



McCullough Junior High School
Program of Studies
Campus Supplement
2023-24

3800 South Panther Creek Drive • The Woodlands, Texas 77381

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www.conroeisd.net

2023-24 Tentative Counseling Assignments

Jenny Wheeler	7th A-K	jawheeler@conroeisd.net
Alex Schultz	7th L-Z	aschultz@conroeisd.net
Jesenia Garcia	8th A-K	jesgarcia@conroeisd.net
Jana Goforth	8th L-Z	jgoforth@conroeisd.net

If you have a question regarding placement into a specific core class, please email the following department chairs:

Angela Pajestka	Mathematics	apajestka@conroeisd.net
Rachel Purgason	Mathematics	rpurgason@conroeisd.net
Tyler Baird	Language Arts	tdbaird@conroeisd.net
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April Phillips	Social Studies	apphillips@conroeisd.net
Charles Roberts	Special Education	chroberts@conroeisd.net
Lynne Archer	Special Education	larcher@conroeisd.net

All assignments are tentative and subject to change

COURSE SELECTION PHILOSOPHY

In conjunction with parents, we want every student to take the appropriate courses based on available information and interests. Please consider your child's outside of school activity responsibilities in making academic placement decisions. **As the parent/guardian, you have until April 1st to make final selections. All selections made on this date are final.**

REQUIRED COURSES

List of required subjects and electives:

<u>7th Grade</u>		<u>8th Grade</u>	
Language Arts	(2 Semesters)	Language Arts	(2 Semesters)
Writing I	(1 Semester)	Writing II	(1 Semester)
Mathematics	(2 Semesters)	Mathematics	(2 Semesters)
Investigations in Math	(1 Semester)		
Science	(2 Semesters)	Science	(2 Semesters)
Texas History	(2 Semesters)	U.S. History	(2 Semesters)
Physical Education	(2 Semesters)	Electives - 6	(1 Semester)*
Electives - 4	(1 Semester)*	Physical Education	(1 Semester)

* A two-semester elective may be substituted for two one-semester elective choices.

COURSE REGISTRATION

One of the most critical functions performed by a school is the registration of students. Based on the information submitted by parents/guardians prior to the April 1st deadline, courses are scheduled and staffing decisions are made for the next school year. Therefore, it is important that course selection be given serious consideration. Every effort will be made to accommodate all students, but this may not be possible due to class size, time slots, conflicts with a specialized class a student requests, etc. Please make sure that you include alternate elective courses with the online choices. Alternates will be used when one of a student's first choices is not available. Year-long electives should not be chosen as alternate selections. All elective classes offered at McCullough may be utilized to properly complete a student's schedule. ***Once the April 1st course request deadline passes, no changes will be made.*** We have included in this document a comprehensive calendar we hope you will find useful, which includes

a tentative list of all important spring tryout/course selection dates. Included in this detailed calendar are key dates connected to registration. **Any student** enrolling in any course, including **Honors Core Courses, Athletics, Off Campus Physical Education, Band, Choir, and/or Orchestra** is making a **commitment** to be in that program for one year. Full year electives may not be listed as alternates as these are courses which a student needs to be firmly committed to before choosing.

COURSE REQUEST DEADLINES – April 1st

McCullough Junior High works hard to recruit and keep the best teachers in the business. In April, we begin to build our master schedule, as well as individual student schedules, based on the choices students and parents made by the April 1st course request deadline. Additionally, we hire specific staff based on these requests. **Please note the final deadline for any core level course change or elective request change is April 1st.**

ASSIGNMENT TO CLASSES

Academic Courses – 7th Grade

Parents/Guardians working in conjunction with their children and school personnel choose core classes of language arts, social studies, and science that are identified as regular (R) and/or (Honors). **All** regular education classes are high school/college preparatory. A student and parent/guardian signing the course registration form agree to remain in the course for the entire year. The parents/guardians of any student not meeting that expectation will be notified and encouraged to have the student placed in the regular program for the next year.

