides instruction.

(ii) Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or other provisional status through which State qualification or licensing criteria have been waived.

(iii) The baccalaureate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate certification or degree held by the teacher, and the field of discipline of the certification or degree.

(iv) Whether the child is provided services by paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

(B) **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION-** In addition to the information that parents may request under subparagraph (A), a school that receives funds under this part shall provide to each individual parent—

(i) information on the level of achievement of the parent's child in each of the State academic assessments as required under this part; and

(ii) timely notice that the parent's child has been assigned, or has been taught for four or more consecutive weeks by a teacher who is not highly qualified.

(C) **FORMAT-** The notice and information provided to parents under this paragraph shall be in an understandable and uniform format and, to the extent practicable, provided in a language that the parents can understand.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the entire faculty and staff, welcome to Moulton Middle School! It is our desire to work with your family to make this a very productive and awesome year.

This handbook is provided as a resource to answer common questions regarding policy and procedures. If you have questions that remain unanswered after reading this handbook, please feel free to call the school office. Open and clear communication between the school and home is an essential part of a successful educational program.

Moulton Middle School prides itself on recognizing students' individual talents and strengths. We realize that academic achievement increases when students experience success in other facets of their lives. MMS faculty and staff are constantly exploring innovative approaches to promoting ALL students' value and worth.

We look forward to a fabulous year as we work together to provide your child with a great education.

VISION

Fostering a dynamic community of learners, where every student is encouraged to discover their passions, embrace challenges, and develop the skills and character to excel academically and contribute positively to society.

MISSION

Moulton Middle School is committed to providing a safe and enriching educational experience, our mission is to inspire and guide our students toward academic excellence, personal growth, collaboration, and social responsibility, fostering a lifelong love for learning and a foundation for success in an ever-changing world.

CORE VALUES

1. **Respect:** Treat others as you would like to be treated. Value the opinions, feelings, and differences of all members of the school community.
2. **Integrity:** Always be honest and do what's right, even when no one is watching. Take responsibility for your actions and choices.
3. **Kindness:** Show compassion and empathy towards others. Build a supportive and inclusive environment where everyone feels valued.
4. **Perseverance:** Embrace challenges as opportunities for growth. Work hard, stay determined, and don't give up when faced with obstacles.
5. **Resilience:** Bounce back from setbacks and learn from failures. Develop the ability to adapt to change and maintain a positive attitude.
6. **Cooperation:** Collaborate effectively with peers and teachers. Understand the importance of teamwork and the collective effort in achieving common goals.
7. **Responsibility:** Take ownership of your learning, actions, and commitments. Complete assignments and tasks on

time and contribute positively to the school community.

8. **Curiosity:** Cultivate a love for learning and exploration. Ask questions, seek knowledge, and engage actively in the educational process.
9. **Empathy:** Understand and share the feelings of others. Be mindful of different perspectives and backgrounds, and show consideration for their experiences.
10. **Inclusivity:** Embrace diversity and treat everyone with fairness. Create an environment where everyone feels welcome, regardless of their race, gender, ability, or background.
11. **Positive Attitude:** Maintain an optimistic outlook and spread positivity to others. Approach challenges with a can-do mindset and find solutions.
12. **Excellence:** Striving for personal and academic excellence through continuous improvement and high standards.
13. **Safety:** Prioritize the physical, emotional, and mental safety of all individuals in the school community. Foster an atmosphere of trust and support.
14. **Creativity:** Encourage innovative thinking and self-expression. Embrace various forms of creativity, from the arts to problem-solving approaches.
15. **Community Engagement:** Actively participate in school activities, events, and community service projects. Contribute positively to the broader community beyond the school's walls.

ACCIDENTS/ILLNESS/ INJURIES

All accidents, illnesses, and injuries must be reported immediately to the student's teacher or nurse. A report to the principal will be made by the teacher or nurse as necessary.

ACTIVITIES/FIELD TRIPS

Students must maintain *Student in Good Standing* status to participate in any special activity or field trip.

Final decisions regarding field trip participation will be at the discretion of the administration. Students ineligible to participate in activities or field trips are expected to be at school.

ARRIVAL TO SCHOOL

School hours are from 7:45 a.m. until 2:45 p.m. each day. Students will not unload nor be dropped off before 7:20 a.m. as there will be no adult supervision or building access before that time. Upon arrival, students must report immediately to their grade level hallway. Car riders will enter through the breezeway door. Bus riders in fifth through seventh grades will enter the front doors. Bus riders in eighth grade will enter the breezeway door. Students will select breakfast items from the mobile cafeteria unit in the main building. Beginning at 7:35, students will store backpacks, lunchboxes, and other bags in lockers and proceed to first period. Students not arriving to first period by 7:45 will check in as tardy through the front office.

