



MARYSVILLE
CHARTER ACADEMY
for the Arts

THE **MCAA** **STUDENT** **PLANNER &** **FAMILY** **HANDBOOK**

A GUIDE TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS, ARTISTIC
EXCELLENCE, AND STUDENT LIFE

2026 - 2027



*Education is not the filling of a
pail, but the lighting of a fire.*

— WILLIAM BUTLER YEATS



MARYSVILLE CHARTER ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

BELL SCHEDULE

2026-2027

REGULAR DAY SCHEDULE

Block 1 or 2	7:50 - 9:16 (86)
Nutrition Break	9:16 – 9:26
Passing	9:26 – 9:31 (5)
9 th Block	9:31 – 10:01(30)
Passing	10:01 – 10:06 (5)
Block 3 or 4	10:06 – 11:29 (83)
Lunch	11:29 – 12:04
Passing	12:04 – 12:09 (5)
Block 5 or 6	12:09 – 1:32 (83)
Passing	1:32 – 1:37 (5)
Block 7 or 8	1:37 – 3:00 (83)
	(140 days at 385)

MINIMUM DAY SCHEDULE

Block 1 or 2	7:50 – 8:51 (61)
Nutrition Break	8:51 – 9:01
Passing	9:01 – 9:06 (5)
Block 3 or 4	9:06 – 10:04 (58)
Break	10:04 – 10:09
Passing	10:09 – 10:14 (5)
Block 5 or 6	10:14 – 11:12 (58)
Lunch	11:12 – 11:47
Passing	11:47 – 11:52 (5)
Block 7 or 8	11:52 – 12:50 (58)
	(24 days at 250)

NON-9TH BLOCK DAY SCHEDULE

Block 1 or 2	7:50 – 9:27 (97)
Nutrition Break	9:27 – 9:37
Passing	9:37 – 9:42 (5)
Block 3 or 4	9:42 – 11:13 (91)
Lunch	11:13 – 11:48
Passing	11:48 – 11:53 (5)
Block 5 or 6	11:53 – 1:24 (91)
Passing	1:24 – 1:29 (5)
Block 7 or 8	1:29 – 3:00 (91)
	(8 days at 385)

FINALS DAY SCHEDULE

Block 1, 2, 5, 6	7:50 – 9:55 (125)
Break	9:55 – 10:10
Passing	10:10 – 10:15 (5)
Block 3, 4, 7, 8	10:15 – 12:15 (120)
Lunch (optional)	12:15 - 12:50
	(8 days at 250)

Non-9th Block Day Schedule:

August 12, 13, 14, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21

Collaboration/Student & Teacher Minimum Days:

September 9, 16, 23

October 1*, 7, 21

November 4, 18

December 2, 9, 18*

January 13, 27

February 3, 24

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 25*

April 14

May 5, 19

June 4*

***= Non-Collaboration Minimum Day**

Finals:

December 15, 16, 17, 18

June 1, 2, 3, 4



MARYSVILLE
CHARTER
ACADEMY
FOR THE ARTS

WELCOME *TO MCAA!*

Marysville Charter
Academy for the Arts is a
place where you can be
inspired, grow, and thrive.

At MCAA, you will:



DISCOVER YOUR TALENTS

Explore your passions and uncover
what makes you unique.



CHALLENGE YOURSELF ACADEMICALLY

Push your limits and achieve
your personal best.



EXPRESS YOUR CREATIVITY

Bring your ideas to life and let
your imagination shine.



BUILD MEANINGFUL RELATIONSHIPS

Connect with others, support each other,
and be part of a caring community.

INSPIRE. CREATE. BELONG.
THIS IS YOUR JOURNEY. THIS IS **MCAA.**

MCAA



Welcome to MCAA

Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts

Welcome to Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts (MCAA)! Whether you are joining us as a new student or returning for another exciting year, we are thrilled that you are part of our school community.

MCAA is more than a school. It is a place where students are encouraged to discover their talents, challenge themselves academically, express their creativity, and build meaningful relationships that last well beyond graduation. Every day at MCAA offers opportunities to learn, create, perform, lead, and serve. Our classrooms, studios, rehearsal spaces, and performance venues are places where curiosity is encouraged, hard work is celebrated, and every student is known by name.

As a small college-preparatory charter school with a focus on the visual and performing arts, we believe that excellence comes from balancing rigorous academics with creativity, collaboration, responsibility, and compassion.

This planner and handbook is designed to help you successfully navigate the school year. Inside, you'll find important information about school expectations, academic programs, student life, and the many opportunities available to you. We encourage students and families to refer to this guide throughout the year. Together, we can ensure that every student has an outstanding experience at MCAA.

Welcome to another year of learning, creativity, and growth. We're excited to see all that you'll accomplish.

