



Medea Creek Middle School

Parent/Guardian Handbook

Welcome to Medea Creek Middle School! We recognize the importance and value that parents and family members play in our students' educational and social experiences and have created this handbook to help you navigate your role as a middle school parent. The Medea Creek Middle School Parent Handbook is really an addendum to the student handbook, which is quite complete.

The MCMS student handbook should be the first and foremost reference to how MCMS works; it is a fine guide to the nuts and bolts of where to find people and information. The student handbook also details student discipline, OPUSD's acceptable technology use rules and student guidelines for using social media, among other important topics.

What you will find here is some information that we have found is of assistance to parents navigating the daily life of middle school at MCMS.

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Information & Communication

MCMS offers multiple communication means: Email (preferred means of communication), Parent Square, voicemail to faculty and staff, weekly PFA newsletters, and the MCMS website. Please note that OPUSD staff email addresses are as follows:

First name initial, Last name opusd.org. For example, Assistant Principal Samantha Gottlieb's email is sgottlieb@opusd.org. Please note, there are 2 MOhagans (Maureen O'Hagan: Maohagan@opusd.org, Michael O'Hagan: Mohagan@opusd.org)

The MCMS website is the go-to place to get great MCMS information. Besides an array of staff pages and links, there is a wealth of news. Additionally, a newsletter produced by the PFA is sent weekly via ParentSquare.

Parent Square is MCMS's and OPUSD's electronic communication vehicle. School and District news, calendar, and updates arrive as posts/emails. Parent Square is partnered with Q, our student information system, so that when a new student is enrolled in MCMS, parents automatically receive an email to join Parent Square to receive regular school-related communication.

Q Student Connect is OPUSD's student information system. This is our means of communicating student grades, and other important student-related information. Each student has a student ID and password to access Q linked from the MCMS Website. You should have this information posted at home for easy access. Q provides your student's demographic information, unofficial transcripts, G.P.A., and state testing results. Please check to see that your demographic information in Q is complete and accurate, and contact the office if it is not.

Additionally, Q provides parents with a variety of student academic information. Many teachers post their class grade book information on Q Student Connect (but they are only required to do so at the mid point and conclusion of each quarter). This information is available from most teachers, so that test and assignment grades can be monitored at home. Please allow up to two weeks for students to be entered by teachers on their grade book page and to appear in Q Student Connect. Progress reports are issued every 5 weeks and are to inform parents/students about students who are not meeting standards. They are posted on Q. Additionally, final



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quarter grades (at the end of each ten-week period) are posted in Q as a report card for all of a student's classes. Hard copies may be mailed home, upon request. Please alert the main office to request a hard copy.

Please note: If a student attended an OPUSD school in 2024-2025, the student I.D. and password are the same this 2025-2026 school year. New students can access Q using their student ID number and their password to log on to their chromebook. Parents access "Q " through Parent Connect, with their own log-in and password.

Schedule: 2025-2026 Grading Periods:

- Quarter 1: August 5-October 3
- Progress closes September 5, 2025
- Progress grades posted September 12, 2025
- Quarter closes October 3, 2025
- Quarter grades posted October 10, 2025

- Quarter 2: October 6-December 19
- Progress closes November 7, 2025
- Progress grades posted November 14, 2025
- Quarter closes December 19, 2025
- Quarter grades posted January 9, 2026

- Quarter 3: January 6-March 6
- Progress closes February 6, 2026
- Progress grades posted February 13, 2025
- Quarter closes March 6, 2026
- Quarter grades posted March 13, 2026

- Quarter 4: March 9-May 22
- Progress closes April 22, 2026
- Progress grades posted April 24, 2025
- Quarter closes May 22, 2026
- Quarter grades posted May 29, 2026

If you feel that your student is struggling in school, contact your child's teachers and counselors so that their needs can best be addressed by all.



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Homework

MCMS HOMEWORK GUIDELINES

In accordance with Board Policy 6154, Medea Creek Middle School provides homework guidelines to promote consistency in assignments among courses and grade levels. MCMS believes homework is an opportunity to support and enhance learning beyond, or in preparation for, the school day. Homework introduces, reinforces, or extends knowledge and skills learned within the classroom.