Car Line

Car line access is on Main Street.

ATTENDANCE

Attendance is a vital part of the educational process. Students should be in school every day if at all possible. Please try to schedule routine dental and doctor visits during non-school hours. Due to state attendance accountability guidelines, pre-approved trips will be closely monitored. Please refer to the Lawrence County Code of Conduct (LCCOC) for attendance and truancy policies.

Make-Up Work: Students who are absent for any excused reason are responsible for **going to each teacher to arrange to make up missed work**. Upon their return to school, students have 3 days to make up missed work and turn the work into the teacher, or they will receive a grade of **"zero."**

Tardy to School – One of the most important responsibilities children learn is punctuality. Attendance for the entire school day is very important. Students are considered tardy to school if they are not in the classroom when the 7:45 bell rings. After three (3) unexcused late arrivals, students may be subject to disciplinary actions. Parents of repeat offenders are subject to a conference with the principal or superintendent. Attendance is taken per class period. Please refer to the LCCOC for attendance & truancy policies.

Student Checkouts:

Students will only be permitted to leave school during the day after being checked out through the main office. Students may be checked out by parents, guardians, or designees on the approved checkout list.

The safety of our students is our highest priority. Students will not be allowed to leave with anyone not listed unless verification is obtained from the parent or guardian. Students leaving school without permission or without properly

checking out through the office will be subject to disciplinary measures. Students on late buses are not penalized.

Attendance is taken per class period. Please refer to the LCCOC for attendance & truancy policies. This will be considered when determining perfect attendance for the school year.

"Half Day"

For the purposes of truancy, students who are present at least 51% of the day are considered present all day. The halfway mark of the school day is 11:15. Please note that attendance is tracked each class period for perfect attendance and exemptions.

BUS RIDERS

Bus service is provided for all students. Students must have a note from home, and it must be approved by the administration before they are allowed to ride an alternate bus. The note should specify the bus number and/or the driver's name. **Students will not be allowed to get off the bus at the high school except for school-related or athletic activities in which they actively participate. ATHLETES MUST HAVE A NOTE TO RIDE THE BUS TO THE HIGH SCHOOL OR MINI-PARK FOR PRACTICE.**

Please refer to the LCCOC for a full list of school bus rules. Students may be suspended from riding the bus for safety or disciplinary reasons. Students suspended from riding the bus are not permitted to ride any Lawrence County School bus during the suspension period. Parents are responsible for arranging alternative transportation for students who are suspended from the bus.

CAFETERIA

- Sit in the assigned area for your class.
- Students are not allowed to leave the cafeteria without permission.
- Food and drinks cannot be taken from the cafeteria.
- Food from off-campus establishments is not allowed in the cafeteria.
- Students are to follow all instructions and directions of school personnel. A breakfast program is available each school day from 7:30-7:45 a.m. All school rules apply while in the cafeteria.

LINO Connect

Lawrence County School Students will receive free breakfast and lunch this year. However, extra items must be purchased. We have an online service to help you better manage your child's school lunchroom account. You have the ability to check your child's account balance online as well as make payments at the touch of your finger on your smartphone or tablet! Visit linoconnect.com, and the site will guide you to create an account and link your student(s). You may set up recurring payments, transfer money between accounts, view transaction history, view student purchases, and view menus. There is a \$2.60 fee per deposit. The Child Nutrition Department strives to provide a balanced nutritional program for all students with support and options for parents. If you have any questions, feel free to contact the Lawrence County Child Nutrition Program directly at 256-905-2411.

CARE OF PROPERTY

Every person has an obligation and responsibility to protect and care for public property as well as for the property belonging to others. Students who damage, deface, destroy, and/or steal public or personal property will be subject to disciplinary action, which may include involvement with local law enforcement.

To avoid theft, students should not bring expensive items or large amounts of money to school. **Moulton Middle School will NOT be responsible for lost or stolen property, including, but not limited to, electronic devices such as cell phones. No instructional time will be lost in search of such property.**

CELL PHONES

Students are not permitted to have wireless communication devices on their persons during the instructional day, including breaks, lunch, and transitions. All MMS students will be issued a locker at no cost. All devices brought on campus must be stored in a locker. Refer to page 18 of the Lawrence County Code of Conduct (LCCOC) for the full policy and page 25 for consequences.

DELAYING/CLOSING DISMISSAL

Adverse weather conditions or other circumstances may warrant the delay, closing, or early dismissal of school. Announcements and specific instructions will be sent to all local media stations, and, if feasible, a schoolcast/phone message from the Central Office will be issued.

DISCIPLINE

Please see the LCCOC.

