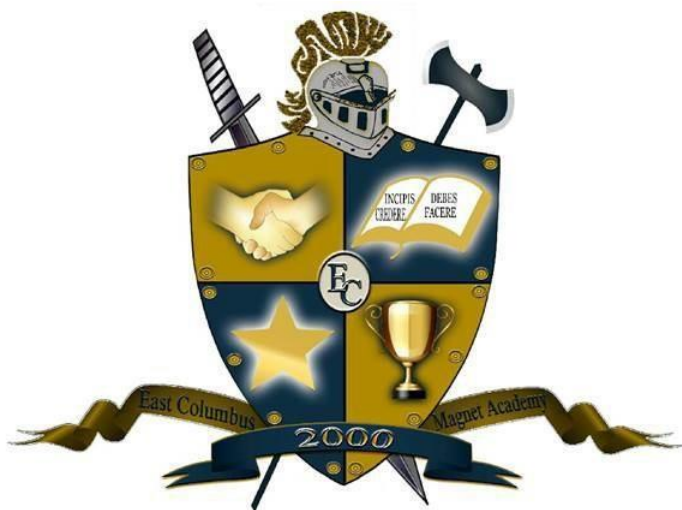


East Columbus Magnet Academy

**Encouragement • Commitment • Motivation
Achievement**



Student Handbook 2025-2026

Ms. Danya Albright, Principal
Ms. Traveika Hunter, Assistant Principal

6100 Georgetown Drive
Columbus, Ga 31907 (706) 565-3026

East Columbus Magnet Academy

Mission, Vision, and Values of School District

Mission: To inspire and equip all students to achieve unlimited potential.

Vision: The MCSD is a beacon of educational excellence where all are known, valued and inspired.

Values: *MCSD fosters a healthy organization where...*

WE embrace equity and diversity

WE hold ourselves and others to the same high standards

WE commit to continuous learning and improvement

WE treat everyone with dignity and respect

*... as **WE** serve the needs of others*

I am an ECMA Knight!

I Encourage Everyone;

I am Committed to Excellence;

**I am Motivated for Academic
Achievement;**

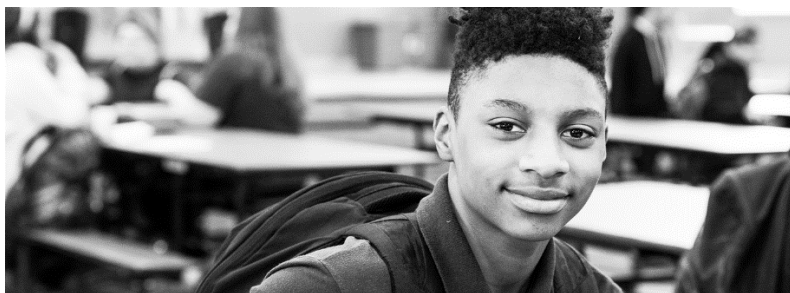
**I begin to achieve when I begin
to believe.**

Go Knights!



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Arrival at School

Students may enter ECMA **no earlier than 7:40 a.m.** Students arriving between 7:40 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. must report to their Homeroom/ILT classroom. At 8:30 a.m., students will be dismissed to the 1st period. All students will be directed to breakfast as they enter the building. Students remain in Homeroom/ILT until the bell rings for 1st period. When the first bell rings at 8:35 a.m., students will report directly to 1st period. After 1st period begins, they should not be in the halls without a hall pass. **Students should not be on school property (front of the school, near the school sign, in or near the parking lots, or adjacent sidewalks) other than at supervised times, and any students on the property prior to these times will be considered trespassing. Parents: unsupervised students present a safety concern and invite problems that spill over into the school day as it relates to discipline.**

Attendance and Absences

ECMA is committed to the philosophy that every student should attend every class, every period, every day. Daily attendance and promptness are expected in all classes and are essential for success in school.

1. Daily Absence Reporting:

a. Parents/guardians should notify the school each day a student is absent.

- b. Students who are absent without a parent or guardian's excuse may be considered truant.
- c. All absences, including those approved in advance by parents or guardians or school administration, except those for school-sponsored activities, will count against a student's attendance.
- d. ECMA encourages parents to schedule doctor and dental appointments after school hours.
- e. Excessive absences will affect a student's academic achievement.
- f. Parents/guardians may be required to submit supporting documentation in order to excuse the absence of their student if student absenteeism is excessive. For example, in order for the absence to be excused, parents/guardians may be asked to submit a written notification from a licensed physician stating the reasons why a student is unable to attend school.
- g. Students who are absent (excused or unexcused) on the day of an extra-curricular activity (dance, sporting event, trip, etc.) are not allowed to attend the extra-curricular activity.
- h. Students who have unexcused absences because of suspension, who miss class because of discipline referrals, or who are excessively tardy to school (5 or more tardies) will be prohibited from participation in after-school activities (dances, ball games, club meetings, etc.) for a period of nine weeks.
- i. Students who are excessively tardy (5 times) to school will not qualify for recognition for perfect attendance.

2. Tardiness

Students arriving after 8:10 a.m. are counted tardy. Students must be checked in with a parent/guardian if the student arrives after 8:35 a.m. In order to be counted present, a student must attend at least half of the school day (**11:30 a.m.**). If a student must leave the building for an appointment during physical education class, he/she may secure a pass from the front office before school begins to make check-out easier.

Students who are frequently tardy, either at the beginning of the day or to classes during the day, may be subject to the following disciplinary measures:

- * Three unexcused tardy days, school contacts parent/guardian.

* Five unexcused tardy days, referral to School Administrator (Principal) or designee, and a mandatory parent conference and counselor referral.

* Ten unexcused tardy days, referral to School Social Worker and to support agencies outside of the district, as the Principal deems appropriate (DFCS, Juvenile, et al.).

3. Excused/unexcused Absences

In the case of a necessary absence from school, a student must bring a written note from the parent/guardian, doctor, court, or dentist. The note should include the student's name, date(s) of absence(s), the reason for the absence(s), date of excuse, appropriate signature, and phone number so the parent, physician, or agency can be reached to verify the note.

Students who are absent must provide documentation to the front office upon the date of their return. Parent notes (maximum of five (5) handwritten notes) are accepted. **If a parent note covers multiple days, each day will be counted toward the five (5) note limit.** Parents have three (3) days from the student's return date to provide documentation for that absence. If no documentation is received by the cutoff date, the day(s) will remain unexcused. Official documentation (court, medical, etc.) is the exception and may be turned in at the earliest convenience.