A student identified as GT in a core area should enroll into the corresponding Honors class for that discipline. **Ultimately, as the parent/guardian, you will be able to place your child in any level of language arts, science, or social studies you choose for a general education student as long as we receive notification by the April 1st deadline.**

Math assignments are completely different in that it is critical students receive each sequential math course along the way to obtain the foundation needed for math success in junior high, high school, and beyond. Please read throughout this document for detailed information on math placement.

Student Course Requests Online

Incoming seventh and eighth students for 2023-24 will choose courses online this year. These requests will take place through Parent Access Center or Student Access Center. In order to request courses, the full pc-based version of these programs must be utilized. Most courses are open enrollment in nature. High school algebra is a notable exception as it has a state law prerequisite. Detailed information will be provided throughout the course selection process as your children *request* electives and *choose* core language arts, science, and social studies courses for 2023-24. Placements for band, choir, and orchestra will be announced on the tentative schedule students receive in August. All placements are final. When completing requests online, please take the time to read all the helpful information provided. Your child can choose either regular or Honors classes in all core courses except math. Math options are detailed in the text that follows. Please consider homework demands for each course and the grades you wish your child to achieve when making these selections. Helpful details are available in the C.I.S.D. Program of Studies, the McCullough Program of Studies Supplement, parent information meeting notes online, and the district math placement flyer. Look for all of this helpful information on our website in February.

Math Course Selection for Incoming Seventh Graders (Open Enrollment)

Parents/guardians of incoming seventh grade students will select the math course in which they feel their student is best prepared:

- 7th grade math
- 7th grade Pre-algebra Level (7th grade math & pre-algebra)
- 7th grade Pre-algebra Honors (eighth grade math)

Important Notes for Students Currently in Regular Sixth Grade Math

- The next course in sequence for students in sixth grade math is seventh grade math.
- Seventh grade math is taken by many of our seventh grade students.
- Students will receive the appropriate subsequent level of instruction in the proper sequence necessary for them to be successful in all following math courses at McCullough, high school, and beyond.
- Should a student wish to go from level sixth grade math to pre-algebra Level in seventh grade, he/she will be taught both the 7th grade concepts and the eighth grade concepts.
- Students in regular sixth grade math cannot bypass two years of math instruction (seventh grade math and eighth grade pre-algebra) to advance to high school algebra.
- Parents/guardians of students in sixth grade level math may request their child take seventh grade math or Pre-Algebra Level through the open enrollment process.
- The District may offer a math course for acceleration beginning in April and running through July. Look for more information on this possibility in the spring.
- Texas students who take pre-algebra in either grade take the eighth grade math STAAR exam.

Important Notes for Students Currently in Advanced Sixth Grade Math:

- *Students in sixth grade advanced math are receiving accelerated math instruction in their current sixth grade classroom.*
- Students in advanced sixth grade math should roll, by default, to the next course in their sequence which is pre-algebra Honors in seventh grade.
- Pre-algebra Honors is taken by *a little over half* of our seventh grade students.
- Students will receive the appropriate subsequent level of instruction in the proper sequence necessary for students to be successful in all successive math courses at McCullough, the high school, and beyond.
- Seventh grade students in Pre-algebra Honors will be responsible for the **eighth** grade STAAR math exam.

For a Student to Move From Sixth Grade Advanced Math to Algebra 1 (HS) Honors, Students Must Meet One of the Following Criteria According to Texas State Law:

- Pass an *approved* pre-algebra course in school. Note the campus-based pre-algebra course we offer qualifies.
- Pass the *state-approved* pre-algebra Credit by Examination (CBE).
- Take and successfully pass the C.I.S.D. pre-algebra for acceleration course offered from April-July (detailed information coming later in the spring). Note this course will only be offered if there are a sufficient number of student enrollment requests.