DISMISSAL FROM SCHOOL

School hours are from 7:45 a.m. until 2:45 p.m. each day. Students should be picked up before 3:00 p.m. each day as there will be no adult supervision outside those times. Students not picked up from the car line by 3:00 must be picked up from the front office. MMS students will not be able to join the MES car line in the afternoons.

DRESS CODE

Please see page 14 of the LCCOC.

EXAM EXEMPTIONS

7th and 8th grade students may exempt final exams at the end of the school year if they have at least a 70 average for the year and no more than five excused and unexcused absences. Exemptions are determined by class period, so a student could be exempt from some exams and not others, depending on attendance and grades for that class period. 5th and 6th grade students do not take exams. Please also see the exam exemption guidelines in the LCCOC.

EXPECTATIONS FOR SCHOOL-RELATED EVENTS

Moulton Middle School students have a tradition of showing courtesy and kindness toward their peers, staff, guests, and visitors. Students are expected to be respectful and demonstrate responsible behavior in all interactions and relationships. They must understand that nothing less will be tolerated. School rules and policies apply at all times for school-related activities.

GRADING

Teachers in core classes will be using the following grading categories and weights.

- **Major Assessments** (Mastery of standards): 60%
- **Minor Assessments** (Mastery of standards, learning in progress): 30%
- **Habits of Work** (Completion, participation, etc.): 10%

All grades that are based on completion, participation, effort, or similar, without regard for mastery of standards, will be in the 10% Habits of Work category.

Reassessment

All major assessments are eligible for re-assessment. Reassessment will be a different form of the first assessment. Reassessments are for full-grade replacement, and all students are eligible regardless of the original grade. Grade levels will determine timelines for reassessment and procedures for interventions prior to reassessments.

HALL PASSES

Students will remain in their classes at all times unless specifically excused by the teacher. Students must have a hall pass to leave class that specifies their destination.

INVESTIGATIONS/SEARCHES

Moulton Middle School reserves the right to inspect lockers, desks, storage areas, purses, book bags, or other items belonging to students. Investigations and searches will be reasonable in their scope to maintain order and discipline in the school, promote the educational environment, and protect the safety, health, and welfare of students, employees, and visitors of Moulton Middle School.

LOCKERS

Lockers will be issued to students at no cost. Lockers remain school property and may be inspected by school officials at any time. Locker combinations should be kept confidential at all times, and students will not share lockers.

MEDICATIONS

Any prescription or non-prescription medication consumed by a student at Moulton Middle School must be administered by the Nurse or designated staff member. Authorization forms must be completed and kept on file at Moulton Middle School. Students who possess or attempt to distribute medication will be subject to disciplinary action.

MESSAGES

After-school arrangements should be made before children leave home each morning. **Students must have a note from home anytime they do not follow their normal transportation routine.** This includes riding a different bus or going home with another student.

PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

A specific day will be set aside for annual Parent-Teacher Conferences. Additional conferences are encouraged and may be set up by appointment. Conferences will be scheduled at mutually agreed-upon times when the teacher does not have a scheduled class. Teachers are happy to take the time to discuss students' progress and issues with parents/guardians if the conference is scheduled in advance by phone or email. Phone calls to teachers should be made during school hours to 256-905-2460.

All visitors must report to the office for check-in. Any violations will be considered trespassing, and appropriate measures will be taken.

TELEPHONE

Students will not be called to the telephone except in emergencies. They may make calls on school phones only for emergencies and only with a written pass from their teacher. The students must go through the school nurse if they are sick, and she will call the emergency contact listed in the office.

TEXTBOOKS

Textbooks become students' responsibility when issued. All textbooks are to be kept clean, free of writing, and in good condition. Students should not give or loan their textbooks to other students. **Damage or loss of a textbook becomes the financial obligation of the student and the parent/guardian.**

TRANSPORTATION/WALKERS

All students transported to and from school in privately owned vehicles will be dropped off and picked up at the Moulton Middle School car rider line. Students are not allowed to meet parents on the street to enter a vehicle. All walkers must live within a one-mile radius of the school. **Students are not allowed to walk across Highway 33.** All walkers will need to bring a note indicating that they have permission to walk from campus. All walkers will meet in the front office after school each day to be dismissed before the buses depart from campus.

WORTHLESS CHECKS

All checks collected must be personalized with a current address and telephone number and a driver's license number. Checks must be made for the exact amount and two-party checks, post-dated checks, out of state, unsigned, or counter checks will not be accepted. Action will be taken for a returned check for insufficient funds or any other reason and the check writer is responsible for all fees and collection costs.