State law recognizes the following reasons as excused absences:

1. Personal illness
2. Death in the immediate family
3. State-recognized religious holidays
4. Principal's approval of attendance at school-related experiences
5. Absences mandated by governmental agencies
6. Instances where attendance would be hazardous
7. Serving as a page in the General Assembly of Georgia

Unexcused absences include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Oversleeping (student or family)
2. Missing the bus
3. Babysitting
4. Joining the family on vacation
5. Skipping school
6. Cutting class
7. Out-of-school suspension
8. Car trouble
9. Out of class for discipline referral
10. Failing to bring a note from a parent about the absence

Potential consequences for repeated unexcused absences

5th Absence: Social worker referral

10th Absence: Social worker referral and Attendance Agreement

15th Absence: Social worker referral and Court referral

4. Make-Up Work

When a student is absent, it is the student's responsibility to ask for missed assignments within **three** (3) school days of returning to school. The student must return all make-up work to each teacher within the time limit decided upon by the teacher. It is the student's responsibility to turn in make-up work without being given reminders. This policy includes students returning from suspension.

5. Extended Illness or Injury

In case of an extended illness or injury, parents should contact the counselors to determine if the services of a visiting teacher are required. A hospital/ homebound teacher may be assigned to a student who will be absent for ten or more days due to illness or injury.

6. Check-In / Check Out

When a student arrives late to school (after 8:10 a.m.), he/she must come to the tardy table before going to class. It is not necessary for parents to accompany students to the office; however, to be excused, the school must have a note indicating why he/she is late. The note should be given to the office receptionist, who will pass it on to the homeroom teacher. The student will be given a pass to class.

If a student is to be dismissed early, parents must come to the office and ask the office receptionist to call for the student. The parent must sign the student out before the student can leave the building. **Proper identification is required, and the person must be in IC or on the student information sheet.** It is helpful for the parent to know which class the student is in at the time the parent wants the student dismissed.

NOTE: If it is necessary for an older brother, sister, or friend to pick up a student, the student must bring a note to the office by 8:55 a.m. The office receptionist will call the parent to verify the note. All special request notes must be brought to the office at the beginning of the day in order to be verified by office personnel.

All parents, guardians, and visitors to the school that wish to visit any area of the school other than the front office must be entered into the ECMA Raptor system. After proper government-issued identification is provided, the visitor will receive a badge that must be visible for the duration of the school visit.

Students will not be checked out after 2:50 p.m. unless an appointment card/printout from the doctor's office can be presented or faxed. Due to safety issues, it is not possible to get messages to students. Transportation arrangements or changes in transportation arrangements should be made prior to the student coming to school.

7. Dismissal Procedures

School is dismissed at 3:10 p.m. Halls should be cleared within 10 minutes after the bell has rung/dismissal has begun (3:22).

- a. All bus students should be at the bus loading area or in a classroom.
- b. All students attending an “After School Program” should be in the designated area.
- c. All students attending detention should be in the appropriate room.
- d. All students attending other after-school activities should be in the appropriate room or area.
- e. Car riders must be picked up **no later than 3:40 p.m.**

8. After School Activities: Athletic events, dances, concerts, club meetings, etc.

Students are supervised after school hours only for school-sponsored meetings and activities. Parents should be prompt in picking up their children from activities. Parents assume full responsibility for supervision of the students beyond a 15-minute period after the closing of any school event. Parents and students should not depend upon the school telephone being available so that a student may call when the school event is over.

NOTE: Students who are not picked up within the given time after the end of an event will not be allowed to attend extra-curricular activities.

School Nutrition Program (SNP)

Mission Statement of the Muscogee County School Nutrition Program is to provide a nutrition program that will maintain and improve the health of school children and the educational community and encourage the development of sound nutritional habits that will foster academic success.

USDA has regulations that the School Nutrition Program (SNP) has to meet to be in compliance with their guidelines. Caloric and nutrient requirements are based on age and grade. Also, MCSD Board Approved Wellness Program (EEE and EE-R) encourages and

promotes healthy guidelines to be followed including, but not limited to, FDA standards for portion sizes and the elimination of the consumption of fried foods as well as foods containing > 35 % sugar by weight. School lunches also offer a variety of foods, whole grains, and fat free and low-fat milk choices. Muscogee County School District shall abide by nutrient standards of the School Nutrition Program for all foods sold and served on campus during the school day. The sale of foods or beverages to students on school premises other than through SNP is prohibited from 12:01 a.m. until 30 minutes after the end of the school day. Food shall not be used as a reward or punishment. The use of candy and other food rewards for academic performance or good behavior is prohibited. **Fundraising efforts** shall be supportive of healthy eating, encouraging the sale of non-food items or nutrient dense foods. USDA regulations ban the sale of foods of minimal nutritional value.

The School Nutrition Program provides a healthy breakfast and lunch choice for students every day. Students may bring their own lunches from home. **Restaurant containers are not allowed in the cafeteria.** Parents are encouraged to have lunch with their children and a school lunch may be purchased to eat in the cafeteria with the students.

School meals may be captured at the point of sale in a variety of ways. Pin pads or bar code scanners will be used.

Community Eligibility Provision (CEP)

The Community Eligibility Provision (CEP) was established by Congress through the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, which reauthorized the Child Nutrition Programs. CEP aims to increase access to the School Meal Programs by offering breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students, without the need to process or collect individual free and reduced meal applications. Forty-one of our schools are CEP schools. **Please contact your student's school office or call the School Nutrition Office at (706) 748-2386 to see if your student's school is a CEP school.**

Free and Reduced Meal Priced Meal Applications (Non-CEP Schools Only):

If your student is enrolled in one of the **12 Non-CEP schools** (see list on previous page), a new application must be completed and approved every school year before your child can qualify for free or reduced-

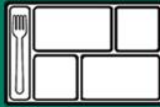
price meal benefits. For quicker processing, an online application is available at www.myschoolapps.com. If you prefer, a paper application is available upon request at your child's school or at the School Nutrition Office at 2960 Macon Road. If completing a paper application, we must receive the original since these applications are scanned. We cannot accept a faxed or copied application. **ONLY ONE** application needs to be completed for your entire household. If someone receives SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) OR TANF, you must include the current CASE number on the application (NOT the EBT or food stamp card number) and indicate whether the program is SNAP or TANF. We receive thousands of applications every year. Completed applications are processed within 10 days. You will be notified with a letter regarding the outcome of your application.

Applications **CANNOT** be approved if they are not completely filled out so please **COMPLETE ALL REQUIRED FIELDS** on the application.

Until your application is approved, please provide your child(ren) with money to purchase meals. If you have an approved MCSD application from the previous year on file, benefits will be extended for the first 30 days of the new school year (or until a new eligibility determination is made, whichever comes first). After 30 days, your child's status will change to PAYING and they will be charged for meals until a new application is approved. If your application is denied or incomplete, please call our office with any questions at 706-748-2389. Applications can be submitted at any time throughout the year, especially if your income goes down, you lose your job, your family qualifies for SNAP or TANF benefits, or there is a change in your family size. ***For quicker processing of meal benefit applications, the Family Meal Application is available online at www.myschoolapps.com. If you prefer, you may complete a paper application at your child's school or at the School Nutrition Office located at the Muscogee County Public Education Center, 2960 Macon Road. Computers will also be available in the School Nutrition Main office.***

5 REASONS FOR COMPLETING Free & Reduced Applications

ONE MEAL APPLICATION AFFECTS MANY AREAS!

