

Magruder Middle School
"Home of the Mustangs"
2017-2018
4100 W 185th Street ▪ Torrance, CA 90504
(310) 533-4527
www.Magruder.TUSD.org

Office Hours 7:00am-4:00pm
Campus Opens 7:40am
Campus Closes 3:15pm

Core Values

Core Value # 1 - We believe that all students can learn at high levels.

Core Value # 2 - We, as educators, accept responsibility to ensure high levels of learning for every child.

PowerSchool

To help support the role of the student and of the parent in student's learning at high levels we have PowerSchool to help. PowerSchool is your direct access to view grades and assignments. Students and parents each have accounts so they can monitor progress. Students and parents will be empowered by regularly checking PowerSchool to keep updated on academic progress, missing assignment and attendance. Through PowerSchool, parents and students have viewing access to posted grades, citizenship and attendance. This program offers the option of having weekly PowerSchool reports automatically sent via email or text messages to help keep parents up to date on their student's progress.

Academic Integrity

In the unlikely event that any one of our students is caught compromising Academic Integrity Principles, Magruder will defer to TUSD Board Policy: (Excerpt from ADMINISTRATIVE RULE 5144 - DISCIPLINE POLICY FOR GRADES 6-12). Magruder Middle School has a zero-tolerance policy concerning cheating. If students violate this policy, consequences may include loss of credit, a lower citizenship grade, detention, Saturday School, suspension, and/or adjustment to another school depending on the severity and/or number of violations.

Means of progressive discipline will be enforced in the event a student were to not adhere to this expectation.

Academic Accountability (PSA)

Our goal is to provide an environment where students experience a school-wide commitment to high standards of academic excellence and personal behavior. Recognition of superior performance is essential to student growth and development. Equally important is a need for a program to hold students accountable for unsatisfactory performance that will help them gain self-direction and a sense of responsibility.

Features of this student accountability program are:

1. Achievement and citizenship quarter grades are used as criteria for identification each quarter with unsatisfactory grades defined as:

- a. Less than a 2.0 grade point average for achievement grades on a 4.0 scale.
- b. Two or more U's in citizenship.

2. Consequences for that identification are in effect for the subsequent quarter.

Consequences may include (but are not limited to):

- Restriction of school activities (e.g., School dances, Awards assemblies, Class competitions)
- A modified student schedule
- Adjustment transfer to another school
- Restriction of some or all promotion activities

Absences

Students are required by state law to attend school full time until age 18. Studies show that there is a direct correlation between good school attendance and achievement; therefore, we encourage parents to help their children achieve the habit of daily attendance. Teachers are not required to provide make-up work for unexcused absences. Examples of unexcused absences include: babysitting, vacations, outings, family business, lack of proper clothing, private lessons, etc. If you find it necessary to keep your children out of school for reasons other than illness, we encourage you to send them to school for at least part of the day so that they will not be counted absent. This will also help them to keep up with assignments.

Schools are required by law to account for absence. If your child is absent contact home to verify absences will be made through a phone call and/or email. If your child is going to be absent and a call or email is sent to our attendance clerk you will not be contacted. When students return to school following full or partial-day absences, they must bring a note signed by a parent or guardian stating the exact dates and reasons to the Attendance Office. All students are to check in at the Attendance Office by 8:00 a.m. daily to submit a note to verify any excused absences for documentation purposes. If students forget their note, they must still check in at the Attendance Office at the beginning of the day and return with a note on the following day.

Tardy Policy

Being punctual is important because:

- Being on time, gives you full access to classroom instruction and learning.
- Being punctual enhances the instructional time for all students, limiting disruptions and distractions
- When you are on time you show respect for yourself and to others; you are regarded as reliable and someone that can be trusted.
- It is the right thing to do!

Tardy	Resulting Action to Correct Behavior
1st Tardy	Teacher conference w/ student to remind of possible U in citizenship
2nd Tardy	Teacher conference w/ student to remind of possible U in citizenship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Warning email sent home from office
3rd Tardy	Administration conference w/ student to remind of possible U in citizenship <ul style="list-style-type: none">• "N" in citizenship earned• Detention earned through office
4th Tardy	Administration conference w/ student <ul style="list-style-type: none">• U in citizenship earned• Saturday School
5th Tardy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• U in citizenship earned• Parent Meeting and Attendance Contract• Further Means of Corrective Action

Bell Schedule

	REGULAR START (50 min periods)	LATE START (43 min periods)
First Bell	8:05	9:20
Period 1 - Flag Salute	8:10 – 9:00	9:25 – 10:08
Period 2	9:03 - 9:53	10:11 – 10:54
SNACK	9:53 – 10:08	10:54 – 11:09
Period 3	10:11 – 11:01	11:12 – 11:55
Period 4 - Announcements	11:04 -11:54	11:58 – 12:41
Academic Mastery Period (2 minute passing)	11:56 – 12:26 (30 mins)	NO AMP
Lunch	12:26 – 1:11	12:41 – 1:25
Period 5	1:14 – 2:04	1:28 – 2:11
Period 6	2:07 – 2:57	2:14 – 2:57

School Conduct Expectations (TUSD Board Policy 5131 (a), (b) and (c))

Students will . . .