ALSDE Digital Device Policy (subject to change)



ALSDE Digital Device Policy for the ACAP

STUDENT POLICY

Students shall not **possess** any digital device within the testing room when participating in the ACAP testing. **The possession of a digital device by students participating in ACAP testing is strictly prohibited during the administration of an assessment.** For the purposes of this policy, digital devices are defined to include anything that can capture, store, relay, or receive electronic information.

The **ONLY** exception to this policy is for students who have been pre-approved by the school Principal and/or the BTC to have a digital device that is necessary for the health and/or well-being of the student. All exceptions shall be pre-approved in writing by the school Principal and/or the BTC by completing the *Digital Device Exception Request* form.

Each local education agency (LEA) shall have in place a *School Test Security Plan* for each school that includes a digital device collection plan for students who will participate in the ACAP. This collection shall take place for students **prior to entering the testing room.**

If students are in **possession** of a digital device, whether powered on or off, during the administration of an ACAP assessment, the device will be confiscated, and the student's test will be invalidated. If the appropriate administrator determines there is reasonable suspicion the device was used to capture, record, share test information, or to facilitate cheating on the assessment, the device will be subject to search pursuant to LEA policy for any information directly related to the assessment being administered. Violations may result in disciplinary action by the LEA in accordance with the LEA's disciplinary policy.

MMS Faculty and Staff

Black, Leigh Ann	5th Social Studies/ELA*	Hathorn, Michael	Principal
Gibson, Carla	5th Science*	Ferguson, Teri	Assistant Principal
Parker, Megan	5th Reading*	Strong, Christy	Bookkeeper
Roden, Kasi	5th Math*	Holley, Jennifer	Parental Involvement
Zuck, Megan	5th Math*	Legg, Cassie	Reception/Attendance
	6th Social Studies*	Hamilton, Mayme	Nurse
Hayes, Victoria	6th ELA*	Alexander, Magen	Paraprofessional
Johnson, Meagan	6th Science*	Frost, Tana	Paraprofessional
Trousdale, Annsley	6th Math*	Fowler, Nathan	Custodian
Buckhalter, Devin	7th Computer*	Osborn, Mary	Custodian (MES/MMS)
Ford, Andrea	7th Math*	Cornelius, Denise	Lunchroom Manager
Hjelm, Bailey	7th Science*	Henderson, Raigen	Intervention
Lovelady, Hayden	7th Social Studies*	Hensley, Carly	Part-time instructor
Parker, Sarah	7th ELA*	Long, Eli	Part-time instructor
McAbee, Scarlettte	8th ELA*	Muse, Joshua	Part-time instructor
Miller, Janice	8th Math*	Plott, Antwon, Lieutenant	School Resource Officer
Pike, Carley	8th Computer*		
Reach, Barry	8th Science*		
Thompson, Chuck	8th Social Studies*		
Hyde, Natalie	PE		
Hutto, Ty	PE		
Erdogan, John	Band		
Bowerman, Kellie	Instructional Coach		
King, Piper	Library Media Specialist		
Layman, Jamie	Counselor		
Letson, Cheryl	Counselor & 7th Resource		
Kitterman, Austin	Self-Contained		
Amos, Jessica	5th/6th Resource		
Brewer, Austin	8th/6th Resource		
King, Keena	Speech		
Weatherwax, Emily	Mental Health Therapist		

MMS Class Schedule

2026 - 2027

5th & 6th Grade

7:20 Car line begins. 7:25 Buses unload. 7:35 Students access lockers & report to 1st period.

<i>Tardy Bell</i>	7:45
1st Period	7:45 - 8:50
2nd Period	8:52 - 9:53

5th		6th		
Break	9:53 - 10:08	3rd Period	9:55 - 10:45	PE
Class	10:10 - 11:11		10:47 - 11:12	Lunch
PE	11:13 - 12:03	4th Period	11:14 - 12:15	Core
Lunch	12:05 - 12:30		12:15 - 12:30	Break

5th Period	12:32 - 1:33
6th Period	1:35 - 2:37
Wrap-Up/End of Day	2:37 - 2:45

MMS Class Schedule

2026 - 2027

7th & 8th Grade

7:20 Car line begins. 7:25 Buses unload. 7:35 Students access lockers & report to 1st period.

<i>Tardy Bell</i>	7:45
1st Period	7:45 - 8:38
2nd Period	8:41 - 9:31
3rd Period (w/15 min break)	9:34 - 10:39
• 7th Grade Break	9:34 - 9:49
• 8th Grade Break	10:24 - 10:39
4th Period	10:42 - 11:32
5th Period (w/24 min lunch)	11:35 - 12:57
• Lunch (7th)	11:36 - 12:00
• Lunch (8th)	12:33 - 12:57
6th Period	1:00 - 1:50
7th Period	1:53 - 2:45