



4080 Maybreeze Road, Marietta, GA 30066

McCleskey Mission Statement

“Respect, Growth, and Success, One Student at a time.”

The mission of McCleskey Middle School to foster a supportive culture through innovation in academics, wellness, the arts, and personal relationships, which foster consistent improvement in both our school community and the greater community. Our students are given the goal of becoming life-long learners who can attain success in our ever-changing world. McCleskey is a Cobb STEM Certified School.

School Contact Information:

Office: 770-928-5560

Kitchen: 770-928-5561

Fax: 770-928-5562

Web: www.cobbk12.org/mccleskey

2023-2024 PTSA Officers:

President: Gladys Francois

Vice President: Ashley Foust

Secretary: Lindsey Nolan

Co-Treasurers:

Patrick Higginbotham

Becca Payne



McCleskey_Middle_School



Twitter: @McCleskey_MS



Facebook: McCleskey Middle School

Administration:

Dr. Andrea Jenkins-Mann, Principal

Mr. Chase Stroempl, Assistant Principal

Mr. Michael Williams, Assistant Principal

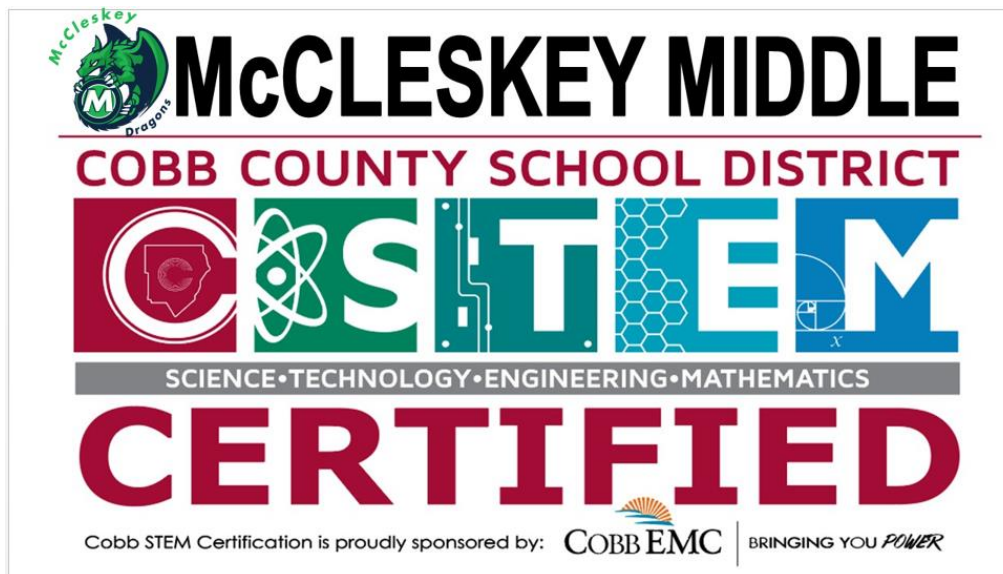
Kristina DeFrain, Support and Services Administrator

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MCCLESKEY FOUNDATION

The McCleskey Foundation is operated by a board of directors comprised of parents, faculty, and staff for the benefit of our school. We receive our funds from individual donors and businesses who then receive a tax benefit for their donation. The McCleskey Foundation goals for the 2023-2024 school year include the following: support of science, technology, engineering, art and math (STEAM) programs to increase rigorous learning.

OUR HISTORY

The name McCleskey has been connected with public education from the beginning of the Cobb County Public School System. Arch H. McCleskey and the Cobb County Board of Education had quite a bit in common. They seem to have been born about the same time. He was born in 1881, at the house near the intersection of Shallowford Road and Trickum Road. A few days later their first school board meeting was held. His grandfather, Samuel Rhea McCleskey, served on this Board.

Mr. McCleskey attended Oakland School which was near what is now Ebenezer Baptist Church, at the intersection of Blackwell Road and Ebenezer Road. This prepared him for his trip to Dahlonega, where he began his studies at North Georgia College in 1899.

After college, Arch McCleskey came back to Cobb County to teach. He began as a teacher and principal of Lost Mountain School. Later he returned to his community as the principal of Oakland School. Although he left the full-time teaching profession shortly before World War I, he never lost his love and reverence for proper education. In the late 1920's, he became a driving force in the formation of Blackwell Consolidated School. This was to be a consolidation of several small one and two-room schoolhouses into one school in which almost every grade had its own teacher and its own classroom. This was a new concept in Cobb County, but Arch McCleskey believed in it and fought hard for it. In 1942 he was elected to the Cobb County Board of Education and served for 16 years in his community.