1  INCREASED FUNDING TO SUPPORT STUDENT EDUCATION	2  ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR TECHNOLOGY AND INTERNET ACCESS	3  DISCOUNTS FOR FEES ASSOCIATED WITH COLLEGE APPLICATION PROCESSES	4  DISCOUNTED FEES FOR SAT, ACT & AP TESTS, SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES	5  FREE OR REDUCED MEAL PRICES FOR HEALTHY, NUTRITIOUS STUDENT MEALS
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Contact your child's school for details today

Paying for School Lunch

Muscogee County SNP does accept personal checks as payment for meals in our cafeterias. Payments may be made by cash, money order, cashier's check, traveler's check, or on-line via **our online payment system, My School Bucks**, using your credit or debit card.

www.MySchoolBucks.com

**School Meal Prices: Prices are subject to change based
on USDA reimbursements rates**

BREAKFAST PRICES	
Elementary, Paid	\$1.10
Middle/High, Paid	\$1.35
Reduced	\$0.30
Adult, MCSD Staff	\$2.50
Adult, Outside MCSD	\$2.25

LUNCH PRICES	
Elementary, Paid	\$2.55
Middle/High, Paid	\$2.80
Reduced	\$0.40
Adult, MCSD Staff	\$4.75
Adult, Outside MCSD	\$5.25
Free and reduced-priced meals for breakfast and lunch are available for eligible students. Parents may contact the School Nutrition Manager at any school for more information.	

Charging Meals

Charging meals is discouraged, but may be necessary in certain cases. Elementary students will be allowed to charge a total of three breakfasts and three lunches. Middle and high school students will be allowed to charge a total of one breakfast and one lunch. If your child reaches his/her charge limit and does not have money in his/her account, and does not have cash with which to purchase their meal, an alternative meal will be provided. **There is no provision for adults to charge.** No charges will be accepted for a la carte items. **Students will not be able to charge any meal after May 1st through the duration of the school year.** It is necessary that all outstanding charges be paid to the cafeteria Manager prior to the last day of school. Please respond promptly to messages that you receive, both written and phone calls, regarding charges on your student's account.

Menus

Monthly menus can be found on your school's website. Menus may change on a very short notice due to supply chain issues, market conditions, deliveries, or special school activities.

Special Dietary Needs

MCSD School Nutrition will make meal modifications and substitutions to the regular school meals for a student with a disability that restricts their diet. The Special Dietary Needs Prescription Form **must be** completed and signed by a licensed physician, unless the child has a healthcare plan or an IEP/504 Plan on file, and returned to MCSD School Nutrition Program, including the school cafeteria manager and the Nutrition Specialist before the school cafeteria can provide any

modifications or substitutions. A form and instructions can be found on the School Nutrition page of the MCSD web site, or at the school clinic or cafeteria. You may contact the School Nutrition office at 706-748-2386 for more information.

A nutrition analysis chart for menu items is available on the website. Please be aware that there are factors that may affect a product's actual nutritional value and/or ingredient composition at any given time: Supply chain issues may cause substitutions; manufacturers' formulations may change without notice. USDA donated products may become available at any time during the year and may replace a purchased item. Product brands may change during the year as new bids are approved. Schools may be using inventory from a previous bid or manufacturer. Our recipes may change during the school year. A la carte snack items vary from school to school, so check with the Nutrition Manager at your student's school for specific information.

Seamless Summer Option

SNP provides breakfast and lunch at various schools throughout the district during the summer. Please check the website or call 706-748-2386 for locations. All children up to 18 years of age receive a free meal. Adults may purchase a lunch.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Care and Use of School Property

Chromebooks, Textbooks, and Media Center Check-outs



ECMA students will be held responsible for the proper care of all books, supplies, Chromebooks, accessories, or equipment furnished to them by the school. Students who deface, damage, or lose (including theft) school property shall be required to pay for the damage or loss (see MCSD Board Policy JS: Student Fees, Fines, and Charges).

Chromebooks

“All students have been issued a Chromebook (to include Case and Charger) to use during the school day. Students must always be responsible for their Chromebook/Case/Charger. To be good stewards of taxpayer dollars, students must be responsible for caring for their Chromebook and not damaging it in any way. Chromebooks are to be always carried in a case when not in use. Students who damage Chromebooks and/or accessories can be assessed a replacement fee as per Board (see MCSD Board Policy JS: Student Fees, Fines, and Charges).”

Fines and Fees

A Parent/Student must pay all fees and fines owed to the school in a timely fashion. Parent/Student must clear all fines or fees during the year the fines are assessed. Fines must be paid/cleared where they were assessed and before moving to the next level in school.

Book Bags

To help ensure that Chromebook computers assigned to each student remain undamaged as they travel to school, students are approved to bring **clear or mesh** book bags to the campus; however, the use of book bags is **not permitted** during the school day, including in classrooms, class changes, and travel to and from the cafeteria and the gym area.

Students are **not allowed** to carry a **non-translucent** book bag **on or to** the ECMA campus. Athletes are allowed to bring non-clear athletic bags to school; however, they must be left in the designated location in the rotunda prior to reporting to ILT. All athletic bags will be secured in the Athletic Director's office until practice or their game. **Any bag large enough to accommodate a book will be considered a book bag.**

Lockers

The homeroom teacher will issue hall lockers to students. A rental fee of \$15.00 will be charged for each locker. This fee covers the expense of changing combinations and replacing worn hardware on each locker each year. Students who rent lockers are expected to cooperate with the following:

- a. Use only the locker that has been assigned to the student.
- b. Do not allow other students to learn the combination.
- c. Each locker has a built-in combination lock. No other locks are to be placed on hall lockers.
- d. Keep lockers neat, and do not attach pictures with any adhesive to the interior.
- e. Realize that lockers are school property and that administration has the right to conduct locker inspections and/or searches when the need arises.
- f. **Students are not allowed to share a locker.**
- g. Lockers will also be available in the gym for \$15 for those students who have been assigned a Physical Education class.
- h. **Lockers are not intended for the storage of valuable personal items, money, or jewelry.** Students should only bring those personal items necessary for classes to school. If brought, money and other personal items must be kept by the student at all times. **ECMA cannot be responsible for personal belongings.**

Conferences, Guidance, Clinic, and Media Center



Parent/Teacher Conferences

ECMA teachers and administration encourage parents and guardians to schedule a conference if questions or concerns exist regarding a student's academic achievement or classroom behavior.

a. Upon notification by note, email, or phone that a conference is requested, the teacher or administrator will schedule the earliest conference date and time that allows all of the students' teachers to be in attendance. Note: parents should expect the meeting to be several days in advance, especially if student data must be collected prior to the meeting.

b. Because many ECMA teachers coach or have other extra-curricular commitments, **parents should not expect same-day meetings.**

Counseling Services

ECMA is staffed with a highly qualified counselor committed to providing responsive services to all students. Services include individual counseling, curriculum guidance, crisis support, and personal and social development.