It is reasonable to expect an increased level of homework through each grade level. In general, students may expect on average a total of about an hour to an hour and a half each evening. However, there are many factors that may impact this amount. Homework, like other aspects of school, is not "one size fits all"; it is recognized that while the guidelines are suggested, each individual student may have differing needs, abilities, or interests which can impact the time on task for homework.

What is Homework?

Homework is study outside the classroom that engages students in valuable activities, either independently or collaboratively (for group assignments), to prepare, practice, extend, or apply knowledge and skills identified as the standards of a course.

Types of Homework:

The Acronym PREP identifies the four types of homework: Preparatory, Reinforcement, Extension, Practice.

- Preparation: Assignments provide opportunities for students to gain background information, so that they are better prepared for future lessons. Examples include background reading (like a chapter that will be discussed in class the next day), collecting data (research), or watching a video prior to the next day's lesson. These assignments are short term.
- Reinforcement: Assignments provide students with the opportunity to revisit challenging material and gain further understanding of concepts and skills. Examples are studying for a cumulative test or writing a reflective response to a class discussion.
- Extension: Assignments encourage application of newly acquired skills or concepts. Examples include book reports, research papers, presentations, and class projects. These assignments are often long term, supported by teacher guidance and check-in points prior to the



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assignment due date.

- Practice: Assignments provide opportunities to review and rehearse recently learned skills. Examples include math problems, vocabulary words, or practicing a musical instrument. These assignments are usually short-term, in limited amounts, and should not include new concepts. Practice may also be reviewing and studying for exams or quizzes.

Homework Responsibilities:

For homework to be effective, responsibility is shared amongst students, teachers, parents, and administrators.

Student Responsibilities:

- Accurately record assignments in student planner, calendar, or assignment book.
- Make sure assignment instructions are understood. Seek clarification from the teacher if an instruction is not clear prior to leaving class.
- Students must do their own work for individual assignments. Receiving assistance from a parent, tutor or classmate may be acceptable to practice a concept, but just copying is plagiarism and is considered cheating.
- Use time provided in class to complete classwork/start homework.
- Set a regular routine for completing written homework, reading and studying.
- Limit distractions while doing homework.
- Complete assignments thoroughly and with quality.
- Take home all necessary materials and have all resources organized.
- Submit the assignment when the assignment is due. Plan and work ahead of schedule when there are multiple assignments or tests.
- Be responsible for getting assignments when absent from school.
- For block classes, begin the homework the day it is assigned, so questions can be asked/answered the following day.

Parent Responsibilities:

- Schedule a consistent homework/study time each day.
- Establish a study area with minimal distractions and the necessary supplies and materials.
- Encourage and guide your child, but do not do the assignment for them.
- Encourage your child to communicate questions or concerns to their teacher.
- Communicate with the teacher directly if there is a continued concern or if a student is needing an excessive amount of time to complete



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assignments.

- Communicate with the school (teacher, counselor, or administrator) if there are domestic stress factors that may impact the quality or completion of homework/studying.
- Check "Q" on a regular basis to monitor student progress.

Teacher Responsibilities:

- Provide clear expectations for homework at the beginning of the course.
- Communicate clear expectations to students about nightly assignments.
- Provide a system of notifying students of all assignments, and provide time for students to record them in their agendas or by other means.
- Review homework within a reasonable time.
- Ensure that resources and materials are easily obtainable for homework purposes.
- Be available for parent communication or initiate communication with parents over concerns.
- Provide appropriate time for project completion.
- Be available to students to help with content clarification or homework assistance.
- Update Q regularly to facilitate monitoring of student progress (Board Policy mandates a minimum of grade updates every five-week Progress Grade or Report Card period.)
- Review homework assignments with grade level curricular teams to ensure the effectiveness and appropriate rigor towards the curriculum.

Administrator Responsibilities:

- Ensure that homework practices at the school level are consistent with the district educational goals, guidelines, and policies.
- Facilitate the communication process between the school and home as it relates to the district guidelines on homework.
- Communicate with parents the importance of homework and its effect on student achievement.

Specific Homework Impact for the Middle School:

- Block Schedule: In 7th and 8th grade, Language Arts, Social Studies, Math, and Science classes meet in a rotational block every other day. This means that sometimes more homework is assigned due to the nature of meeting every other day. Students should do the



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homework on the day it is assigned and not “put it off” until the night before it is due.