Arch H. McCleskey, Sr. was respected and revered as a man who could be counted on when the need arose. He was a man who believed that a proper education was essential to success in life because it helped discipline the student to cope with life. He also believed education gave a person the tools of the mind with which he/she could recover from any situation.

McCleskey Middle School was dedicated to Arch H. McCleskey, Sr. in 1982. In 1991, McCleskey Middle School was selected as a Georgia School of Excellence. Then, in December of 1992, McCleskey received the highest recognition for schools at a national level. Our school was named to the Blue Ribbon Schools Program as a National School of Excellence.

At McCleskey We C.H.I.L.L.

Challenge Ourselves
Honor Ourselves and Others
Impact Our Community Positively
Learn Something New Daily
Laugh Often

COBB COUNTY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2023 - 2024

First day of school	August 1
McCleskey Open House	August 17
*Labor Day Holiday	September 4
*Fall Break	September 25-29
Middle School Conference Week	October 17-20
*Election Day (Student Holiday).	November 7
*Thanksgiving Holidays	November 20-24
*Winter Holidays	December 20- January 3
*Student Holiday (Teacher Workday).	January 3
*M. L. King Holiday	January 15
*February Break.	February 19-23
*Spring Break	April 1-5
Last day of school	May 22

*Indicates student holiday (Please access school calendars at www.cobbk12.org This calendar is subject to change)

CURRICULUM

ACADEMICS

Language Arts
Mathematics
Science –Earth Science, Life Science, Physical Science
Social Studies- Global Studies, 8th Grade GA Studies

CONNECTIONS

Art/Music
Music Theater/Chorus
Band/Orchestra
Physical Education
Health
Computer Science
Spanish* – 7th grade & 8th grade

* Students who meet the state required eligibility of scoring at or above exceeds on the GA Milestones may elect to begin foreign language

2023-2024 Bell Schedules

Daily Schedule

6th Grade	
HR	9:05-9:20
1st	9:20-10:25
2nd	10:28-11:35
3rd	11:38-1:20 (lunch 11:45-12:15)
4th	1:23-2:25
1C	2:30-3:20

7th Grade	
HR	9:05-9:20
1st	9:20-10:20
2nd	10:23-12:00 (lunch 11:05-11:33)
1C	12:05-12:55
2C	1:00-1:50
5th	1:55-3:05
6th	3:08-4:15

8th Grade	
HR	9:05-9:20
1C	9:25-10:10
2C	10:10-11:00
3rd	11:05-12:10
4th	12:13-2:00 (lunch 12:25-1:00)
5th	2:03-3:05

I/A - STEAM Schedule

6th Grade	
HR	9:05-9:20 am
I/E	9:20-10 am
1st	10:03-11 am
2 nd /L	11:03-12:30 pm
3rd	12:33-1:30 pm
4th	1:33-2:30 pm

7th Grade	
HR	9:05-9:20 am
I/E	9:20-10 am
1st	10:03-11 am
2nd & L	11:03-12:25pm
5th	2:10-3:10pm
6th	3:15-4:15pm

8th Grade	
HR	9:05-9:20 am
I/E	9:20-10 am
3rd	11:15-12:15 pm
4th & L	12:18-2:05pm
5th	2:08-3:10 pm
6th	3:13-4:15 pm

Early Release Schedule

6 th Grade		7 th Grade		8 th Grade	
HR	9:05 – 9:20	HR	9:05 – 9:20	HR	9:05 – 9:20
1	9:20 – 10:00	1	9:20 – 9:50	1	9:20 – 9:50
2	10:00 – 10:40	2	9:50 – 11:10 (L/10:40)	2	9:50 – 10:20
3	10:40 – 11:40 (L/11:10)	3	11:10 – 11:40	3	10:20 – 10:50
4	11:40 – 12:15	4	11:40 – 12:15	4	10:50 – 12:20 (L/11:40)
5	12:15 – 12:50	5	12:15 – 12:50	5	12:20 – 12:50
6	12:50 – 1:30	6	12:50 – 1:30	6	12:50 – 1:30

MCCLESKEY MIDDLE SCHOOL GIFTED PROGRAM

The Middle School Accelerated Content (AC) is designed to meet the needs of academically gifted students and extend competencies in the areas of academic skills, research and reference skills, communication skills, and metacognitive skills beyond the experience of the regular classroom. The middle school gifted student is served daily in a content-based program with a certified teacher of the gifted.

