



McCormick Elementary School

1123 Sandy Bluff Road
Mullins, SC 29574

Phone (843) 464-3760
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Martina Y. Rush, Principal

<http://mes.marion2.k12.sc.us>

This agenda belongs to:

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/TOWN _____ ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____

STUDENT NO. _____



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Principal's Message

Dear Students and Parents,

On behalf of the faculty and staff of McCormick Elementary School, welcome to the 2010-2011 school year! Serving the academic and social needs of students is at the heart of this school and every classroom. As principal, I am committed to providing a first class education for our children which will allow them the opportunity to have a bright future. By working together and sharing our knowledge and experience, we can achieve the very best for our children.

This handbook has been designed to provide you with information regarding school policies and procedures as well as general information. Please feel free to contact the school if you should have any questions. We will also keep you well informed through the parent newsletter, our website and weekly phone calls.

We appreciate the support you provide to McCormick Elementary School. We sincerely hope that this handbook will be helpful to you, and we look forward to working with you and your child throughout this school year.

Sincerely,

Martina Y. Rush

School Calendar

August

16 First Day for Students

September

6 Labor Day Holiday
20 Interim Conferences (5-7 PM)
29 Dismissal at 11:30 AM

October

15 No School for students
26 Report Cards Issued
27 Dismissal at 11:30 AM

November

2 No School for Students
24-26 Thanksgiving Holidays
29 Interim Conferences (5-7 PM)

December

16-17 Dismissal at 11:30 AM
20-31 Winter Holidays

January

3 Students Return
11 No School for Students
17 MLK, Jr. Holiday
18 Report Cards Issued
26 Dismissal at 11:30 AM

February

21 No School for Students
22 Interim Conferences (5-7 PM)
23 Dismissal at 11:30 AM

March

18 No School for Students
24 Report Cards Issued
30 Dismissal at 11:30 AM

April

25-29 Spring Break

May

2 Interim Conferences (5-7 PM)
9-13 PASS Testing



McCormick Elementary Vision Statement

McCormick Elementary School is committed to providing a comprehensive education for all children in order for them to succeed in life and to be able to contribute in a positive way in the world.

Mission Statement

The Mission of McCormick Elementary School, with the help of home and community, is to develop individuals who are confident, well-rounded and productive citizens by providing unique and innovative experiences in a supportive, safe and nurturing environment.

School – Wide Expectations



Regular Daily Schedule

- 7:40 Morning Show /
Announcements
- 7:45 Tardy Bell /
Instruction Begins
- 2:30 Dismissal Begins

- ◆ Students will not be admitted into the building before 7 AM and should not be dropped off prior to that time.
- ◆ Students who arrive after 7:45 AM will be tardy and must be signed in at the office by a parent.
- ◆ All Car Riders should be picked up by 2:45 PM.

Attendance and Tardies

To succeed in school, children need to be present. By law, students are expected to be at school on time each day. Students should only be absent if they are sick, attending a funeral, observing a religious holiday, or have a doctor's appointment. Upon returning to school from an absence, students should have a written excuse from a doctor or parent. Students who have unexcused absences for 3 consecutive days or 5 total days will be considered truant and steps will be taken to address the attendance problem. Consequences for truancy include parent confer-

ence, retention and referral to truancy officer. Students who arrive after 7:45 AM will be considered tardy and must be signed-in at the office by a parent. Consequences for excessive tardies include: a verbal warning (1-3 tardies), written warning and parent contact (4-5 tardies), one day of ISS (6-8 tardies), out of school suspension (9 or more tardies).

Behavior in Common Areas

An orderly school environment is an essential part of a positive learning environment. Students are expected to follow all established procedures in common areas. Common areas include the hallways, cafeteria, restrooms, and playground. Failure to follow procedures will result in disciplinary action.

Discipline

Students are to follow all classroom / school expectations and rules. Consequences for failing to follow these expectations include (but are not limited to): parent contact, loss of recess, in-school suspension, parent conferences and out-of-school suspension.

Dress Code

Our dress code is an important part of creating a positive learning environment for our students. Following the established expectations of the dress code insures fewer disruptions to our instructional time. These are the expectations for student dress:

- ◆ Clothing with offensive symbols / words is not permitted.
- ◆ No under garments should be showing.
- ◆ Pants should be worn at the waist and secured with a belt if needed.
- ◆ Shorts and skirts should be at least finger-tip length.
- ◆ Leggings should be covered by a dress or skirt finger-tip length.
- ◆ Tops with shoulder straps less than 2 inches in width are not allowed.
- ◆ Hats are not to be worn in the building.
- ◆ Shoes with wheels are not permitted.
- ◆ No flip flops allowed.

Personal Property

Items which are not used for instructional purposes should not be brought to school. This includes **CELL PHONES**, toys, CD players, electronics, money, and other such items. These items will be confiscated and parents will need to set up a conference time to come pick the confiscated items up.