What Exactly Do I Need to KNOW If I Want My Sixth Grade Child Currently in Advanced/GT Sixth Grade Math to Attempt the Pre-Algebra Credit by Examination in Order to Advance to High School Algebra?:

- The pre-algebra (eighth grade math) credit by exam (CBE) will tentatively be administered on the intermediate home campuses between February 21th and February 24th.
- The University of Texas is the administrator of the CBE and will notify you of your child's score. We have no control over this time frame.
- The CBE exam is timed and Texas students have three hours to complete this test.
- CISD will pay for the CBE provided the child/parent/guardian properly turns in all of the required hardcopy information to the intermediate campus by the required deadline of **Friday, January 27th**.
- Students need an approved graphing calculator, pencil, scratch paper, and the supplied formula chart. If a child does not have an approved graphing calculator, one will be supplied to him/her. Please refer to the McCullough math department webpage for a complete listing of approved calculators.
- Historically the exam contains around 65 multiple-choice questions covering seven objectives. This is always subject to change.
- An 80 or higher is considered passing for the state exam.
- Please encourage your child to do his/her best, while at the same time remembering he/she is taking a state exam for a course he/she has never taken before.
- Information can be found regarding the objectives and sample questions at <https://utexas.app.box.com/v/uths-eighth-math>.

What Exactly Do I Need to DO If I Want My Sixth Grade Child Currently in Advanced/GT Sixth Grade Math to Attempt the Pre-Algebra Credit by Examination in Order to Advance to High School Algebra?:

- You must register with your *home intermediate campus* for your child to take this free exam. To make this happen:
 - An eighth grade math (pre-algebra) CBE application must be submitted and approved for each student.
 - The deadline for the properly completed document to be turned in to the appropriate intermediate home campus is by no later than [Friday, January 27, 2023](#).
- All needed documents for students/parents/guardians to fill out in hardcopy form are available for viewing/printing at the McCullough website. Please look for the red "quick link" button located at mccullough.conroeisd.net. To access the printable files needed go to:
 - 2023-24 Course Selection Information
 - CBE 8th Grade Math Test

What Exactly DO I Need to Do If I Want My Sixth Grade Child Currently in Advanced Sixth Grade Math to Take High School Algebra in Seventh Grade and He/She Did Not Take or Did Not Pass the State Credit by Examination (CBE) for Pre-Algebra Required by Texas to Advance to High School Algebra?:

- Your child can enroll in the Conroe I.S.D. Eighth Grade Pre-Algebra Course for Acceleration. Please note the following tentative details of this course:
 - Students in this course receive the full instruction of the TEKS for pre-algebra as this class is taught as a first-time offering.
 - The course runs from late April to mid-July. Please watch the District website closely for details. Note this course will be offered only if there are a sufficient number of student requests.
 - A fee is associated with the accelerated class.
 - Instruction is hybrid in format involving online and in-person instruction.
 - Attendance requirements are enforced and need to be reviewed prior to enrolling in the course.
 - Registration (when it opens) occurs through the student's home campus counselor.
 - A mandatory parent/guardian and student meeting occurs before the class begins.
 - Ideally the child has a desire to take this first time offering of pre-algebra.

What if My Child Qualifies for High School Algebra?

- If your child qualifies for high school algebra, we will contact you before placing him/her into this math class, which is operating two years ahead of grade level.
- *You will need to opt your child “in” to the high school algebra class once he/she qualifies*
- *Students in high school algebra are responsible for taking the STAAR high school algebra end of course (EOC) examination.*
- Students who take high school algebra in seventh grade will take high school geometry in eighth grade.

Academic Courses – 8th Grade

Parents, guardians, and students will choose a course for language arts, science, and social studies at the desired level of Regular (R) or (Honors). **All** regular education classes are high school/college preparatory. Gifted/Talented (GT) students must qualify for the GT program based on the criteria set by the district. All identified GT students will automatically qualify for the Honors program in the specific areas of study in which they have been identified. All students in an advanced program are expected to meet all course expectations with a minimum of a 70%.

Parents/guardians will choose their child’s eighth grade core courses. In math, students should be rolled to the next corresponding course in the math learning sequence. For example, a student in level seventh grade math will go to level eighth grade Pre-Algebra. A student in seventh grade pre-algebra Honors will move to high school algebra Honors in eighth grade.