AC is part of Cobb County's gifted program and is funded by the state of Georgia. The Georgia State Board of Education defines a gifted student as "a student who demonstrates a high degree of intellectual, creative and/or artistic ability (ies), possesses exceptional leadership skills, or excels in specific academic fields and who needs special instruction and/or special ancillary services to achieve at levels commensurate with his or her abilities." The procedures for identifying and placing students in the gifted program are governed by the Georgia Department of Education.

Each year all seventh grade students who are not currently receiving gifted services are reviewed using multiple criteria. Students are evaluated in the areas of mental ability, achievement, creativity and motivation through the use of nationally normed instruments, standardized behavior rating scales, and student generated products and performances. The eligibility team at the local school reviews the relevant information and a decision is made by the team regarding eligibility or the need for further assessment. The process of identifying and placing students is a yearlong process with decisions being made in the second semester for placement the following school year.

A student already participating in a gifted program in Georgia will most likely be eligible for services in the Cobb County program following a review of the student's eligibility from the previous Georgia school.

Students who transfer from out of state must meet Georgia requirements for placement in the Cobb County program. Test data from a previous school will be considered if the test results are less than two years old and if they meet the Georgia eligibility criteria. Please see the school counselor or the local school target teacher for a referral request form.

CONNECTIONS

Art

6th Grade: Students will explore line, shape, form, space, pattern and color through a variety of creative exercises using many different art mediums. Students will use problem-solving skills and be provided constructive outlets for self-expression.

7th Grade: Students will continue developing their skills in using the elements and principles of design to create their own works of art. Projects will include an exploration of art from different cultures. Students will adapt the techniques and design elements of the different cultures to create their own art.

8th Grade: Students will be given the opportunity to explore more advanced techniques in both two-dimensional and three-dimensional art activities.

8th Grade: Visual arts high school credit

Band and Orchestra

6th Grade: Classes are designed for the beginning player. Emphasis is on the development of proper playing techniques and music comprehension. Two or three concerts are presented during the sixth-grade year.

7th Grade: Classes emphasize their refinement of skills developed during the previous year. Band and orchestra arrangements are rehearsed and performed throughout the year.

8th Grade: Classes continue the development of advanced playing techniques. The major emphasis is on incorporating these techniques into the preparation and performance of an extensive repertoire of band and orchestral literature. Two levels of band are offered for the eighth year: the advanced band composed of players selected by audition, and the intermediate band.

NOTE: Band, orchestra and chorus are year-long courses in their curriculum. Under special circumstances, students may request schedule changes only at the end of 18 weeks (December and May). Parents may request a change of schedule in writing, which must be presented to the teacher of the class the student wishes to drop. Requests must occur no later than two weeks prior to the end of the applicable grading period.

Students who elect to participate in year-long performing arts classes are expected to attend all concerts and other group events throughout the year.

Computer Science

Students need to graduate with all the tools necessary to thrive in an increasingly digital society; these tools now include a computer science education. Our computer science classes encompass ideas such as digital literacy, digital competency, and computational thinking and cover topics such as problem solving, programming, physical computing, and user-centered design. These skills will empower our students to solve many of our societal challenges and participate effectively in this digital age.

Music

6th grade: Concepts of reading music notation, melody and harmony will be reinforced through the vehicles of singing, playing classroom instruments, and composing on the computer. Vocal techniques and the changing voice are emphasized. At the end of the semester, students perform in a concert with 7th and 8th grade Choruses.

7th Grade: Students review the major concepts of music: rhythm, melody, tempo, dynamics, texture and form. During the second half of the semester, the students explore and create compositions using unusual instruments and sounds. A great deal of analytical listening, creating and group work are incorporated into the class lessons.

8th Grade: Students explore all areas of music through independent/small group study. A specific outline is given by which the groups choose a topic, research the history, important people and design a class activity. Presentations and activities will include the use of music technology, playing instruments, critical listening and composing.

7th and 8th Grade Chorus: Chorus is open to all who would like to sing. This is a year-long program, and all students are expected to commit to the entire year. Vocal technique, sight reading, music of different cultures and in different languages, and improvisation are all incorporated into the Chorus program. Students have an opportunity to audition for advanced singing opportunities such as District Honor Chorus and All State.

Physical Education

Students are required to change clothes for P.E. Students are required to wear a white McCleskey shirt and navy shorts. Those may be purchased at McCleskey. Every student is issued a locker for P.E., and all personal clothing/possessions must be placed in the locker during P.E. These lockers are equipped with combination locks provided by the school. You may not bring a lock from home to use. Do not, under any circumstances, let anyone know your locker combination. You may not move from your assigned locker unless a P.E. teacher allows you to do so. Books or articles of clothing taken to the gym/locker room should be locked in your locker during P.E. The school is not responsible for lost valuables.