Students wishing to visit Counseling **must first notify their teacher.** In the case of an emergency, the teacher will document the student's location and call for the student to be escorted to the Counselor. In nonemergency cases, the teacher will notify the Counselor of the request, and the student will be called to the Counselor at an appropriate time.

Bullying

Bullying is defined as any willful attempt, or threat, to inflict pain/injury on another person or any intentional display of force which gives the victim reason to fear or expect immediate harm over a period of time. ECMA has no tolerance for bullying in any of its forms and mandates that students inform a teacher, administrator, or guidance counselor if they experience bullying or witness it occurring to another student.

Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment is defined as the making of unwelcome, inappropriate, and hurtful sexual remarks or physical advances. This includes actions specifically targeting students identifying as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ). As with bullying, ECMA has no toleration for sexual harassment in any of its forms and mandates students to inform a teacher, administrator, or guidance if they experience it or witness it occurring to another student.

Clinic

There is a part-time nurse to supervise the clinic. Limited space allows only one student to be served. Students who are ill will report to the Clinic area where a parent will be called. The school does not supply any medication. Any medication whether over the counter or prescribed, must be supplied in the original container. Loose pills in a baggie or other container and liquid medicine in an unlabeled container cannot be dispensed. Prescription medicine, including inhalers, must have a copy of the pharmaceutical label attached to the container. Students cannot have medication, over the counter or prescribed, in their possession. All medications are to be delivered to the Clinic area and registered. The parent must complete a special form/ document before any medication can be administered at school. The student is responsible for reporting during the day to take his/her medication.

Learning Commons (Media Center)

The school Learning Commons (Media Center) contains many books, audiovisual items, and technological equipment. A qualified media specialist is available to assist students.

The student will be charged a replacement value for lost and/or damaged library books. The student whose name appears as the check-out name will be held responsible for the book. The student is responsible for the book no matter where the book is left. A student must check out the book before it is taken home. Failure

to pay for lost or damaged books/materials/ equipment may result in limiting the use of the Media Center resources to in-school use only.

Sign In: The student must sign in at the podium when they enter the Media Center without the teacher.

Checking Out a Book: All students will use their GTID to check out books. A book is due two weeks from the day it is checked out, excluding holidays.

Overdue Materials: If a student has overdue materials/books or has any outstanding fines from the previous year he/she may NOT check out any media center materials/books until the prior debt is paid.

School Uniform and Dress Code

Beginning the 2019-20 school year, all ECMA students will wear the appropriate uniform that pertains to his/her grade level. Below are details of the uniform options for each grade level.



East
Columbus
Magnet
Academy

ECMA UNIFORM

Requirements

The uniform policy will be

STRICTLY ENFORCED

Review the MCS D and ECMA Handbook
for further detail.



Requirements:

Grade Level Polo:

6th- Blue (Short or Long sleeve)

7th- Yellow (Short or Long sleeve)

8th- White (Short or Long sleeve)

All shirts must be tucked

Khaki shorts or pants

Navy shorts or pants

Shorts should be MCS D required length

Loose fitting bottoms should have a belt.

Footwear must have a closed toe
and heel.

Accessories:

Book bags must be clear or
mesh

Jacket, Sweater, or Coat of
any color

Headbands for Females
should be 2 fingertips or less

Students may be sent home because of dress code violations



No hoodies,
crocs/slides/bubble
shoes, or hats



Knight Dress Down Days

At the discretion of the school administration, students may be allowed to participate in a one-day exemption from the uniform policy. During the school year, the school administration will review and communicate to students the activities that require the PBIS Gold and Silver designation. Below are details of the dress policy for those students participating in Dress Down days.

Shirts

ALL SHIRTS MUST BE TUCKED IN (Boys and Girls)

No undergarments are to be worn as outer garments (ex., plain, white T-shirts)

No midriffs should be exposed

No see-through shirts/blouses

No shirts that expose parts of undergarments

No tank tops, spaghetti straps, tube tops, or razor-back tops

Nothing that advocates drugs, sex, alcohol, violence, gangs, hate, or profanity

Shirts that are made for females that cover the midriff but move when the student sits may not be worn

No jackets or shirts should be tied around the waist.

No oversized clothing is allowed.

Shoes

No shower shoes, flip-flops, slides, or bedroom shoes

No heels higher than two (2) inches

No Crocs or croc-like shoes

Pants

Pants are to be worn on or above the waist

No see-through pants

If pants can be appropriately worn on or above the waist, no belt is required.

Sweat pants, wind pants, joggers, or athletic pants/shorts are not to be worn.

No pants are to be worn bound at the ankle.

Pants may not be tucked into the pants leg.

Pants cannot have rips, runs, holes, or tears that are above the top of the knee.

Pants should not be cut-offs.

Shorts

Shorts may be worn with a length no higher than three (3) inches above the top of the kneecap.

SKIRTS AND SKORTS ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE GARMENTS.

Pants should not be cut-offs.

Coats

Hooded garments (hoodies) may be worn to school, but the hood must be removed immediately upon entering the building (No hoods inside the school). All jackets with zippers or buttons must remain **unzipped and unbuttoned at all times** while inside the building as a safety precaution.

Hats

No head coverings, such as bandanas, durags, bonnets, or sweatbands.

Jewelry

No jewelry with reference to gangs, drugs, hate, violence, or sex is allowed. Items such as chains on a belt, wallet, etc., and items with spikes are not permitted. No metal picks or rat tail combs are allowed on campus.

Purses/Bags

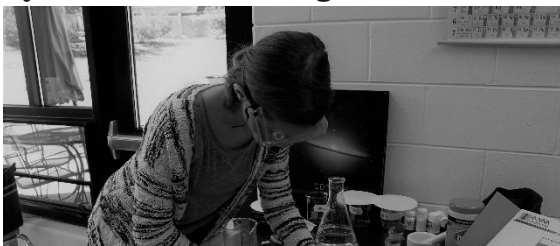
Large purses **will not** be permitted inside the school building. Large purse must be stored in the student's school locker. Clutch bags, wristlets, and small purses, 5 x 9 inches, are permitted. All bags are subject to being measured in accordance with the box used at athletic events. Large purses may be confiscated if not placed in the student's school locker before ILT/First period.

Academic Courses, Grading, Report Cards, and Progress Reports

Traditional Academic Subjects

All ECMA students will take courses in mathematics, sciences, language arts, and social studies each year in grades 6-8.

Note: Select students will have the opportunity in 8th grade to earn high school credit in Physical Science and Algebra I.