Math Course Selection for Incoming Eighth Graders

Incoming eighth graders normally will roll to the next appropriate course in the math sequence. For example, students in seventh grade math will progress to eighth grade Pre-Algebra. Seventh grade students in Pre-Algebra will take Algebra in eighth grade. Seventh grade algebra students will take geometry in eighth grade.

For a student to move from seventh grade level math to high school Algebra I, students must meet all of the following criteria:

- Pass the State of Texas required Pre-Algebra Credit by Exam (CBE) with an 80 or higher.
- If the student does not take the state-required CBE to advance to algebra, or is not successful passing the exam with a state-required 80 or above, he/she may take the C.I.S.D. offering of Pre-Algebra for Acceleration.
- Parent/guardian opt-in required in writing for students that qualify for high school algebra based on successful CBE scores (email to counselor will suffice)

What Exactly Do I Need to KNOW If I Want My Seventh Grade Child Currently in Regular Seventh Grade Math to Attempt the Pre-Algebra Credit by Examination in Order to Advance to High School Algebra?:

- The pre-algebra (eighth grade math) credit by exam (CBE) will be administered on the McCullough campus for current 7th graders is tentatively set for February 23, 2023.
- The University of Texas is the administrator of the CBE and will notify you of your child’s score. We have no control over this time frame.
- The exam is timed and Texas students have three hours to complete this test.
- CISD will pay for the administration of the CBE provided the child/parent/guardian properly turns in all of the required hardcopy information to the McCullough campus the by the required deadline of January 27th.
- Students need an approved graphing calculator, pencil, scratch paper, and the supplied formula chart. If a child does not have an approved graphing calculator, one will be supplied to him/her. Please refer to the McCullough math department webpage for a complete listing of approved calculators.
- The exam contains around 65 multiple choice questions covering seven objectives. An 80 or higher is considered passing for the state exam.
- Please encourage your child to do his/her best, while at the same time remembering he/she is taking a state exam for a course he/she has never taken before.
- Information can be found regarding the objectives and sample questions at <https://utexas.app.box.com/v/uths-eighth-math>.

What Exactly DO I Need to Do If I Want My Seventh Grade Child Currently in Regular Seventh Grade Math to Attempt the Pre-Algebra Credit by Examination in Order to Advance to High School Algebra?:

- You must register with our campus in the counseling center for your child to take this free exam. To make this happen:
 - An eighth grade math (pre-algebra) CBE application must be submitted and approved for each student.
 - The deadline for the properly completed document to be turned in is [on January 27th](#).
- All needed documents for students/parents/guardians to fill out in hardcopy form are available for viewing/printing at the McCullough website. Please look for the red “quick link” button located at mccullough.conroeisd.net. To access the printable files needed go to:
 - 23-24 Course Selection Information
 - CBE 8th Grade Math Test

Helpful Calculator Information (Subject to Change) :

- 7th Level Math: Calculators are not used in this course.
- 7th Pre-Algebra, 8th Pre-Algebra, Algebra, and Geometry: Graphing calculators are used throughout these courses. The TI-84 Plus is the recommended calculator, and all calculators in the TI-83 and TI-84 series are compatible. Students are not required to purchase a graphing calculator as calculators are available for student use at school. Owning a graphing calculator can be helpful for completing some assignments outside of class. Students who do not own a graphing calculator are welcome to use the school calculators during Advisory, before-school tutorials, or PAWS tutorials after school in order to complete the assignments which incorporate calculator use.

Electives

Students will rank all of the electives based on their preference. The computer system will then schedule each student's academics and electives. The elective choices are determined by which courses will work in the student's schedule. Every effort is made for each student to receive as many of his or her elective choices as possible. Year-long electives should not be selected as alternates on the course request sheets. Please remember that most students have ten elective slots over two years. There is a total of thirteen unique electives for students to take other than band, choir, orchestra, athletics, high school Spanish, Art I, and CTE courses. Most students will take most electives offered over the two-year period. **If any of these appear incorrect, or if you would like to make a change, please submit these changes to the Counseling Center prior to the April 1st elective request deadline. These elective change requests need to be submitted in writing to the counselor.** For purposes of completing a specific student schedule, it is possible that a student may receive an elective which they did not request.