A student who brings a note from a parent requesting to be excused from P.E. on a particular day must “dress out” but will be excused from active participation. A written note from a physician is required to excuse a student from physical education for an extended period of time.

No one will be on the gym floor unless he is dressed out for P.E. Please help keep the floor as attractive as possible! Black-soled shoes may not be worn in P.E. due to the permanent scuff marks made on floors during play.

Health

Provides a direct and factual approach to health education that is practical, personal and positive. Health topics include safety, drug education, nutrition, personal health, growth, and development building self-esteem and relationship skills

Spanish

An introduction of language and culture of Spain and other Spanish speaking countries. This course will enable the student to attain a beginner’s level of proficiency in listening, speaking, reading, and writing with an emphasis on oral proficiency. This course is for high school credit.

Intramurals

This program is designed as an extension of the regular physical education program. Individual and team sports are offered throughout the year. The types of activities that may be available are: soccer, paddleball, basketball, team handball, jogging, gymnastics, floor hockey, and volleyball. Most activities are co-educational.

We encourage all students to participate. You will receive notification of the activities and times for each grade. The intramural program depends on you - come and have a good time! There is something for everyone!

You will receive specific information concerning intramurals from your physical education teacher.

Clubs/Activities

BAM	Running Club	Environmental Club
Science Olympiad	Jazz Band	Intramurals
Robotics	Morning Chorus	National Jr. Honor Society
Peer Helpers	Yearbook	Student Council
GLAM	Art Club	Fit Club
Chess Club	Debate Club	McCleskey Student News

REPORT CARDS & PROGRESS REPORTS

Middle schools provide academic feedback on a quarter system. Report Cards are issued every nine weeks or quarterly. All report cards will be posted to ParentVue and StudentVue. This link will provide specific marking period dates: See staff use calendar <https://www.cobbk12.org/page/59/calendar>

Conduct Grades

Conduct grades are considered an important indicator of student progress. The following information is offered to help interpret performance at McCleskey Middle School.

Conduct grades are designated by the county as “S” for satisfactory, “N” for needs improvement, and “U” for unsatisfactory.

A student who earns an “S” in conduct has demonstrated conduct, which follows classroom and school rules and does not interfere with the learning of others. This level of conduct is the expected norm for our students at McCleskey, and by far the greatest percentage of our students demonstrates satisfactory behavior.

A student who earns an “N” in conduct has demonstrated conduct that causes class disruptions and does not always conform to classroom and school rules. The conduct of students who earn an “N” often will interfere with their own learning potential.

A student who earns a “U” in conduct has demonstrated conduct that consistently causes class disruptions that interfere with the learning of others, and which often do not conform to classroom and school rules.

To assist students to be successful, parents will be notified by the teacher in the event of an “N” or “U” grading period.

Honor Roll

Principal’s Honor Roll - All A’s and S’s* in conduct

McCleskey Honor Roll- All A’s and B’s and S’s* in conduct

*Any student who receives ISS or OSS will be disqualified from Honor Roll consideration for that quarter.

Grading:

Your academic progress will be evaluated according to the following standards:

- A90-100 Superior Achievement
- B80-89 Above Average Achievement
- C74-79 Average Achievement
- D70-73 Minimum Achievement
- F69 and below Failure

RETENTION POLICY

All students must pass math, language arts, and one additional core subject for the year or demonstrate minimum proficiency on the appropriate state-adopted assessment in math, language arts, and one additional core subject (science or social studies). Retention is determined on an individual basis by a committee of teachers, counselors, and administrators using multiple qualifying factors.

ATTENDANCE

It is very important that every student be at school every day unless an absence cannot be avoided. Students who do not attend school regularly are referred to the school social worker who works with students and their parents to improve

attendance. After a student arrives on the school campus, he/she may not leave until he/she goes home by the usual means of transportation or is signed out by a parent. If a student misses the bus, parents are responsible for getting the student to/from school.

When a student has been absent, he/she must bring a written note the next day from his/her parents or guardian or a note from the doctor. The note should include student name, dates of absence, reason for absence and the parent's signature. This note should be presented to the office by the student. Students are given one day per each day of absence to make up any missed assignments.