- Some courses, such as Algebra I, Geometry, and Spanish I are high school level courses and often require a higher amount of homework and studying.
- School sponsored activities such as Mock Trial, Math Counts, and other clubs and teams are considered extra-curricular activities and may require work time beyond the homework guidelines.
- Students are often given class time to start or complete work, with work not completed becoming homework. Students are expected to utilize this time towards completing the work to reduce their homework time.

Addressing Concerns and Communication

Medea Creek faculty and staff take pride in being responsive to student and school community needs.

Should you have questions about a classroom policy, student achievement, procedure or assignment, your first contact should be the classroom teacher or coach. That is the person who will have the first-hand knowledge to answer your questions. Concerns about student/peer interactions, ways to get involved in school opportunities and activities, middle school culture and climate, and/or academic concerns should be addressed with your child's counselor.

Middle School Counselors:

There are three full time guidance counselors at MCMS, as well as one Wellness Counselor. While the school counselors primarily work with a caseload based on last name by alpha, all are available for any student in need. Counselors see students for anything from academic support to dealing with social issues. They also lead many programs on campus, run support groups, and meet with parents and teachers to strategize help for students. Students may request to see their counselor at the student window.

PLEASE NOTE: While the counselors will be getting to know all of the students on their caseload, they are not able to have meetings with incoming students before the school year begins. If there is special



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information you wish to give to your counselor, please email this to them.

Our counselors' student caseloads, by alpha, are as follows:

- Ms. Dianne Large—A-G
- Ms. Cyndi Smilor—H-O
- Ms. Stephanie Perez —P-Z
- Ms. Carleigh Cooper, wellness counselor

MCMS administrators, Ms. Gia Jantz, Principal, Ms. Samantha Gottlieb, Assistant Principal, and Mr. Alexis Boyadjian, Dean, are also here to assist with issues and concerns.

In the event that your questions or concerns about a program or classroom expectation are not handled in a satisfactory manner, you should access the OPUSD complaint procedure. Prior to this procedure, we want to make sure that the staff member (teacher, administrator, coach, etc.) has met directly with the concerned party (parent, student, guardian, etc.) to try to resolve the problem. If the agreed upon solutions are not then implemented, a written complaint should be filed on the form available in the school office.

Key Staff Members' Responsibilities

Principal: Gia Jantz

Supervision of campus, School Plan, Budgets, Liaison with PFA and Site Council, GATE, Site and District Leadership Team, ELD Students, Instructional Delivery System Support (Teachers with aides, etc.), Teacher Goal Setting, Observations, Evaluations, Classified Evaluations, Culmination, Library and Textbooks, Parent Education, Yearbook, Master Schedule support, Curriculum and Instruction, IEPs, Facilitator of Leadership Team, Facility Use, Staff Development/New Teacher Support, Supervision of campus, Discipline appeals, Custodians/Plant, Challenge/Success, Camp Medea, Award Applications (ie., Distinguished Schools), WEB, CTW Pathways, Surveys (CHKS), Challenge Success, Staff Appreciation

Assistant Principal: Samantha Gottlieb

Acting Principal in Principal's Absence



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Master Schedule, Site and District Leadership Team, Supervision of campus, Parent Handbook, Student Handbook, Attendance and SARB process, Teacher Goal Setting, Observations, Evaluations, Classified Evaluations, Approval and Scheduling of Events/Calendar, Art, Band and Chorus Activities, Special Activities: Outdoor Education Trip, Parent Volunteer Recognition; Student Assemblies; Earth Week; ASB spirit activities and events; ASB fundraising drive; Bell schedules; Financial Hardship (student/parent); Community Service; Co-curricular clubs: Homework Club; IEPs; Leadership Team; Emergency Preparedness; Staff Development; New Teacher Support; School Tours and Visitations; GATE; Challenge/Success; Camp Medea; Staff Appreciation, 6th grade Discipline

Dean – Alexis Boyadjian

7th and 8th grade Discipline; Detention Program; Tardies; School on Saturday; IEPs; Intramurals and Organized Community Sports, faculty/student games; Supervision of campus; Supervision assignments/management of campus supervisors; Teacher Goal Setting, Observations, Evaluations, 5th Grade Orientation; Exceptional Panthers, Student Recognition Programs; Lockers; ASB event supervision, Student Intervention: attend intervention meetings, SST's as needed to help develop strategies for student behavior; State Testing: coordination, logistics, facilitation, and staff training; Camp Medea; Staff Appreciation

Health Concerns

Any health concerns and/or medications that the school should be aware of need to be listed on the "Student Daily Health Information and Medical History" form. This form is a mandatory form that is completed and turned in at registration. Example: if your student is highly allergic to bees, it should be listed. If your student is allergic to bees and needs an Epi-Pen here at school, that should also be listed.