THE SCHEDULE

7TH Grade and 8th Grade

Students in the 7th and 8th grade will attend four classes per day plus an advisory period. All classes will meet every other day for 90 minutes. All seventh and eighth grade students will take an English Language Arts class every other day with an additional required one semester Writing Strategies class. Seventh grade students will take their chosen math class every other day with an additional required one semester math class titled Special Investigations in Mathematics. Advisory is an opportunity for students to work on assignments, receive extra help, listen to announcements, receive tutoring, and attend club meetings. Students will attend lunch during their third period class. There are four lunch assignments. A student's lunch is based on the class he/she is in during third/seventh block. It is possible to have different lunch times over the two-day red and green day schedule. All students will take final exams during the last week of each semester. Please plan for your child to be present for these important examinations and also for the semester reviews the previous week if possible. Our website contains a link which has our exact regular schedule and alternate schedules posted.

Off Campus Physical Education Guidelines

- The Texas Education Agency allows Off-Campus Physical Education for participation in individual Olympic sports only. Team sports are not eligible for this program.
 - Students are only allowed to participate at CISD approved facilities. A facility cannot become an “approved” facility unless the organization representative attended the Off-Campus PE Informational meeting on January 19th at the Jett Center at 10:00am.
 - <https://www.conroeisd.net/departments/athletics/physical-education-health/> Off Campus Physical Education is a year-long commitment. One-semester versions or monthly versions of this program are not available. Students participating in Off-Campus Physical Education are committed to both the fall and spring semesters consecutively. A student’s class schedule is developed accordingly as students who are in off campus physical education do NOT have classes fourth/eighth block red or green for either semester.
 - The Texas Education Agency does not allow students in this year-long program to participate in school UIL athletic programs (which have their own athletic class during the school day). Participants may and are encouraged to try out for after school programs, such as track, golf, tennis, and soccer that meet before or after the school day. Off-campus physical education students who choose to participate in these sports after school would need to depart campus with their special dismissal time and then return to participate in the special activity after school.
 - For students enrolled in the year-long Off-Campus Physical Education program, a facility/vendor change will only be considered at mid-term. Choose your facility and instructor wisely from the onset. Make certain you are comfortable remaining with the instructor and facility throughout the entire school year. Be sure you’ve discussed the instructional and competitive expectations of the facility prior to enrolling in Off Campus PE. Students are NOT allowed to change vendors at any time without prior approval from the District’s Coordinator of Physical Education.
 - Any student choosing Category 1(15+ hours of training per week)- Off-Campus Physical Education must be picked up daily on both red and green days at 2:30 p.m. at the northwest corner, main student entrance. Make sure you have year-long afternoon pick up arrangements (parent or guardian) in place prior to choosing Off-Campus Physical Education.
 - Students are not allowed to leave campus and walk home unsupervised.
 - Grades and attendance for a student in Off-Campus Physical Education are submitted every three weeks by the approved facility. If the vendor does not submit the student’s grade on the designated day and time, students in Off-Campus Physical Education will receive an F or zero for the current grading period. Off-Campus Physical Education grades are reflected on the report card and do count toward UIL eligibility. Students in Off-Campus P.E. are required to “make-up” missed training time due to illness or alternate school activities. Students are not required to make-up training time during Conroe ISD scheduled holidays or inclement weather days.
 - Choosing Off-Campus Physical Education (Category 1) requires a commitment to leave early on both red and green days. Please make sure you can pick up your child every day before committing to the program.
 - Students in Category 2-Off Campus Physical Education do not leave school early and do not have a physical education class on campus. However, students do receive two extra academic classes. As a result, a student choosing and qualifying for Category 2-Off-Campus Physical Education must be enrolled in band, choir, or orchestra.
 - Students who fail to meet state guidelines for completion of hours or are not picked up at the proper time daily will be removed from Off-Campus Physical Education and immediately placed in a regular campus physical education class.
 - Vendors/facilities have an opportunity to apply to Conroe ISD between January 19 and March 3, 2023. If you are interested in Off Campus Physical Education, you are encouraged to make sure your facility has a representative attend the Thursday, January 19th “Vendor Meeting” (see flyer at link provided above).
- Students are NOT permitted to change training facilities after the school year has started without approval from the Coordinator of Physical Education and the student’s campus counselor.
- Off Campus Physical Education online student registration tentatively begins March 15th and closes on April 1st at midnight for McCullough JH students. The opportunity to choose Off-Campus Physical Education closes on April 1st. Those who sign up for Off-Campus Physical Education and have met the April 1st deadline have until May 1st to complete the District online district registration. Please note: requesting Off-Campus Physical Education on the Course Selection form DOES NOT register your student for participation in Off-Campus PE. You MUST register ON-LINE at www.conroeisd.net between March 15th and May 1st.
- Follow the steps listed on the next page to properly complete the final phase of requesting Off-Campus Physical Education beginning March 15th:**
- Step 1: Go to the Conroe ISD web site: www.conroeisd.net
 - Step 2: Click MORE, top right corner
 - Step 3: Choose Departments
 - Step 4: Scroll to ATHLETICS, the second entry
 - Step 5: Open the tab for Off Campus PE
 - Step 6: Read and click AGREE to the protocols for participation in the program
 - Step 7: Enter your student’s student ID number
 - Step 8: Enter your student’s date of birth
 - Step 9: Choose your vendor from the Drop Down box
 - Step 10: Choose Category 1 (15+ hours of training per week), or Category 2 (5-14 hours of training per week)