Students may be temporarily excused from school for the following reasons: Death of serious illness in the family, Governmental Agency Order, hazardous conditions which endanger a student's health or safety, illness of student, religious holiday recognized by the student's faith, school activity, hospital/homebound, doctor/dental appointment.

See Cobb County Attendance Policy at <http://www.cobbk12.org/centraloffice/adminrules/J/JP-R.pdf>

BUS CHANGE

No student will be allowed to ride a bus other than his/her own under any circumstances.

DONATIONS

Financial contributions for performing arts, field trips, and other activities are voluntary. No student will be denied full participation for failure to make a financial contribution; however, all events are contingent upon such contributions in order to meet expenses. Therefore, cancellation of events may be necessary if donations do not cover their cost.

EARLY DISMISSALS

Any student who needs to leave early must bring a note signed by a parent/guardian stating the time and reason for leaving. **The note must be presented to the front office upon arrival at school before homeroom.** Under no circumstances will any student be allowed to sign out with any adult who is not listed on ParentVue by the enrolling adult as a person who may check out the student. Picture identification is always required when signing out a child. A middle school student is counted absent in the class period missed. No student will be checked out of school at or after 3:45 pm.

EMERGENCY DRILLS

These include Fire Drills, Tornado drills and Code Red drills. Students are to follow the procedures as explained by their teachers. Evacuation routes for Fire drills are displayed in each classroom. Failure to comply with teachers' directions may result in school consequences.

FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are considered an extension of the school day. All school rules are in effect on field trips. It is necessary for each student to have a permission slip signed by a parent. Expenses for field trips are shared by those who participate. No refunds will be issued for violation of the field trip agreement.

FOOD SERVICE

Good nutrition plays an extremely important role in your child's academic success. We offer a healthy and nutritious breakfast and lunch to your child each day. A copy of the daily menu is available at www.cobbk12.org/centraloffice/foodserves

It is the responsibility of each student to bring lunch money each day, have funds put in his lunch account, or bring a lunch. If a student arrives at school without money for lunch, we will allow two (2) students lunches to be charged. Charges are not allowed for a la carte or adult meals. All charges should be paid back immediately. If your child exceeds the charge limit, he/she will be provided a peanut butter sandwich and milk. Daily choices include hot lunches, salads and sandwiches.

Student Breakfast -\$1.75

Reduced Price Breakfast -\$0.30

Student Lunch - \$3.50

Reduced Price Lunch - \$0.40

Additional milk/food items may be purchased at a nominal charge

Students may pre-pay for school lunch meals by the week, month, or semester and receive a lunch credit to be redeemed one

per day. Lunch credits are maintained by the food service computer system. No meal tickets are used. Students access the food service computer system with their Personal Identification Number. Students are expected to remember their number and not give it out to any other student.

Breakfast items are available from 8:40 until 9:00 every morning in the cafeteria.

Cobb County School District now offers a system called *My Payments Plus*, which allows you to make prepayments to your child's meal account via the telephone or internet. You can prepay with your VISA, MasterCard or Discover credit card online 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Payments made online will be credited to your child's account approximately 24 hours from time of credit card payment.

My Payments Plus also provides easy access to view your child's account balance and payment history. You can even be notified by email when the account balance is low. You do not have to make prepayments to utilize these features. To prepay online, go to www.mypaymentsplus.com to log on and use your credit card to fund your child's meal account. There is a convenience charge of 5.75%. You will need to know your child's Cobb County Student ID Number (6 or 7 digit number). You can get this number from the Cafeteria Manager, the Administrative Office at McCleskey, or your child.

GEORGIA SCHOOLCOUNCIL

The purpose of the School Council is to increase the participation of parents and the community in the management and operation of McCleskey Middle School. The School Council works to improve communication between the community and the school and to bring the community and school closer together in a spirit of cooperation to solve difficult educational problems, improve academic achievement, provide support for teachers and administrators, and to bring parents into the school-based decision-making process.

HEALTH SCREENINGS

Health-related screening programs are conducted throughout the school year. Hearing and visions screenings are conducted in 8th grade. Students are screened for scoliosis in 7th grade. School staff will organize and conduct most screenings with volunteer assistance from PTSA.

HOMEROOM

Each student is assigned to a homeroom. Homeroom begins at 9:00 A.M. Attendance is recorded, and announcements are made. First period begins immediately at 9:20. Students should be on time to school so as not to miss any academic class time.

ILLNESS AT SCHOOL

A student who becomes ill at school should see the nurse in the clinic where phone calls regarding illness will be made. If necessary, the student will contact a parent/guardian or approved person to be picked up from school. Work and emergency numbers should be kept updated. Students may not remain in the clinic and will return to class to await pickup.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Per Georgia state law, a student's Cobb County School District permanent record requires an updated Certificate of Immunization (3231) prior to the start of a student's first day of school.