Special Education Services

ECMA's highly qualified faculty and staff are trained to ensure that all students can achieve academic excellence. Students with special needs who meet the eligibility requirements are provided services in academic areas and emotional support as is warranted. The students receive help during all or part of the school day throughout the year. Information about these programs can be obtained from the classroom teacher, counselors, or the administration.

Connections Courses

Connections classes provide students with a variety of interesting experiences that go beyond the traditional academic curriculum. These classes carry the same weight as academic classes. Students have a rotation of different connection classes each year or take band, orchestra, or chorus for the entire year.

Art

Art is taught to sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students. Students are taught visual awareness through the elements and principles of art by exploring drawing, painting, ceramics, printmaking, puppetry, and sculpture. Student works are exhibited in the school, community, and several art exhibits.

Band

Band offers students in all grades the opportunity to learn to play musical instruments in the brass, woodwind and percussion families. Previous musical experience is not necessary. To help ensure student success, the band director counsels each student in selecting an instrument that is best suited for the student. Students have the opportunity to receive instruction in full band, small ensemble, and solo performance. A variety of musical styles are covered including symphonic, jazz, rock, Broadway, and pop.

Chorus

Choral music courses provide opportunities for students to develop their musical potential and aesthetic understanding through singing in a choral ensemble. These courses seek to give students in grades 6-8 experiences in the study and performance of a diverse repertoire of music. Study of vocal/choral music includes the cultivation of a beautiful singing tone, aesthetic understanding, and the ability to read music with fluency, the polishing of performance skills, responsible rehearsal habits, discipline, and the value of collaboration.

The chorus performs several times during the year and attends the district choral large group performance evaluation each year. Students in chorus have the opportunity to participate in the district honor choir and a chance to audition for the all-state chorus.

Computer Education/STEAM class (Robotics)

The computer education program aims to provide each student with an opportunity to understand both the capabilities of electronic information systems and an opportunity to know their applications and impact on society. Each student is provided hands-on experience using computer hardware and current types of applications software.

Computer education for sixth-grade students is an introduction to microcomputers and keyboarding. Students learn to operate the computer. They work with prepared computer programs that support the middle school curriculum. The seventh-grade students will learn database and word processing skills. This computer utilization allows students to become more proficient with computers. Eighth-grade computer courses combine keyboarding, computers, and technology of the business world to give students practical ideas of courses to take at high school as the course applies to careers. Using word processing, database, and

spreadsheet helps students create well-designed, well-structured presentations for use in business and private life.

Health/Personal Fitness

Health is required for all students at each grade level. Units on human growth and development, human sexuality, drug abuse prevention, mental health, nutrition, safety, and first aid are all part of the curriculum. Special emphasis is placed on skills such as responsible decision-making, refusal skills, and conflict management. These life skills help students learn to meet the challenges of adolescence appropriately.

JLC (Junior Leadership Core)

Junior Leadership Corps is a three-year Connections course offered to sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students. Lessons are designed to enhance students' leadership skills, including time and money management, goal setting, healthy relationships, working with groups, health and physical fitness, community service initiatives, and leadership in a diverse world. In addition to the JLC curriculum, students are required to wear the JLC uniform twice a month and conduct dress for success once a month, participate in drill and ceremony training, and perform ten hours of community service every nine weeks.

Orchestra

The orchestra program begins in sixth grade and offers sequential instruction to students through eighth grade. The program offers ensemble instruction in violin, viola, cello, and string bass. Previous musical training is not required. Practice at home and concert performances are expected of students. Instruments are not available through the school.

Physical Education

All students take physical education. Physical education offers students instruction in team and individual sports. Students

participate in activities such as volleyball, basketball, field hockey, soccer, softball, line dancing, and team handball.

Participation is an important part of the physical education grade. Students are required to dress out daily and must have a written note signed by the parent if they cannot participate. If the student cannot fully participate, the teacher will modify the program for up to three days. It should be used to cover colds, flu, and short-term illnesses. When a student needs to be excused from physical education for more than three days, a doctor's note is required. Students are responsible for their personal items during physical education. Lockers with combinations are provided in the locker room.

Spanish

HS Spanish is offered for eighth-grade students for one HS credit.

Clubs and Organizations

Academic Bowl: General knowledge trivia, team competition against other middle schools.

Art Club: Bringing together artists of the East Columbus area to share their interests and enrich their experiences in art, as well as making creative contributions to the community.

Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl: Hosts student book discussions, book talks, book reviews, and homework help.

Junior Marshal: The Junior Marshal Program aims to foster character development, service to the community, and provide positive interaction between public safety personnel, students, and their parents.

Math Club: Math-talented students compete in competitions throughout the school year.

Science Club: Consists of 6th through 8th-grade students - gifted to special education! Each month, members participate in an activity, project, or volunteer activity related to science. At the end of each year, a Science Festival is planned for all members who have participated in at least half of the events.

Science Olympiad: Team members compete in a variety of engineering, life science, earth science, and physics events to prepare for the regional competition at Columbus State University.

Spanish Club: A friendly, organized group of people trying to partake in Spanish activities, learn more about Spanish-speaking countries, enhance your communication/speaking skills, expand your vocabulary, and learn about international food.

Spelling Bee: A school-wide competition where contestants are asked to spell English words, and the winners advance to district, state, and national level competitions.

Student Council: The Student Government is an elected group of students who are responsible for promoting school spirit and awareness of others (through activities such as the canned food drive). Each 6th through 8th-grade class has representation with officers elected from those grades.

Robotics/Technology Club: A club that explores the World Wide Web and a variety of software, such as graphic programs and word processing programs. The activities are designed to increase technological skills, extend student knowledge and complement school instruction. The East Columbus Magnet Academy Robotics team competes in District and First Lego competitions each year. We work to construct robots, program missions and create long term projects that benefit our community. We also have a lot of fun with activities such as BattleBots and Sphero racing.

Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society is an organization that promotes appropriate recognition for students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of scholarship, leadership, citizenship, character, and service. National Junior Honor Society members participate in programs and activities that promote and support the five standards of the National Junior Honor Society so that they will become the leaders of tomorrow.

The National Junior Honor Society is open to all seventh and eighth-graders who choose to apply themselves and have met the established criteria. Students do not apply for membership;

membership is granted only to those students selected by the East Columbus Magnet Academy’s Faculty Council (selection committee). This process is not an election, nor is membership automatically conveyed simply because a student has achieved an honor roll in academic performance. A student’s demonstration of scholarship, leadership, citizenship, character, and service is carefully weighed and included in the selection process.

The scholarship requirement is based on a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 86% on a 100-point scale. Academically eligible candidates will be evaluated on the basis of leadership, service, character, and citizenship. A candidate must have been on the Honor Roll for each grading period.