The school does not supply any medication for students. All students who require any type of medication (including over-the-counter medication) to be given at school on a "daily" or "as needed" basis need to have an "Authorization for Medication" form completed and signed by the student's doctor. Once the school has the medication form signed by the doctor, the medication can be brought in and kept in our health office.



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Note: All medication forms need to be renewed every school year. All unused medications will need to be picked up at the end of the school year, or they will be discarded.

Hot Weather:

When excessive heat occurs, the following precautions are to be taken for all outdoor physical activity, including, but not limited to recess, physical education classes, field trips, and athletic practices and games. Students should be hydrated before going outside and have access to drinking water while outside. In activities lasting longer than 30 minutes, periodic water breaks should be incorporated. The Heat Index is the “feels like” or effective temperature Bd Policy 5141.25(a); 6142.7(a)

Heat Index Category Activity Limitations:

- ≤ 80 : No limitations
- 80 to 89: Caution: 75% vigorous activity/25% light activity or rest. Encourage hydration.
- 90 to 104: Extreme Caution: 50% vigorous activity/50 % light activity or rest. Enforce hydration. Sunstroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion are possible.
- 105 to 129: Dangers: 25% vigorous activity/75% light activity or rest. Enforce hydration. Sunstroke, heat cramps, and heat exhaustion are likely. Heat stroke possible.
- 130+: Extreme Danger: All nonessential outdoor activities will be canceled. Bd Policy 5141.25(a); 6142.7 (b)

Before/After School Programs, Lunchtime and Supervision

Before/After School Programs and Supervision

- The campus opens with supervision starting at 7:30 A.M. Students may work in the MCMS Library. The library remains open from dismissal until 3:30 P.M.
- OPUSD also runs an extended care program (Club Oak Park) on campus after school (for a fee). Please [use this link](#) for more information.
- The OPUSD extended care program runs from school dismissal until 6:30 P.M. The OPUSD extended care program offers daily hands-on activities (e.g., science, art, gardening, robotics, coding). Options for



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students include both structured and unstructured opportunities to build social and emotional skills, flexible scheduling options, including part time and full time, morning only, afternoon only, morning and afternoon. The middle school program incorporates age-appropriate programming to keep students engaged.

- Homework Club is a supervised space two days/week after school from 3-4 PM. There are also many other after school teams or programs that meet once or twice per week. Lookout for announcements and postings about when these clubs will start/meet. Club sign up day is August 26, 2025 at lunch!

Lunchtime

- 6th grade lunch is separate (11:15 – 11:55) from the 7th/8th grade lunch (12:10 – 12:50). Students bring their lunch or may get lunch (free for the 2025-26 school year) through the cafeteria. There is a main lunch line as well as a snack line where individual items can be purchased.
- Students may play on the field or blacktop, join student clubs that meet at lunch, participate in the many lunchtime activities sponsored by ASB (student government) or WEB*. Students may also sit and hang out with each other during lunch.
- Lunchtime campus supervisors, PE coaches, and administrators supervise during this time.

* WEB stands for Where Everyone Belongs, which is a school wide program addressing the transition to 6th grade, campus climate, and anti bullying; 8th grade students are trained as mentors to our 6th graders. Connections are made at Camp Medea and at WEB events during the school year. Mentors help run activities, meet with smaller groups, and build relationships with individuals throughout the year.

Attendance

What happens if a student is absent or late?

Attendance is taken every period at MCMS. It is crucial that you call the attendance line whenever your student will be **late or absent** - [818-597-4261](tel:818-597-4261). Upon late arrival, your student will come to the student window to check in.