LOST & FOUND

Lost & Found departments are in the front office and the grade -level pods. Please be sure that all jackets, sweaters, P.E. clothes, etc., are clearly labelled with the student's name. Throughout the school year, clothing left in Lost & Found is donated to a charitable organization.

MAKE-UP WORK

If you miss school because of excused absence (personal illness, family illness, death, religious holiday, or school-sponsored activity), please check CTLS or email the teacher to get assignments for each day of absence. Please do not call the school to get assignments. Students have as many days as they were absent to make up and turn in all of the missed work. Teachers will not ask the student for this work, nor will they remind them to do this. Making up and turning in any missed work is the sole responsibility of the student.

If you miss school because of suspension: The student is responsible for getting all of his/her assignments during any time of suspension, by checking CTLS or emailing the teacher. Assignments are not given in advance. All assignments that were due during a suspension, except for graded class work, must be turned in to the appropriate teachers on the day the student returns from suspension. Teachers will not ask a student for, or remind him/her, about this work. The student is responsible for taking care of this matter. Additionally, the day that a student returns to school following a suspension from school, he/she is responsible for asking his/her teachers for any graded class work that was missed during the time of suspension.

LEARNING LIBRARY COMMONS (LLC)

A large collection of books and magazines is available for student use. The LLC staff will assist students in finding books, using the computer catalogue and other online resources. The LLC is open from 8:15a.m. until 4:00 p.m. You may visit the LLC with a pass from your homeroom or classroom teacher or with a class. Use of the Internet in the LLC requires prior approval from your classroom teacher. Books may be checked out for up to a six (6) week period.

MEDICATIONS & FIRST AID

The school does not provide any medication. Medication must be brought to the school clinic by the parent/guardian. An "Authorization to Administer" medication form must be completed. Authorization forms are found in the front office, school clinic or online. All medications must be in the original container. No over-the-counter diet pills, vitamins, dietary supplements, including minerals or herbs, will be given. A parent/guardian may come to school and give their child medication. Appropriate visitor sign-in procedures should be followed. Middle school students may carry certain over-the-counter medications including ibuprofen, acetaminophen, aspirin, antacids, cough drops and throat lozenges with a completed "Over-the-Counter Medication Permission Form" on file in the clinic. The student should carry a copy of the form with the medication. The medication must be kept in the original container. Students may carry inhalers, Epipens or insulin with a completed "Authorization for Student to Carry a Prescription Inhaler, Epipen or Insulin" form on file in the clinic. For further, more detailed information regarding medication and health care at school, please refer to Board Policy JGCD, found online or in the Cobb County Back-to-School Folder or check our clinic blog at www.cobbk12.org/mccleskey.

PARENTVUE

ParentVUE is a web portal / mobile application that provides parents with near real-time access to information regarding their child's academic performance, including grades and attendance. Progress reports and report cards are only available through ParentVUE. Online enrollment activates your ParentVUE account. Your ParentVUE account stays active throughout your child's school years. If you need an activation code, email our registrar Ms. Purdy at barbara.purdy@cobbk12.org. The link to access ParentVue is <https://parentvue.cobbk12.org/>

PERSONAL DELIVERIES

Balloon or flower arrangements, singing telegrams, candy, birthday cakes, cupcakes, etc. are not to be delivered to students at school.

RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RTI)

With parental involvement, this committee (composed of the teachers, a counselor, the student, and an administrator) can objectively examine the needs of a student who is having difficulty in school. Through this process, RTI attempts to help the student improve his/her school progress. Typical responses to a request for service may include, but are not limited to, identifying a need for behavior management, determining strengths and weaknesses of individual learning styles, evaluating and assessing learning problems, or improving home-school communication.

SCHOOL DAY

The middle school day officially begins at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 4:15 p.m. Students arriving after 9:15 a.m. are considered tardy and must check-in with the front office before joining class. Students are expected to arrive no earlier than 8:15 a.m. and leave promptly at 4:15 p.m. unless they are under the direct supervision of a teacher or administrator.

Excessive tardies to school may result in disciplinary action.

TARDY PROCEDURES

If your bus is late or you are tardy, first check in the front office for a pass and then report to class. All students signing in must have a note or a parent/guardian sign them in at any time during the school day.

TESTING

Please access the testing schedule at www.cobbk12.org link to Calendars - Testing Calendar.