Grading Periods

East Columbus Magnet Academy operates on a nine-week academic grading period. At the midterm and end of each nine weeks, parents and guardians can access their child’s grades in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal. The grading scale approved by the Muscogee County School District is as follows:

A = 100-90	Excellent progress
B = 80-89	Good progress
C = 70-79	Needs improvement
F = 69 and below,	Not passing

Principal’s List and Honor Roll

Principal’s List honors outstanding ECMA students who have earned all A’s in a grading period, while Honor Roll recognizes those ECMA students who have earned all B’s or better on their report cards. Principal’s List and Honor Roll students will receive school-wide recognition by participating in a **“Walk of Fame”** each nine weeks.

School Safety

As part of the district's Enhanced Safety Initiative, all students, staff, and visitors will be scanned for weapons and other hazardous items upon entering the building.

Riding the Bus

Students who live more than 1.5 miles from the school and whose addresses are within the school's attendance zone are eligible to ride the school bus. Riding the bus is a privilege. Improper conduct on the bus will result in that privilege being denied. Students riding a bus will be expected to ride their designated bus. **Each bus driver has complete charge of students riding the school bus.** The Student Conduct Behavior Code applies. Students who refuse to obey the bus rules will be disciplined and may forfeit their right to ride the bus. Parents who have concerns about a bus driver should contact the school administration **and** transportation.

Emergency Drills

In order to maintain a safe environment for ECMA students to study and learn, it is necessary that we practice our emergency and crisis response plans by having drills designed to exercise our procedures. We will be conducting various drills throughout the school year. This letter is to promote awareness of the importance of this, as well as to understand each type of drill. The students and staff of your school will be practicing **three (3)** primary emergency drills. They are **“fire drills,” “lockdown drills** and **“severe weather drills.”** Each type of drill is explained below:

a. Fire drills

The school will conduct a “fire drill” each month (except for two severe weather months) when school is in session. These drills are a Fire Code requirement as well as a requirement by Muscogee County Schools. We want each student to understand and be aware of the importance of this drill when the fire alarm is sounded.

b. Lockdown drills

The school will conduct periodic “Lockdown Drills.” This type of drill will secure the school building and safely shelter all students, staff, and visitors inside the building. The purpose of this drill is to keep the students safe from any danger outside or inside the building. During a “lockdown drill,” all of the perimeter doors to the classrooms and school building will be locked. They will remain locked until the danger or issue outside or inside the building is removed. No one will be allowed to enter or exit the building until the authorities authorize such a release to enable everyone to remain safe.

c. Severe weather drills

The “Severe Weather” drill will be conducted twice a year. The purpose of this drill is to prepare students to move to a secure location within the building in case of severe weather or tornadoes.

If your student has a severe allergy, mobility, or any issue that would give you concern that they would not be able to follow basic instructions, and if there was a cause to relocate during an emergency, please see someone in the front office about an ECMA Emergency Sheet or contact Ms. Hunter at 706-565-3026 to discuss any concerns.

Individual Money-Making Projects

Students are not allowed to sell or trade items at school. The school should not be used to distribute items sold outside the school. Any such items will be held at the school office for a parent to pick up, and could result in disciplinary action.

Student Insurance

The Muscogee County School District offers student accident insurance to all students in the Muscogee County School District. This information is available to the parent at a nominal fee. Interested parents may contact the school office for information. If a parent does not wish to take out the Student Accident Insurance, then the student’s health insurance is the

responsibility of the parent. The Muscogee County School District does not carry health coverage for students.

No student may participate in football, basketball, track, volleyball, soccer, cross country, dance team, or cheerleading until the above requirement has been met. All participants in the above-named programs must have a current physical/ medical form on file in order to qualify for tryouts.

Student Behavior and Discipline

The mission of the Muscogee County School District is to inspire and equip all students to achieve unlimited potential. In order to accomplish this goal, we must keep our schools safe and secure. This is a reminder that our district will not tolerate drugs, weapons, or fighting in school. **Students who bring weapons to school will be referred to the discipline tribunal with the possibility of expulsion. Students who are involved in fights could receive an out-of-school suspension of up to 10 days, referral to a discipline tribunal hearing, and being criminally charged.**

Additionally, there will be consequences for students who record fights with cell phones. **Suspensions resulting from any of these offenses will require a parent or guardian to participate in an intervention session before you will be admitted back into the school setting.** Please keep in mind your actions are what create the perceptions of the Muscogee County School District. Thank you for helping to keep our school safe.

Behavior at Extra Curricular Activities

In the event of a major disturbance at an extra-curricular event anywhere in Muscogee County School District, the student(s) involved could/will face a suspension and revocation of extra-curricular privileges by their home school administration. This suspension/revocation will encompass ALL MCSD campuses and extra-curricular events. Any suspension or revocation of

extra-curricular privileges will be for NO LESS than one (1) academic semester, but could be as long as the entire school year.

It will be up to the discretion of the school administration if the offending student will be allowed to participate in extra-curricular activities, as an active member of a team, for the remainder of the year. If the student in question is a current member of a team and participates in the major disturbance, they will be suspended from participation for the remainder of that season and not be allowed to represent the school as a student-athlete for the remainder of the school year.

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS)

PBIS is intended to create a positive school climate by focusing on teaching good behavior in the same way that we teach math or science. Although consequences for unexpected behaviors still occur, being proactive and preventative through the use of proven behavioral strategies is the focus, and more energy and time is spent recognizing students who exhibit positive behaviors. PBIS is consistent with the core principles of Response to Intervention (RtI), including multiple levels or “tiers” of interventions and supports.

Every school has a unique “PBIS” framework; ECMA’s is discussed in the following section. Parents are encouraged to contact the school administrator or PBIS coach to learn more. The District PBIS Coordinator (Dr. Kenya Gilmore) may also be contacted at PBIS@muscogee.k12.ga.us, call 706-748-3292, or visit our webpage @

<https://muscogee.k12.ga.us/p/Divisions/StudentServices/School-WidePBIS/Information>.

ECMA has adopted the following PBIS Rewards:

ECMA PBIS TIERS		
	ELIGIBILITY	REWARDS
GOLD	• 0- OFFICE REFERRALS • 0-MISSING ASSIGNMENTS • 0- F'S • 0-1 UNEXCUSED ABSCENCE	• GOLD DAY PARADE • VIP LUNCH • MONTHLY DRESS DOWN • ALL SCHOOL-WIDE CELEBRATIONS
SILVER	• 1- OFFICE REFERRAL • 2-MISSING ASSIGNMENTS • 0- F'S • 2-3 UNEXCUSED ABSCENCE	• FREEDOM FRIDAYS • MOVIE DAY • ALL SCHOOL-WIDE CELEBRATIONS
BRONZE	• 2+ OFFICE REFERRAL • 3+MISSING ASSIGNMENTS • AT LEAST 1 F • 4+ UNEXCUSED ABSCENCE	• INCENTIVES GIVEN AT THE DISCRETION OF ADMINISTRATION

ECMA has adopted the following PBIS Matrix:

PBIS EXPECTATIONS						
 BE RESPECTFUL	CAFETERIA	HALLWAY	RESTROOM	BUS	LEARNING COMMONS	CLASSROOM
	RESPECT THE CAFETERIA STAFF USE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE USE INSIDE VOICE	USE INSIDE VOICE	ENTER AND EXIT QUIETLY AND QUICKLY	RESPECT THE DRIVER USE APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE	WAIT YOUR TURN USE INSIDE VOICE	ENTER QUIETLY AND HAVE A SEAT MOVE WITH PERMISSION USE KIND WORDS
	KEEP IT CLEAN	WALK QUICKLY	KEEP IT CLEAN	KEEP THE BUS CLEAN	TAKE CARE OF THE RESOURCES ENTER WITH A VALID PASS	TAKE CARE OF RESOURCES CLEAN UP YOUR AREA USE YOUR TIME WISELY
	MOVE WITH TEACHER PERMISSION	WALK ON THE RIGHT KEEP HANDS, FEET, AND OBJECTS TO YOURSELF	WASH YOUR HANDS AND SANITIZE	TALK QUIETLY STAY SEATED	USE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS APPROPRIATELY	USE EQUIPMENT AND MATERIALS APPROPRIATELY
BE RESPONSIBLE						
BE SAFE						

Standards for Discipline and Behavior Limitations

Students can earn recognition for a range of things, from walking in the hall correctly to entering the class properly. Behavior matrices are posted throughout the school, outlining the expectations for behavior in various areas, including the hallway, classroom, restroom, cafeteria, and other designated spaces. Each month, the school offers events or activities that are only available to students who have earned a PBIS Gold or Silver designation.

No ECMA student, faculty, or staff member has the right to the following:

Physically injure themselves or others or threaten injury.

1. Discriminate against others (to treat others as though they are not as good as you).
2. Damage or destroy materials.
3. Steal from others.
4. Impose on others (to force someone to see, do, or hear something that they do not want).
5. Interfere with others (to make a sound or movement that keeps others from hearing, seeing, or concentrating, or from participating in class).
6. Misrepresent to others (to make a false report about yourself or others).

General Rules and Information

1. Public displays of affection **ARE NOT** allowed.
2. Gum and candy are not allowed in school or on the school bus.
3. Radios, MP3 players, video games, i.e., any electronic device, are not to be brought to school.
4. Students who wish to use the telephone must have a “phone” pass and check with the front office before using the telephone.
5. Classes will not be interrupted to call students to the telephone or give them a message.

6. All food is restricted to the cafeteria unless otherwise instructed.
7. Fast food items (i.e., McDonald's, Burger King, Taco Bell, etc.) may not be eaten in the cafeteria.
8. The school accepts **NO** responsibility for items that are lost, damaged, or stolen.
9. Aerosol cans, hair spray, cologne sprays, whiteout, inhalants, breath sprays, or any other item that might be dangerous to the health of students are unacceptable at school.

Local Discipline Procedures

1. The classroom teacher is the first line of student management. The philosophy of the school is to provide an optimum learning environment for all students. If a student continues inappropriate behavior and after several different teacher interventions are tried, an administrative discipline referral will be the next step. Teachers will use a Tier 1 intervention form to track minor discipline in the classroom. Tier 1 discipline is cumulative.
2. Administrative Detention is assigned by administrators. A twenty-four-hour notice is given for parents to provide transportation and prompt pick-up. Failure to report to assigned detention will result in additional consequences. The purpose of detention is to put responsibility for behavior on the student so that self-discipline can be developed.
3. **In-School Intervention (ISI)** is another more serious form of discipline. Students may be placed in ISI for continuous disruptive behavior or serious infractions of rules. ISI is designed to allow students to remain in school so that their educational process is not interrupted.

Students in ISI are isolated from their peers and must remain in the ISI room for part of or the entire school day. Students are under the direct supervision of a classified employee of the school district during this period of time. Students are expected to complete their assignments in ISI. If a student fails

to finish the assignments, he/she may receive additional time in ISI. If a student is disruptive while assigned to ISI, additional days of ISI or out-of-school suspension will be considered.

4. **Out-of-School Suspension (OSS)** from school is a disciplinary procedure used if the above procedures are ineffective. A student can be suspended for 1 day without appearing before the Muscogee County School District Discipline Tribunal. The principal may call a tribunal hearing if he/she feels the situation warrants or suspension is beyond ten school days. A student may also be suspended from school for any serious infraction of rules and regulations. A suspended student **must request make-up school work from the teachers, and work may be provided at the teacher's discretion.** Work requested by the student but not picked up or incomplete upon return will receive a "0."

****Parent/Student meetings are required for all OSS (Out of School Suspensions). The Administrative Team will schedule the meetings with the parent and student. Both will be required to attend. ****

5. If rules are broken on days before holidays or summer break, students will receive consequences upon returning to school.

Minor Offenses (Level 1)

Level 1 offenses are behaviors considered distracting to another student's learning or the teacher's teaching. When these minor offenses occur, the teacher will handle them in the classroom or in detention. Each teacher will be responsible for his/her own detention. Detention notices will be sent home to give parents 24 24-hour notice prior to detention. This condition can be waived if parents can be contacted and agree to detention on that day. In addition to these forms, parent contacts will be made when repeated minor offenses occur. Minor offenses include, **but are not limited** to, the following:

- Talking without permission
- Inappropriate volume level

- Disruptive actions – clowning, not keeping hands/feet to self, arguing, yelling out, teasing
- Eating food without permission
- Name-calling, insulting
- Minor damage to school property, technology, or resources.
- Not following instructions, refusing to complete work
- Not having the necessary supplies
- Minor pushing or tripping

ECMA teachers and administrators will make every reasonable effort to intervene before student misbehavior becomes serious. Reasonable efforts would include, **but not be limited** to, the following:

- Verbal reprimand
- Team meeting with the student
- Referral to a counselor
- Silent lunch
- Parent contact
- Parent conference
- Student behavior contract
- Detention
- Disciplinary Essay
- Temporary removal (timeout) from the classroom or school event

When reasonable teacher and/or administrator efforts do not result in improved behavior, a referral to the office may result in, **but not be limited** to, the following:

- Detention (one or more days)
- Administrative conference with the student and parents
- In School Intervention
- Out-of-School Suspension
- Banishment from after-school activities (including athletics participation) for a specified period of time

Cell Phones (or Other Electronic Devices: Smart Watches, Air Pods, Non-Wired Headphones) Used or Powered On During the School Day

Continuous issues with cell phones will result in parent conferences, ISI, and OSS.

Upon arrival on campus, students are expected to store their electronic devices in their lockers. Devices must remain in the lockers until the last locker break. Phones and devices should remain off until school is released.

1st Offense - The phone is confiscated and turned over to the front office.

- Parents/guardians may pick up the phone after 48 hours (2 days, including weekends) between **9:00 and 2:30 p.m.**
- All phones must be signed for in the main office by a parent/guardian.

2nd Offense - The phone is confiscated and turned over to the front office.