Early Pick Up:

Some appointments cannot be avoided, so students may need to leave early. Please send your student in with a note on the day that they need to leave with the time and reason. This note should be brought to the student window before school starts. Students will get an off campus pass from the



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student window and will then be signed out in the office at the scheduled time.

Absences and California Law:

As we all know, being in school regularly is key to school success and establishing good habits to navigate through the challenges that come with secondary school. By the middle school years, it is increasingly difficult to keep up with school as absences accrue. Here is some pertinent information regarding important laws governing attendance, as well as what schools are required to do:

- California compulsory education laws require schools to report truanancies. A truancy, as defined by the law, is a student who has missed three school days or is tardy or absent more than 30 minutes during the school day on three occasions in one school year without a valid excuse.
- Valid excuses (EXCUSED ABSENCE) are: illness/injury, quarantine under direction of health officer, medical/dental appointment that can only be scheduled during school hours, participation in religious exercises or instruction, mental health, and funeral services for a member of the immediate family. Please note that even with an illness excuse, the school will require a note from a medical practitioner if the number of illness days exceeds three consecutive or ten cumulative days in a school year. Of course, we understand that illnesses occur and appreciate you contacting the office and keeping children home when a fever, vomiting, or contagious virus/infection occurs. Please see a full, detailed list regarding valid excuses in the Student Handbook.
- UNEXCUSED ABSENCES include: oversleeping, non-medical appointments, personal reasons (family vacations or appointments), cutting school/truancy.
- Religious Holidays: An excused absence for a religious holiday will be granted upon prior written request of parent or guardian. Please contact the school in advance of these holidays.
- Trips and family vacations are not valid excuses under the law. These absences are unexcused absences. However, there is a provision made for this if your family will be away for five or more school days: with advanced notice, an Independent Study contract may be requested. In this case, the absence can be excused if assigned class work is completed during the absence and turned in upon return to school. Independent Study Contracts (timelines and requirements) can be obtained through the MCMS Office. While Independent Study Contracts are available, we encourage families to schedule vacations during non-school days, because of the student stresses and academic disruptions that often accompany these absences.
- If a student is tardy 15 minutes or more to class, this is considered an



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absence, and will be marked as such. • Attendance/Truancy letters are automatically generated and mailed home once a student misses three or more school days without having reported a valid excuse as defined under the law, OR, because of mounting and excessive absences, even with a valid excuse.

- Chronically Absent refers to a student who misses 10% or more of school, even with a valid excuse.
- Once a student is designated as truant, state law requires schools, districts, counties, and courts to intervene to ensure that parents and pupils receive certain services to assist them in complying with attendance laws. This can include meetings with the school site administrator, OPUSD SART (School Attendance Review Team) meeting or SARB (School Attendance Review Board) meeting, which includes a member of the District Attorney's Office.
- Students who are absent from school shall be given the opportunity to complete all assignments and tests that can be reasonably provided. The Board recognizes that not all lessons or assignments can be duplicated following a student's absence. As determined by the teacher, the assignments and tests shall be reasonably equivalent to, but not necessarily identical to, the assignments and tests missed during the absence. Students shall receive full credit for work satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time.
- The Superintendent or designee shall notify parents/guardians that no student may have a grade reduced or lose academic credit for any excused absence when missed assignments and tests are satisfactorily completed within a reasonable period of time, in accordance with BP 5121. Such notification shall include the full text of Education Code 48205. (Education Code 48980)

We ask students to stay at home sick for the following reasons:

- A morning temperature of 99.0 degrees or greater
- Fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school
- Vomit-free for 24 hours before returning to school
- Diarrhea
- Severe coughing, green nasal discharge, or severe earaches
- Severe sore throat with trouble swallowing



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Field Trips

Field trips and fun and educational experiences valued at MCMS. Students will be provided with instruction at school if they do not attend. We ask for a suggested donated amount to cover the cost of curricular trips.* There are no other funding sources to cover curricular trips. Should you have questions about donations for curricular trips, please contact the Assistant Principal. Parent volunteers help to make these trips possible. They are expected to give their full attention to the students in their charge during the trip (siblings are not allowed to attend), and take direction from MCMS staff and event personnel. Students must travel to and from events in school-approved vehicles. Parent drivers must be District approved prior to the trip.