VISITORS

All persons wishing to visit a Cobb County School must contact the school administration prior to or immediately upon entry of school property. The persons must obtain permission to visit any part of the school, and the principal may grant permission at his/her discretion in accordance with school operations. Visitors must sign-in in the front office and must be issued a visitor's pass. Out of an abundance of caution, visitors are not permitted to have lunch with students.

WITHDRAWAL

The student must bring a note from his/her parent or legal guardian stating why the student will withdraw from McCleskey. Take this to the front office where you will receive a withdrawal form to be signed by staff members and signed by the parent. Return all textbooks and media books, and pay any fines so that we can forward your school records to your new school. Please contact the front office as soon as possible to start the withdrawal process.

YEARBOOK

If you would like to purchase a copy of the McCleskey yearbook, we will begin ordering online in September. If you miss the ordering days, please see a yearbook advisor for ordering information.

PARENTAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR STUDENT CONDUCT

Cobb County School District employees strive to assist students in the pursuit of academic excellence and proper conduct habits. For students to reach their maximum potential, a cooperative working relationship must exist between parents/guardians and school officials. School staff members will do all they can to encourage students to conduct themselves appropriately; however, parents/guardians will be asked to provide assistance if staff members are unsuccessful in achieving satisfactory behavior from their children.

When a student's behavior is unacceptable, suspension from school may be assigned. While suspended, students may make up schoolwork missed if the work is made up according to school guidelines (see "Make-Up Work"). Participation is not allowed in extracurricular activities (including intramurals) during any out-of-school suspension.

RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Discipline at McCleskey Middle School is based on a mutual respect among students, teachers, administrators, and parents. Respect means treating one with dutiful regard, acknowledging one's rights and responsibilities as a person, as an individual, or as an authority figure. Respect includes the following:

- valuing the property of others;
- placing value on a person as a unique individual;
- showing consideration for someone.

It is expected that each student will in no way interfere with the educational opportunities and safety of classmates. The administrators and faculty at McCleskey will make and enforce such rules as are necessary for the safe and effective operation of the school.

The primary responsibility for the conduct of the student rests with the student and the student's parents. Students are expected to follow all rules and regulations. Furthermore, the student is expected to follow instructions given by adults on the school faculty and staff.

SCHOOL BEHAVIOR GUIDELINES

Proper respect for others, their belongings, the school building, and school property is required at all times. There is to be no

hitting, pushing, or throwing of objects either at school or on the buses. Use of profanity will not be permitted. Fighting will not be tolerated and results in an out-of-school suspension. Students who have conflicts which may result in confrontation are urged to talk to a teacher, counselor, or administrator to resolve the disagreement.

- The school dress code will be enforced. (See Dress Code).
- Students shall not continuously and intentionally make noise or act in any other manner so as to interfere seriously with the learning of others or the teachers' ability to conduct class.
- The following items are prohibited: explosives, tobacco, lighters or matches, weapons, firearms, electronic smoking devices, or illegal drugs. Medication of any sort requires a note from the parent to be on file at school.
- A student must identify himself upon the request of any school personnel.
- Students may not buy or sell any items or solicit any money while at school.
- Gambling is not permitted.
- Students must have a pass issued by a teacher to move about the building.
- Skateboards, laser pointers, cameras, electronic games, stuffed animals, toys, blankets, or other non-school related items may not be brought to school without prior permission from the Principal. Any such items brought to school will be confiscated and may be picked up by a parent.
- Students shall not use, display, or turn on cellular phones, headphones, or any other electronic communication devices during the regular school day. Students who violate this policy will have the device confiscated and held in the front office. Subsequent violations will result in In-School Suspension, and the communications device will be sent to the Cobb County Department of Public Safety.
- Students may not engage in inappropriate public displays of affection.
- Silence must be maintained during fire drills, tornado drills, and code red drills etc.
- Students may not remain at school after dismissal time unless they are under supervision of a teacher.
- Students are expected to follow the bus rules and the directions of the bus driver. Students who violate bus rules may lose their privilege to ride the school bus.

** Refer to Policy JCDA-R <https://www.cobbk12.org/page/28513/student-support> for additional behavior guidelines.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Students are expected to bring to school only the items of personal property necessary for participation in class or extra-curricular activities. Items that are considered potentially dangerous or disruptive of school procedures will be confiscated. The school is not responsible for items lost or stolen from lockers, locker rooms, classrooms, or other school property.

Students are strongly encouraged not to bring high theft items to school. Do not leave items unattended or unsecured. McCleskey Middle School faculty and staff are not responsible for items lost or stolen. Personal listening devices such as ear phones are prohibited at school. Please leave these listening devices at home.