Life Skills

Students will be encouraged to practice these positive life skills at McCormick Elementary. Students may receive positive referrals for demonstrating these characteristics.

Responsibility	Cooperation
Caring	Integrity
Initiative	Flexibility
Perseverance	Organization
Effort	Common Sense
Sense of Humor	Problem Solving
Patience	Friendship
Curiosity	Courage
Pride	

Medications & First Aid

A signed and dated form must be on file in the office prior to the administration of any medication by school personnel. Medications must be brought to school in the original container labeled by the pharmacy. Medications should not be transported on the bus. Students may not carry medications with them during the day.

School personnel will administer first aid to students as needed. In the case of a serious injury or sickness, parents will be notified immediately.

For this reason and others, it is very important for parents to keep their phone and address information up-to-date with the school office.

Transportation

Bus Riders – Bus transportation is a privilege. Bus riders must keep themselves and others safe by following bus procedures at all times. Students who are referred for discipline problems on the bus will face consequences ranging from verbal warnings to loss of bus riding privileges. The district bus supervisor may be reached at 464-3708.

Car Riders – A designated pick-up and drop off area is provided. The patience and cooperation of parents during drop-off and pick-up times will insure that all students arrive and depart safely.

Students may be dropped off in the designated area from 7AM – 7:45 AM. Those arriving after 7:45 AM will be considered tardy and must be signed in at the office. Student pick-up begins at 2:30 PM. Students should be picked up by 2:45 PM.

Transportation Changes – Any changes in transportation should be communicated with a written note from a parent or a phone call to the office. All bus changes must be approved by the district bus supervisor, who may be contacted at 464-3708.



Academics



Grading Scale

93 – 100	A
85 – 92	B
77 – 84	C
70 – 76	D
Below 70	F

Report cards are issued at the end of each nine weeks, with interim reports issued every four and a half weeks. Students must have a yearly average of 70 or above in math and ELA to be promoted to the next grade.

Incentive & Award Programs

Award assemblies are held each quarter. Awards and incentives are given for A Honor Roll, A/B Honor Roll, excelling in MAP and PASS, and citizenship, as well as other areas. Students receive certificates, coupons, lunch out with the principal, trophies, or medals, as well as other incentives.

5th Grade Commencement

5th grade commencement will be held at the end of the year. Students will be expected to dress appropriately for this occasion. Female students will be expected to wear dresses or skirts. Male students will be expected to wear slacks and dress shirts. No tennis shoes or denim will be allowed.

Textbooks

Textbooks are issued to students for their use. Students are responsible for the keeping up with and caring for their textbooks. Fees will be charged for lost or damaged textbooks.

Additional Information



for Parents



Parent-Teacher
Communication

Teachers will communicate with parents via phone or written note concerning a student's academics or behavior. If needed, parents should contact their child's teacher in advance to set up a time to conference about any concerns they may have. Conferences will be scheduled before school, during teacher planning, or after school as not to interrupt instructional time.

Parent-Teacher
Organization (PTO)

Parents are encouraged to become active in our school PTO by attending our quarterly PTO meetings and supporting PTO projects.

Visiting

Parents are always welcome to visit McCormick Elementary. Visitors must always check in at the office upon arrival and get a visitors pass. Extended visits should be arranged in advance with the principal and teacher. Parent /teacher conferences must be scheduled before school, after school, or during the teachers' planning time.

School Fees

School fees are \$9.00. This money is used to purchase basic supplies that will be used in the classrooms.

School Insurance

The district provides free insurance coverage for your child while under the jurisdiction of the school. This insurance is secondary to the parent's primary insurance coverage.



**ACCEPTABLE USE OF
TECHNOLOGY**



Marion School District Two supports the use of technology in all classrooms at all levels and in all disciplines. The District expects each staff member and student to use technology appropriately, taking care to make ethical and responsible decisions.

MEETING SPECIAL NEEDS

Marion School District Two recognizes the fact that all children have different talents and different needs in the educational setting. To meet the varying needs of students, many kinds of services are available for students including honors and gifted programs, mental health and school counseling, and programs for special education. If you feel that one of your children is in need of special services, please call Marion School District Two at 464-3700, extension 125. The district would like to help you get the services your child needs to make sure he or she has appropriate educational opportunities.

**STATE AND DISTRICT
STANDARDIZED TESTING**

The Educational Accountability Act requires students in South Carolina, grade 3-8 to take standardized tests. The Palmetto Assessment of State Standards (PASS) is administered in March and May. The Measure of Academic Performance (MAP) is given three times during the year. Help your child recognize the importance of performance tasks and encourage them to do their best at all times. A copy of the standards your child will be working on this year are available upon request and test results will be shared with parents during conferences. Testing results are used to assess students' academic strengths and weaknesses and plan instruction accordingly.

DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Marion School District Two is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in employment or access to district programs on the basis of race, sex, national origin, or handicapping condition. The district office is located at 200 Broad Street, Mullins, SC 29574.

District Policies