- Parents/guardians may pick up the phone after 72 hours (3 days, including weekends) **between 9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.**
- All phones must be signed for in the main office by a parent/guardian.
- Students will be assigned one (1) day of In-School Intervention (ISI).

3rd Offense - The phone is confiscated and turned over to the front office.

- Parents/guardians may pick up the phone after 120 hours (approximately 5 days, including weekends) between **9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.**
- All phones must be signed for in the main office by a parent/guardian.
- Students will be assigned two (2) days of In-School Intervention (ISI).

4th Offense - The phone is confiscated and turned over to the front office.

- Parents/guardians may pick up the phone after 168 hours (7 days, including weekends) between **9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.**
- All phones must be signed for in the main office by a parent/guardian.
- Students will be assigned three (3) days of In-School Intervention (ISI).

5th Offense - The phone is confiscated and turned over to the front office.

- Parents/guardians may pick up the phone after 168 hours (7 days, including weekends) between **9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.**
- All phones must be signed for in the main office by a parent/guardian.
- Students will be assigned two (2) days of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS).

6th Offense - The phone is confiscated and turned over to the front office.

- Parents/guardians may pick up the phone after 168 hours (7 days, including weekends) between **9:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.**
- All phones must be signed for in the main office by a parent/guardian.
- Students will be assigned three (3) days of Out-of-School Suspension (OSS).

Each subsequent offense will be at the discretion of the administrator.

Refusal to turn over the device to ECMA faculty/staff will result in 2 days of OSS.

If the parent/guardian is adamant that he or she cannot allow the phone to be held for the number of days listed in the procedures, then the parent/guardian chooses for his or her son/daughter/ward to accept a two (2) day out-of-school suspension in lieu of the phone being held.

*“Other Electronic Devices” includes hand-held game systems, iPods, mp3 players, cameras, PDAs, CD players, mini-computers, laser pointers, **Smart Watches, Air Pods, Non-Wired Headphones, etc.***

Major Offenses (Levels 2)

Students who exhibit level 2 discipline infractions will receive more intense consequences. Basic guidelines for each offense are listed in parentheses in the following manner (1st offense, 2nd offense, 3rd offense, etc.). Discipline is always determined by the administration and can be adjusted as needed.

Level 2 (Major Offenses): Any behaviors that threaten other students' learning environment cannot and will not be tolerated. The following behaviors have no place at ECMA and will result in serious consequences: Major offenses include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

- Skipping class or detention
- Inappropriate displays of affection
- Blatant defiance/disrespect of adults
- Horseplay
- Misbehavior on the bus
- Repeated dress code violations
- Hitting, roughing, and physical abuse with intent
- Destroying/stealing property
- Disruption, or attempt to disrupt, any mode of electronic communication or distribution (i.e., hacking, spamming, cyberbullying, etc.)
- Fighting, bullying, sexual harassment/sexual advances, threatening another student
- Using profanity, disrespectful or abusive language, and/or gestures toward another student.
- Leaving class without permission.
- Rudeness to guests of the school or while on field trips
- Forgery or cheating
- Continuous disruptive behavior
- Intimidation of peers or adults
- Theft (severity of threat will determine the need for police charges and/or referral to tribunal)
- Vandalism
- Throwing objects, shooting objects with rubber bands, or otherwise causing objects to fly through the air in a way that is potentially dangerous

Extreme Offenses (Level 3)

Level 3 (Extreme/Critical Offenses): These offenses are behaviors that are considered serious enough to result in immediate referral to the office. Extreme offenses include, **but are not limited to**, the following:

- Excessive aggressiveness / Out of control fighting
- Leaving school property without permission
- Weapon possession or use
- Tampering with and/or setting off the fire alarm.
- Starting a fire
- Sexual activity on campus
- Threatening a teacher or other adult school personnel
- Hitting, biting, or physical assault on teachers or other adult school personnel.
- Profanity or gestures toward adults
- Constant defiance of persons of authority
- Possessing and/or using tobacco products, lighters, matches, etc....
- Skipping school
- Indecent exposure (referral to the tribunal if genitals are exposed)

This is not an exhaustive list of offenses, only the most common ones. All consequences are subordinate to MCSD policies and subject to change at the discretion of the administration.

The severity of consequences may be altered during weeks leading up to long breaks (i.e., Christmas break, Spring break, end of school, etc.).

ECMA 2025-2026 BELL SCHEDULE

 ECMA Bell Schedule 25-26 		
Time	Period	Amount of Time
7:40 - 8:30	ILT	50 MINUTES
8:35 - 9:30	1 ST PERIOD	55 MINUTES
9:35 - 10:30	2 ND PERIOD	55 MINUTES
10:35 - 11:30	3 RD PERIOD	55 MINUTES
11:35 - 1:05 ***** A LUNCH 11:35 - 12:05 B LUNCH 12:05 - 12:35 C LUNCH 12:35 - 1:05 *****	4 TH PERIOD	60 MINUTES 30-MINUTES LUNCH
1:10 - 2:05	5 TH PERIOD	55 MINUTES
2:05 - 2:10	LOCKER BREAK-OFF THE HALL	5 MINUTES
2:10 - 2:15	LOCKER BREAK-ON THE HALL	5 MINUTES
2:15 - 3:10	6 TH PERIOD	55 MINUTES

**PUNCTUALITY TO EACH CLASS
IS AN EXPECTED ATTRIBUTE OF
A NOBLE KNIGHT. BE ON TIME!**

MCSD 2025-2026 School Year Calendar



2025-26 School Year Calendar

Student/teacher holiday

Semester start dates

Teacher planning/staff development/student holiday

Virtual Day

Last Day for Students

July 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

1-25 Summer Break
4 Independence Day Observed
28-31 Teacher Planning/Staff Development Days

August 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

1 Teacher Planning/Staff Development Days
4 1st Day of School/1st Semester Begins

September 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1 Labor Day
4 Progress Reports
19 Virtual Learning Day

October 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

6 End of Nine Weeks
8 Report Cards
9 Teacher Planning/Staff Development Day
10-13 Fall Break

November 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

11 Veterans Day
12 Progress Reports
24-28 Thanksgiving Break

December 2025						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

19 1st Semester Grading Period Ends
23-31 Winter Break

January 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

1-2 Winter Break
5 Teacher Planning/Staff Development Day
6 2nd Semester Begins
7 Report Cards
19 Martin Luther King Jr., Day

February 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

6 Progress Reports
13 Teacher Planning/Staff Development Day
16 Presidents Day

March 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

12 End of 3rd Nine Weeks
17 Report Cards
30 Spring Break

April 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

1-3 Spring Break
21 Progress Reports

May 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

20-23 Graduation
21 Last Day/Report Cards (Elementary)
25 Memorial Day
22-26 Teacher Post Planning
26 Report Cards (Secondary)
27-29 Summer Break

June 2026						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

1-30 Summer Break