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| ... treat everyone with respect. | ... respect everyone's privacy and property. |
| ... attend class on time prepared to work. | ... remain on campus all day. |
| ... have good citizenship and conduct. | ... use appropriate language. |
| ... keep backpacks in lockers. | ... keep hands, feet, and other objects to themselves. |

Students will not . . .

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| ... fight or threaten others while at school. | ... fight or threaten others on the way to school. |
| ... fight or threaten others on the way home. | buy, sell, or trade food, gum, candy, cards, etc. |
| ... distract from the learning process. | ... take backpacks to class. |
| ... chew gum at school. | ... play roughly |

Students come to school to learn. Any distractions from the learning environment will be addressed with progressive discipline including:

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| • Warning | • Out-of-school suspension |
| • Detention - before or after school; recess; lunchtime | • Parent visitation to school to monitor student |
| • Saturday School | • Adjustment transfer to another school |
| • In-school suspension | • Expulsion |

Students may be suspended or expelled for any of the following:

- Causing, attempting to cause, or threatening to cause physical injury to another person.
- Possessing, selling, or furnishing any firearm, knife, explosive, or other dangerous object.
- Unlawfully possessing, using, selling, or otherwise furnishing or being under the influence of any controlled substance, as defined in Section 11007 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage or an intoxicant of any kind.
- Unlawfully offering, arranging, or negotiating to sell any controlled substance, as defined in Section 11007 of the Health and Safety Code, an alcoholic beverage, any "look alike" controlled substance, or an intoxicant of any kind.
- Committing robbery or extortion.
- Causing or attempting to cause damage to school property or private property.
- Stealing or attempting to steal school or private property.
- Possessing or using tobacco or any products containing tobacco or nicotine.
- Committing an obscene act or engaging in habitual profanity or vulgarity.
- Unlawfully offering, arranging, or negotiating to sell any drug paraphernalia, as defined in Section 11364 of the Health and Safety Code.
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- Disrupting school activities or otherwise willfully defying the valid authority of supervisors, teachers, administrators, school officials, or other school personnel engaged in the performance of their duties.
- Knowingly receiving stolen school or private property.
- Harassment (sexual or otherwise) of another student.

Due process shall be afforded each student suspended or expelled. All such action will be taken in strict conformity with the procedures and limitations set forth in the Education Code.

Education Code 49079 requires that teachers be informed of a pupil's suspension and the infraction specific to the case, as described in Education Code 48900, except for smoking. This information shall be provided confidentially to teacher for the previous three school years.

* Suspension: Removal of a student from school for a specified length of time.

** Expulsion: The dismissal of a student from all Torrance Unified School District schools.

Dress and Grooming (TUSD Board Policy 5132)

Students are expected to dress in a manner that is supportive of a positive learning environment that is free of distractions and disruptions. If it is determined that a student's dress is inappropriate or distracts others from learning, that student will be required to change their attire. Upon multiple infractions, students may earn school consequences.

1. Clothes shall conceal underwear at all times. Each individual piece of clothing must meet a **2-inch minimum** per strap / shoulder width. "Sagging" pants are not permitted.
2. Neckline of shirts, and low-cut or off the shoulder-type tops, **may not exceed more than 3 inches below the clavicle**.. Sheer or fishnet fabrics, halter-tops, and bare midriffs are prohibited.
3. Short and skirt length must be **no shorter** than the longest point of fingertips when arms are relaxed at side.

Dress and Grooming (TUSD Board Policy 5132) – Cont.

4. Closed toed shoes and socks must be worn at all times. **Tennis or athletic shoes are required for physical education.**

5. Clothing, jewelry and personal items (backpacks, gym bags, water bottles, etc.) shall be free from writing, pictures, or any other insignia which are vulgar, profane, or which advocate racial, ethnic, sexual orientation, or religious prejudice.

6. Hats and beanies are not allowed unless they display the Magruder or North High logo. Other hats may be worn only in medical / religious events as approved by the Principal in advance. For safety precautions students may not wear hoods. Sun-protective clothing must comply with District and school site dress and grooming standards.

6. Swimwear, pajamas, nightgowns, and oversized clothing are not appropriate school wear.

The Principal and staff may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in certain sports and/or classes, extracurricular or other special school activities.

Electronics - Personal Devices

Magruder is a learning environment and expected to be distraction free. Therefore to help ensure a distraction free climate of learning **all personal electronic devices**, while permitted on campus, **must be turned off during school hours** unless used under direct supervision of a Magruder staff member. Students will have their devices confiscated if using them without permission with progressive means of discipline. In the event of an emergency, parents can contact the office.

In accordance with the Board of Education's policy and administrative regulation on search and seizure, a school official may search a student's mobile communications device, including, but not limited to, reviewing messages or viewing pictures. (*cf. 5145.12 – Search and Seizure*) A student who violates this policy may be prohibited from possessing a personal electronic signaling device at school or school-related events and/or may be subject to further discipline in accordance with Board policy and administrative regulation. Students are not allowed to possess laser beam pointers on school grounds (California Penal Code 417.27 (a), (b), (c), and (d)).