BULLYING

No student shall bully another student or students. Bullying behavior is defined as:

1. Willful attempt or threat to inflict injury on another person when accompanied by an apparent present ability to do so or;
2. Intentionally exhibiting a display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm, or;
3. Any intentional written, verbal or physical act, which a reasonable person would perceive as being intended to threaten, harass or intimidate that;
4. Causes substantial physical harm or bodily harm capable of being perceived by a person other than the victim and may include, but is not limited to, substantially blackened eyes, substantially swollen lips or other facial or body parts, or substantial bruises to body parts;
5. Has the effect of substantially interfering with the victim student's education;
6. Is so severe, persistent or pervasive that it creates an intimidating or threatening educational environment; or
7. Has the effect of substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school.

Bullying behavior is also defined as *cyberbullying* which occurs with electronic communication, whether such electronic act originated on school property or with school equipment, if the electronic communication:

1. Is directed specifically at students or school personnel; AND
2. Is maliciously intended for the purpose of threatening the safety of those specified or substantially disrupting the orderly operation of the school; AND
3. Creates a reasonable fear of harm to the students' or school personnel's person or property or has a high likelihood of

succeeding in that purpose.

Students who have been bullied or other students who observe bullying behavior are encouraged to make verbal and/or written complaint to a teacher, social worker, counselor, or administrator. Intervention by adults and bystanders is an important step to prevent escalation and resolve issues in the earlier stages. At all times, complaints will be documented, tracked and handled according to Cobb County School District Policies.

MCCLESKEY STANDARD OF DRESS

All students of the Cobb County School District (District) are encouraged to observe a standard of grooming and dress consistent with the level of formality of the school situation. The McCleskey Standard of Dress is based on Cobb County School Board policy and is applicable to all students.

Multiple reminders to remain in compliance with the Standard of Dress will result in progressive disciplinary action.

All students shall maintain the following minimum standard of dress:

1. Appropriate shoes shall be worn—athletic shoes for PE/Health, close-toed shoes for labs and outdoor activities.
2. Midriiffs/torsos shall be covered.
3. Appropriate under-garments (including under-shorts and compression pants) shall be worn and may not be visible.
4. Strapless garments shall be worn with a jacket.
5. Tank-tops shall be worn with a jacket.
6. Students are not to wear pajamas, house shoes, or costumes to school.
7. Students may wear shorts, skirts, and dresses. The bottom of the shorts must reach at least five inches above the knee around the entire leg.
8. No biker shorts or “Nike Pros” are to be worn. Capris or pants of the same material are allowed.
9. Holes in clothing are not to be worn five inches above the knee.
10. No caps, hats, bandanas nor hoods covering the head are to be worn in the school building during the school day unless there is a special activity during which they are deemed appropriate by the administration. Administrators shall evaluate requests to wear coverings in accordance with sincerely held religious belief on a case-by-case basis.
11. Clothing or ornamentation that does any of the following is prohibited:
 - Displays or advertises substances illegal for minors.
 - Displays suggestive phrases, designs, markings, or profanities.
 - Advocates, promotes, or suggests illegal activity.
 - Poses a safety hazard

All students of the Cobb County School System shall be required to maintain the level of personal hygiene necessary to ensure a healthful school environment and to refrain from any mode of dress which proves to contribute to any disruption of normal school functions.

BEHAVIOR NOT COVERED

The school system reserves the right to punish behavior which is subversive to good order and discipline in the schools, even though such behavior is not specified in the proceeding written rules and practices.

COUNSELOR APPOINTMENTS

Counselor appointment request slips are available in all classrooms. With permission, students should bring the slip to the counselors’ office. A mailbox is available for each counselor. The counselor will provide the student with a pass for an appointment or will place the appointment pass in the home room teacher’s mailbox. Emergencies always take precedence.

PARENT-STUDENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent-teacher conferences are scheduled through the school counselors. Parent-student-teacher conferences provide an opportunity for the teacher, student, and parent to share information that will be beneficial in the student’s educational program. Students and parents are strongly encouraged to monitor grades on a regular basis through StudentVUE and ParentVUE.

PARTNERS IN EDUCATION-PARENT INVOLVEMENT

Research studies have found that student with involved parents, no matter what their income or background are more likely to do the following:

- Earn high grades and enroll in higher-level programs
- Pass their classes, earn credits and be promoted
- Attend school regularly
- Graduate at a much higher rate and to on to postsecondary educational experiences