Step 11: Click SUBMIT

GRADING POLICY

Each semester is divided into two nine-week increments. A report card will be issued at the end the year as well as made available online. A student's report card can also be viewed by accessing the Parent Access Center at www.conroeisd.net. This free service also gives parents/guardians a fairly recent update of grades in almost real time during each nine weeks. Dates for progress reports will be posted on our website in the student and parent services sections. Nine-week grading is determined as follows:

Major Grades (Exams, Projects) - 60%
 Daily Grades – 20%
 Other – 20%

For junior high classes, each nine-week grade will account for 45 percent of the overall semester grade. A final semester exam worth 10 % will be administered.

Students taking high school courses (algebra, geometry, health, communications applications, and Spanish will have their semester exams count for 15% of their grade.

Please schedule holiday and end of year vacation plans around these important cumulative semester exams. Final semester averages for junior high classes will be determined as follows:

First nine-weeks –	45%
Second nine-weeks-	45%
Semester Exam -	<u>10%</u>
	100%

Final semester averages for high school classes will be determined as follows:

First nine-weeks –	42.5%
Second nine-weeks-	42.5%
Semester Exam -	<u>15%</u>
	100%

Note that students in high school algebra are mandated by the Texas Education Agency to take the STAAR end of course exam.

Grade breakdown will be assigned as follows:

90-100	A
80-89	B
75-79	C
70-74	D
Below 70	F

- Please note that to maintain UIL eligibility, students must pass all courses, including any high school courses or Honors courses taken. Seventy percent is considered the passing threshold for C.I.S.D. For a complete listing of UIL eligibility dates, please visit our campus website.

Homework is due on the day designated by the instructor. These assignments may be taken as a grade.

McCullough Junior High School Grade Policy Supplement Pertaining to Retesting and Late Assignments

Three Categories of Grades

Major – Teams classify assessments that are considered major grades. Examples could be Tests, Projects, Concerts, Essays, Timed Writing, Performances, Presentations, Labs, or other long-term assignments that are considered a significant value of the total grade for the course.

Quiz – Teams classify assessments that are considered formative check points. Examples could be labs, sketchbooks, presentations, rough drafts, or quizzes.