Field Trip disclaimer language

- Fees are permissible for field trips and excursions in connection with courses of instruction or school-related social, educational, cultural, athletic, or school band activities as long as no student is prevented from making the field trip or excursion because of a lack of sufficient funds. (Education Code § 35330(b)). For more information, please see: <https://www.oakparkusd.org/domain/914>

Parent Chaperones

We often need parents to chaperone curricular trips. We are unable to make these great opportunities happen without parent involvement! Please note that all parents who chaperone on these trips must have current TB test clearance and LIVE SCAN clearance for overnight curricular trips. If not already on file, the District pays for these processes, but they do require parents' advanced planning to complete them in time for chaperoning. If you are chaperoning, your child's teacher or the MCMS office can provide you with information about this process.

Parent Drivers

Should you be driving student(s) to a school sponsored activity, you need to complete an OPUSD Driver Form and provide license and insurance information detailed on the form. If needed, the form can be obtained from the MCMS office manager, Debbie Church. This, too, requires completion several days before the scheduled activity.



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Emergency and Traffic Safety

Safety and Emergency Preparedness are paramount. Staff members wear OPUSD identification badges, and all visitors must sign-in through the main office. Our campus is encircled by fencing, with gates that lock and can be pushed open from the inside for emergency exits.

Please review this vital information in the Student Handbook! There is also an excellent link on emergency preparedness on the MCMS Website or you may view it [here](#). Please review it with your family.

Try to remember that, next to being at home with family, schools are the safest place to be during an emergency. School is a place where students are known and cared for, and where we have practiced for emergencies and have amassed basic supplies, should they be needed. We recommend and hope that families have the discussion about “What to do if...”, and that families have their own preparedness plan and supplies.

What are the types of emergencies that Medea Creek Middle School anticipates through preparedness?

We prepare for emergencies in a number of ways: education and information, rehearsal through drills and emergency scenarios, and provisions (food, water, sanitation, and first aid). Our planning focuses on three categories:

1. Fire: Fire alarms sound. We rehearse basic evacuation from buildings (evacuation routes are posted in all rooms and offices); teachers lead students to painted room numbers on the blacktop and assemble on the field. We practice protocols of attendance/accountability. When an “all clear” is given, students return to their classrooms.

In the event of an actual emergency, the fire department and District are contacted and the situation is assessed. Should students be unable to return to class, parents will be notified via Parent Square, and emergency release procedures will be put into action, should that be feasible. Updates will be provided through Parent Square. Fire emergencies can include brush, building fires, or explosions.

2. Natural Disaster, such as an earthquake: A bell simulating a quake sounds. We evacuate and account for students the same way as for a fire drill, and then practice protocols for emergency teams that secure



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the campus, search and rescue, provide first aid, assess damage, activate emergency supplies and resources, implement communication channels both within school and within the community, and begin the emergency release of students if and when necessary.

3. **Lock Down:** A lock down is a response to a potentially dangerous situation or a wide-scale event that requires securing the campus. A lock down is when, at the sound of a designated signal, ALL persons on campus immediately take shelter in a lockable school room where an adult is present. In a true emergency, a student might have to duck into the nearest lockable space, with or without an adult present, or simply run out of harm's way. In the most horrific and publicized cases, a lock down is a response to a school shooter on campus; students know through our school's continuous review of emergency procedures, that they are to flee to safety, away from imminent threat. This may involve leaving campus. Otherwise, all persons remain inside and secure until the principal or assistant principal signals that the lock down is over. A lock down can also be a response to a contagion.
4. **Fire Shelter In Place:** This drill has been added this school year so that students and staff are aware of the procedures we would follow if a fire was in close proximity and we were not able to release students at that time safely. Students and staff will all have assigned locations in either the C/D buildings or the gym. These buildings are commercial construction and wildfire hardened. Emergency teams will be activated to support the need of supplies and communication while we are on campus during a fire shelter in place.

What is an Emergency Release of Students, and why might it occur?

An emergency release of students occurs when an emergency situation arises that necessitates students, for their safety and well-being, be released to a parent/guardian or designated contact on the emergency form, before the normal end of the school day. Should this occur, parents would be notified by the District all-call system/parent-square, and brief instructions would be posted on the school Website (if communication systems are operative).