Food/Drinks and Gum

In order to keep campus clean all food and drinks are to be consumed in the cafeteria and lunch area. Likewise gum is to be chewed off campus to avoid the littering of campus.

Homework

Current research studies point to the value of regular homework as part of the instructional program. Some benefits of homework are:

- * Growth in academic achievement.
- * Opportunities for developing responsibility, self-discipline, and organizational skills
- * Extending the school experience or enriching a learning activity.

To secure the benefits of regular homework for students, the following guidelines for homework assignments have been established by the Board of Education: An average of one hour should be devoted to homework nightly, Monday through Friday. There may be long-term assignments requiring budgeting of time. Parent responsibility is the reinforcing our position that homework is done promptly and with care. Parents may request homework for students who are absent three or more days. Please call the school before 10:00 am. for same day 3:00pm pick-up in the school office.

Honor Roll Standards

A minimum 3.50 grade point average (GPA) based on the achievement grade is required for Honor Roll membership. Grade point averages are not rounded off (a 3.49 is not rounded off to a 3.50.) All grades must be "A," "B," or "C." All classes, including those taken at North High School, are used to determine eligibility.

All citizenship grades must be "E" or "S." Any student who earns a GPA of 3.5 or higher, but has a "U" or "N" on his report card is not eligible for the Honor Roll.

Academic Supplies

Students are to come to school prepared with a 3-ring binder along with paper, dividers for each subject, and pens and pencils every day this also includes to have an **Independent Reading book at all times**. These items along with a school planner, help students keep track of papers and assignments needed for daily schoolwork. Supplies are expected to be in the student's possession or locked in their locker when not being used (specifically at lunch).

Personal Property

Students are discouraged from bringing valuable items to school. Personal items brought to school are the sole responsibility of the student and the school is not responsible for lost, damaged or stolen items. Students should bring only enough money to school each day to purchase lunch. All students must keep backpacks / book bags in their lockers during school hours (backpacks / book bags in classrooms create safety hazards and occasionally lead to theft). **Purses / personal bags smaller than 12" x 8" will be allowed in the classroom. Backpacks, including backpack purses and knapsacks are to be locked up in the student's locker and not be taken to class.** Students should plan adequate locker time before school, at recess, at lunch, and after school. Students are not allowed to go to their lockers during class time or between class periods.

Public Displays of Affection (PDA)

Public Displays of Affection (PDA) of any type are not allowed **on school grounds** before, during or after school. This includes, but is not limited to, hugging, holding hands, and kissing. Students engaged in PDA will be subject to disciplinary action. This is in order to keep all members of the school community safe and free from distraction of the learning environment.

ID's

Students will be issued a Magruder ID card, which is remain in their possession at all times while at school. For this purpose, we ask all students to keep their IDs in the provided plastic pocket attached to their daily planners. ID cards are used for purchase of cafeteria lunches, check out library books, check out sports equipment, and for other school activities.

School Communications

Magruder sends out any notifications, reminders, and specific news directly through email. This ensures information goes straight to you in a timely manner. Parents, if you don't have an email account, we can assist you in getting one set up. School news and events can be found on the school's website: Magruder.tusd.org. We email out a monthly newsletter (Magruder Monthly Memo) that includes a Principal's letter, calendar, info/events page, and miscellaneous flyer from the school and community. The Magruder Monthly Memo is also posted on the school's website.

Textbooks and Library Books - Student/Parent Responsibility

Any Textbooks issued are a student's responsibility. Students are keep books covered and take care of them for return in the same condition as received. Books borrowed from the library must be given the same respect and care, and returned in the same condition as received. If a textbook or library book is damaged (damaged so that it cannot be checkout to another student again), replacement payment must be made. This is per the

California Education Code, Section 48904 & 48904.3, which states that the parent or guardian of a pupil shall be held liable for school district property.

Traffic Safety

To assure safety while traveling to and from school, students crossing Prairie must do so by accessing the pedestrian bridge located near the south Prairie gate. Furthermore, bicycle, skateboard, and scooter riding are Not Allowed on the school grounds at any time and will result in school consequences and/or confiscation. Helmets must be worn at ALL times. If a student is riding a bicycle, skateboard, and scooter without a proper helmet, that mode of transportation will be confiscated and only released to a parent or guardian or to the student when they have a helmet to wear upon departure of school. Students that depart school via bike, scooter, skateboards are to exit campus through the front gate at 185th and Osage.

Zero Tolerance Policy

The staff and students at our school actively protect the safety of this campus. We enforce a policy of Zero Tolerance. The following violations may result in immediate suspension and/or expulsion from the Torrance Unified School District:

- Possession of a firearm
- Brandishing a knife
- Sale of a controlled substance
- Committing or attempting to commit a sexual assault or battery
- Harassing, threatening, or intimidating a witness