Daily – Teams classify assignments that are considered daily work. Examples could be homework, classwork, or anything else that does not fit into Major or Quiz categories.

	Percent Value	Minimum Number of Assignments
Major	60%	At least 3 Major grades each 9 week MP, 2 in 1st 6 weeks of MP1
Quiz	20%	At least 3 Quiz grades each 9 week MP, 2 in 1st 6 weeks of MP1
Daily	20%	At least 7 Daily Grades per MP, 5 in 1st 6 weeks of MP1

Retest Policy

- Due to the nature of some assignments and lab practicals, teachers can limit what items can be offered for retakes.
- It is expected that test retakes will occur before the school day begins.
- The re-assessment may be administered at any time during the nine weeks. If an assessment should fall on the last day of the marking period, the student will have a maximum of five school days to re-take this assessment in order to satisfy UIL eligibility.
- If a student is caught cheating on a test, they will receive a 0 and a re-assessment for that test is not permitted.
- There are no retakes on semester exams.
- Tutorials may be required when the individual test grade falls below a 75 and the student wishes to retest.
- The maximum grade a student can earn on a retest is a 75.
- A minimum of one re-assessment per nine weeks will be offered. It is up to departmental team discretion to offer more than one re-assessment during a nine-week marking period.

Late Policy

Major – Major long-term assignments/projects will be accepted late for a 10% penalty per school day for a maximum of five school days following the day the assignment/project was due. After five school days a late project will not be accepted. Examples of this include but are not limited to the Science Fair and Veterans' Day projects.

Quiz – Homework assigned that will be taken as a quiz grade will be accepted late for a 10% penalty per school day for a maximum of five school days following the day the assignment/project was due. After five school days a quiz will not be accepted. If a student is ill and out on the day the assignment/project is due, he/she will receive one day for each day they were out and the 10% potential penalty will initiate each day after those absence days have expired. For clarity, school days are defined as every day school occurs regardless or not of whether the class meets on a given day.

Daily – Daily work that is assigned as homework will not be accepted late for full credit. Daily work that is assigned as homework will be accepted late for a *maximum* grade of 50% by the next time the class meets. After this daily work will not be accepted for a grade.

**SPECIAL NOTES ON HIGH SCHOOL COURSES
ALGEBRA, GEOMETRY, HEALTH, COMMUNICATIONS, AND SPANISH**

- High school courses taken in junior high school will receive numeric grades, but will not be calculated in the student's grade point average or high school class rank.
- The grade received in a high school course taken in junior high will be reflected on the student's high school transcript.
- High school courses are taken in half-credit increments (semesters).
- If the student successfully completes one semester of a two-semester high school course during junior high school (7-8), the student will receive .5 credit for that semester. The grade for that semester along with .5 credit will appear on the student's high school transcript, but the student will receive no grade points for GPA or class rank. If the student fails to successfully complete the second semester of two-semester high school course in junior high, the student may need to repeat the entire course in high school. At the completion of the course, the course and the grade will appear on the transcript along with the grade point for the semester course successfully completed in high school (not previously taken or passed in junior high school). The grade for the course previously taken and passed in junior high school, but repeated in high school will also appear, but no grade points or credits will be listed since this course was successfully completed (in the event a student passes one semester, but not the other in junior high).
- Students who successfully pass both semesters of a course in junior high school, but sign up to take the course again in high school will have the junior high school course on their transcript and the credit for the course along with the numeric grades. The repeated course will show the numeric grades but will not show any credits since credit was already earned. No grade points will be calculated for the junior high school course or the repeated course.
- If a student fails both semesters or one semester of a high school course taken in junior high school, the failing grade will appear on the high school transcript, but the course will not count as an attempt for grade point purposes. High school courses that are repeated because a student did not receive credit for the course in junior high school will be awarded credit (if the student passes) and receive grade points since no prior credit was awarded.
- High school courses, along with all other courses, do count toward UIL eligibility.
- Students who complete algebra I and/or geometry in junior high must still complete three math courses in the high school building.
- Note that students in high school algebra are mandated by the Texas Education Agency to take the STAAR end of course exam for algebra.