Here are IMPORTANT GUIDELINES TO FOLLOW for picking up students from school in an emergency, before the usual end of the school day:

1. Vehicles do not block the driveway. Parents/Guardians SHOULD NOT bring cars to campus.
2. Parents should WALK TO MCMS, as streets will most likely be



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impassable.

3. Report to their designated alpha "REQUEST GATE": A-G or H-Q or R-Z; these three gates are located on either side of the Main Office.
4. Parents/guardians/designated contacts on the emergency form present I.D. to designated MCMS staff at the gate(s).
5. MCMS adult confirms ID/authorization to pick up student and then sends for student to be released.
6. Parents walk to alpha REUNION GATE, A-L (far side of gym near church); OR M-Z, (near bike racks).
7. The Student will meet their parent at REUNION GATE and will be signed-out for release.

Traffic/Pedestrian Safety:

It is imperative that adults and students follow traffic rules. Students must remain on the pavement and use designated crosswalks. Additionally, drivers must obey our one-way driveway, avoid parking/waiting in red zones/staff parking spaces, and drive civilly to avoid accidents with pedestrians and other drivers.

Emergency Contacts:

In the case a parent or guardian cannot be reached by telephone, only the person(s) listed on the Emergency Card may be contacted. Please keep this information up-to-date. Child custody court papers (where needed) also need to be current and on file in our office. Parents also should notify the attendance office if they have hospital release forms on file at local hospitals.

Animals on Campus

Animals should not be brought onto campus except under certain circumstances and approved by an administrator. Animals may be brought to school for educational purposes subject to rules and precautions related to health, safety and sanitation. (Refer to BP 6163.2(a) and AR 6163.2(a).) Service and therapy animals will be permitted on campus with authorization by the Oak Park Unified School District.

Classroom Visitations

Parents wishing to visit classrooms should fill out a classroom visitation request form and submit it to the office at least two days prior to the requested visit. Classroom visitations are, customarily, 20 minutes or under, and are accompanied by an administrator.



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MCMS Parent Faculty Association (PFA)

The PFA is dedicated to supporting the efforts of MCMS teachers, staff and students. The PFA raises money to fund programs and enrichment opportunities, and to supplement classroom materials and technology. They also volunteer time to assist and support school programs in essential and varied ways. Elected parent officers guide the organization and there are many committees that parents may chair and serve upon. There are many ways to get involved and make a difference in the lives of students at MCMS.

PFA meeting dates will be shared within the first month of school. PFA meetings plan meaningful school and community events and meet with the principal to discuss ideas, needs, and events. All parents are welcome and are encouraged to attend.

The PFA also helps the MCMS faculty communicate effectively with the community. PFA sponsors e-communication (through Parent Square) to let families know about upcoming school events and fundraisers. To receive emails from the PFA, fill out the email authorization form that is part of the 2023-2024 registration materials.

School Site Council (SSC) Nomination and Elections

The SSC needs you! Two parent positions on the council are up for election this fall for a two-year term. Please complete the nomination form, if you are interested in serving. This electronic form, emailed out by the Principal, must be submitted by 4pm on Tuesday, September 9th, 2025.

Only parents of students may vote for parent representatives. Electronic ballots will be emailed to all parents on September 11th. Voting ends September 13th at 3pm.



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The SSC is composed of parents, teachers, students, classified staff, and administration members. The Council is the key advisory group for school issues and develops the School Plan for Student Achievement: Obtain recommendations for, and review of the Single Plan for Student Achievement from all school advisory committees. Develop and approve the plan and related expenditures in accordance with all state and federal laws and regulations. Recommend the plan and expenditures to the governing board for approval. Provide ongoing review of the implementation of the plan with the principal, teachers and other school staff members. Annually, evaluate the progress made towards school goals to raise the academic achievement of all students. Annually, review Student and Parent Handbook, including policies and procedures.

For additional information please contact the school principal, Gia Jantz, at 818-707-7922.

Site Council Dates: **Times 3pm-4pm** **@MCMS Faculty Lounge**

September 16, 2025

October 14, 2025

November 18, 2025

December 9, 2025

January 13, 2026

February 10, 2026

March 10, 2026

April 14, 2026

May 12, 2026



Medea Creek Middle School