



**McCullough Junior High
2019-2020 Course Application**



**Yearbook I: Intro to Yearbook
(half year, 7th & 8th combined class)**

Current 6th graders: This application must be submitted during your counselor review session on your campus or to your campus counselor **no later than March 4**

Current 7th graders: This application must be submitted to your math teacher **no later than February 13**

Course description:

Yearbook I is a one-semester curriculum for yearbook journalism. This basic course provides an introduction on how to produce a student-run publication, such as the Highlander Yearbook. The topics covered will enable the student to be a productive member of a publications staff in the future.

Who should take the class?

Seventh graders who wish to apply for the Highlander Yearbook Staff in eighth grade should consider taking **Yearbook I**. It is NOT a prerequisite to Yearbook II, however, students who take Yearbook I as seventh graders are given priority consideration for a limited number of spots for the eighth grade, full-year class (**Yearbook II**).

Eighth graders who are interested in pursuing journalism courses in high school should also consider taking **Yearbook I**, as it provides a broad foundation of the skills required to produce a student-run publication.

Topics Covered:

Yearbook students will learn that there is far more to planning and producing a publication than selecting pictures to fill a page. Each person in the class will be responsible for writing *quality* stories and captions, conducting interviews independently, maintaining organized photo files, creating layouts on the computer, and proofreading and editing layouts.

Students will also learn to go beyond point-and-shoot photography by combining the technical aspects of the DSLR camera with basic rules of composition. (A camera is not required for the course.)

Grades will be evaluated not only on the student's mastery of these skills, but also on the student's ability to meet deadlines.

Required Skills

Class members should be comfortable using the computer, writing stories, interviewing, and designing layouts. In addition, students should portray the following characteristics:

- Strong work ethic
- Interest in writing
- School pride
- Cooperative team player
- Creative and open-minded
- Self-directed, ability to work independently
- Ability to plan and meet deadlines
- Receptive to feedback
- Trustworthy and responsible*

**Students in the course are entrusted with expensive equipment to carry out daily assignments.*

To Apply

Please give your *signed* application to your counselor when you meet to select courses. **Applications must be received during the course selection window to be considered.** Current McC 7th graders will turn this in when they meet with their counselors during math class. Applications should be filled out **by the student** and signed by a parent or guardian. Please email Lori Reichardt with questions at lareichardt@conroeisd.net.

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Course Application

To be filled out by the student applying. You may attach answers on a separate sheet of paper if necessary. Proofreading is highly encouraged and considered as a part of the application.

Name _____ Current Grade (circle one) **6TH GRADE** **7TH GRADE**

Current School _____

Parent or Guardian Name(s) _____

Parent or Guardian Email _____

Please answer the following questions:

1. What are your main reasons for applying for this journalism course?

2. Describe how your skills and personal qualities will make you an asset to this journalism course.

3. Describe how you stay organized.

4. Describe how you work on a team.

Please attach any samples of your work you would like to be considered as part of your application. Please do not submit original copies, as we cannot guarantee you will receive them back.

This application is an agreement to make a commitment to this half-year yearbook course. I know that I may have to devote time outside of class to complete homework for this elective.

Student's signature _____ Date _____

I have read the entire application, and I agree to assist my student in fulfilling the requirements of this course.

Parent or Guardian's signature _____ Date _____