Tentative McCullough Junior High Important Dates 2023-24

- January 10** McCullough visits with Wilkerson staff (8:00 a.m.)
January 17 McCullough visits with Deretchin staff (8:05 a.m.)
January 23 McCullough staff visits with students at Wilkerson (9:30 a.m.)
January 25 McCullough visits with staff at Coulson Tough (9:00 a.m.)
January 27 McCullough staff visits with students at Coulson Tough (9:05 a.m.)
January 30 McCullough staff visits with students at Deretchin (9:15 a.m.)
January 30 Rising 8th Grade Parent Information Night at 6:00 p.m. Bock Auditorium
January 31 **Rising 7th Grade Parent Information Night at 6:00 p.m. Bock Auditorium**
February 1 **Rising 7th Grade Parent Information Night at 6:00 p.m. Bock Auditorium**
February 1 McCullough visits with staff at Mitchell (8:00 a.m.)
February 1 McCullough staff visits with students at Mitchell (9:00 a.m.)
February 1 **Rising 7th Grade Parent Information Night at 6:00 p.m. Bock Auditorium (repeat of Jan. 31 presentation)**
February 3 Academic, Athletic, and Elective Information made available for incoming 7th graders in a virtual format
February 6 Online scheduling portal opens for all incoming McCJH students of 2021-22 (tentative)
February 15 McCullough Cheerleader Information Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in the Nancy Bock Auditorium at McCullough.
February 13 Athletic and Elective Information Night (6:00 p.m.) Bock, Fine Arts Wing, and Cafeteria
February 20 Online scheduling portal closes for incoming McCJH students
February 24 Cheerleader applications due at McCullough Front Desk by 4:30 p.m.
February 27 Student course requests individual help conferences at Deretchin (9:15 a.m.)
February 28 Student course requests individual help conferences at Wilkerson (9:00 a.m.)
March 1 Student course requests individual help conferences at Mitchell (8:15 a.m.)
March 2 Student course requests individual help conferences at Coulson Tough (8:00 a.m.)
March 3 Parent information help session day at McCullough (9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)
March 6, 7, 8 McCullough Cheerleader Clinic (required)**
March 9 McCullough Cheerleader Try-outs for 7th and 8th Grade (required)**
March 10 Posting of cheerleaders results at 6:00 p.m. after all results have been verified.
TBA Parent Information Meeting for Highlander Girl Tryouts at McCullough
April 1 **Final deadline to request Off Campus Physical Education (Private P.E.)**
April 1 **Final 23-24 deadline for all course requests including core and elective classes**
April 3-6, 11-14 Highland Girls Tryout clinic (required)**
April 15 Highland Girls tryouts (required)**
April 16 Posting of Highland Girls results at 4:00 p.m. after all results have been verified
April 17 Color Guard Parent Information Meeting at 6:30 p.m. in Nancy Bock Auditorium at McCullough (required)**
April 21 Color Guard application due by 4:30 p.m. submitted online.
April 25-27 Color Guard audition clinic (required)**
April 28 Color Guard audition day (required)**
April 29 Color Guard auditions results posted by 5:00 p.m. on McCullough Color Guard Website
May 1 Application Deadline for Off Campus Physical Education (Private PE)
TBD Tentative date for 8th grade Student Orientation (lockers and schedules)
TBD Tentative date for 7th grade Student Orientation (lockers and schedules)
TBA Football equipment pickup
First week of school Boys and Girls Basketball off-season class try-outs, Volleyball Team try-outs 7 **
Second day of school Football Practice starts**
First week of school Cross-country starts**

**Please note that all dates and times are tentative. Please have your student collect any information about events from his/her intermediate campus when they are available. We will advertise and announce all events at the intermediate schools as well as in The Tartan Tribune. The dates advertised and announced will be followed unless special circumstances occur.

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Revised 1/18/22