Eric Preston,
Principal



Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts

2026-2027 Calendar of Events

Fall Semester

August

- 3-4 Link Crew Training
- 10 New Student Link Orientation 8:00-12:00
- 10-11 Schedule Pickup (optional)
- 12 First Day of School
- 24-28 Back to School Spirit Week
- 27 9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
- 27 Back to School Night
- 28 9th Block Whole School Back to School Rally
- 28 Back to School Dance

September

- 1 9th Block Class Meetings
- 3-4 Club Fair
- 7 Labor Day (No School)
- 10 9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
- 11 Picture Day
- 14 PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
- 24 Site Council/LCAP
- 30 Yuba College Information Day
- Check Counseling Google Classroom for College Application Workshop Dates

October

- 6 9th Block Class Meetings
- 9 End of 1st Quarter
- 12 PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
- 13 PSAT for Juniors
- 15 9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
- 15 Picture Make-Up Day
- 16 Excel Club Fall Blood Drive
- 19-23 Spirit Week
- 21 Senior Picture Make-Ups
- 22 Site Council/LCAP
- 23 Halloween Dance
- 24-25 MJUSD MS Honor Band Rehearsal @ YG
- 25 Folk in the Fall
- ? MJUSD Honor Choir Rehearsal @ LHS
- ? MJUSD Honor Choir & MS Honor Band Concert @ LHS
- 29 9th Block All School Rally
- 30 Teacher Work Day (Non-Student Attendance)

November

- 2 PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
- 3 9th Block Class Meetings
- 3 Financial Aid Night
- 5-6 Advanced Drama Fall Production
- 11 Veterans Day (No School) (Veterans Day Parade for Band)
- 12 9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
- 12 Site Council/LCAP
- 12-14 Advanced Drama Fall Production
- ? MJUSD HS Honor Band
- 19 Mariachi/Bluegrass/Orchestra Performances @ Sutter Theater
- 23-27 Thanksgiving Recess

December

- 1 9th Block Class Meetings
- 1 Piano Performances @ Sutter Theater
- 2 Band/Drumline Performances @ Sutter Theater
- 3 Choir Performances @ Sutter Theater
- 5 Marysville Christmas Parade
- 7 PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
- 9 Advanced Guitar Performances @ Sutter Theater
- 10 9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
- 11 All School Rally (Kick off for Finals, weather permitting)
- 12 Fall Dance Show
- 14 Choir Performance @ Hillcrest Plaza
- 15-18 1st Semester Finals
- 21-31 Winter Recess

Dates are subject to change. Items/events may be added and/or removed. Please watch the website for changes to the calendar:
charter.mjusd.com



Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts

2026-2027 Calendar of Events

Spring Semester

January

1	Winter Recess
4	Spring Semester Begins
5	9th Block Class Meetings
?	CMEA Northern MS/HS Choir/Band
11	PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
13-17	CMEA All-State MS/HS Choir/Orchestra/Band
14	9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
15	All School Rally (intro to Kindness Week-weather permitting.)
16	Winter Ball (high school only)
TBD	NCBCDA HS Honor Choir/Band
18	Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (No School)
19-22	Kindness Week

February

1	PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
2	9th Block Class Meetings
TBD	NCBCDA Honor Band/Choir in Chico
?	Golden Empire Solo/Ensemble Festival @ ARC
4	Site Council/LCAP
6	Middle School Dance
5-7	Lenaea Festival
8	President's Day (No School)
12	9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
15-19	February Recess
TBD	MJUSD Band/Orchestra Fest
TBD	MJUSD Choir Fest

March

2	9th Block Class Meetings
5	CMEA Northern Choir Festival @ Butte College
8	PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
11	9th Block Link Crew Connect Group
11-12	CMEA Northern Band Festival @ Butte College
12	9th Block Whole School Rally
12	MORP Dance
12	End of 3rd Quarter
19	Battle of the Bands
21	Bok Kai Parade
22-25	Beginning Drama Production
26-31	Spring Recess

April

1-2	Spring Recess
9	Butte College Jazz Festival
12	PTCO Meeting @ 6:00

13	9th Block Class Meetings
TBD	CMEA Northern Section Solo/Ensemble Festival
15	9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
15	Site Council/LCAP
17	Music in the Parks
23??	Carnival
23-24, 29-30	Spring Drama Production
22	Link Crew Recruitment
26-5/7	State Testing Window
TBD	Joint Concert-MCAA, WHS, Yuba College @ Yuba College
30	School Not in Session/Makeup Day
29-30	Reno Jazz

May

1	Reno Jazz
1	Spring Drama Production
3-14	AP Testing Window
3-7	Staff Appreciation Week
4	9th Block Class Meetings
5	Orchestra/Mariachi/Bluegrass Performances @ Gym?
6	Intermediate Drama Showcase
8	Prom (11-12 only)
10	PTCO Meeting @ 6:00
11	Band Performances @ Gym?
12	Choir Performances @ Gym?
12	Excel Club Spring Blood Drive
12-16	Julian Fiddle Camp (tentative)
13	9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups
13	Site Council/LCAP
14	9th Block Whole School Rally
15	Spring Dance Showcase 7:00
16	Spring Dance Showcase 2:00
18	Piano Performances @ Gym?
19	Advanced Guitar Performances @ Gym?
21	Linkapalooza Dance
26/27?	8th Grade Trip/Senior Trip
28	Senior Showcase & Awards
31	Memorial Day (No School)

June

1-4	Spring Finals
1	Graduation/Promotion Practice
2	Graduation/Promotion
3	8th Grade Promotion Party/Senior Luncheon
4	Last Day of School



ACADEMIC SUCCESS & THE MCAA EXPERIENCE

A LEARNING COMMUNITY WHERE EVERY STUDENT THRIVES.



MCAA is a learning community where every student is inspired to discover their passions, embrace creativity, think critically, and pursue excellence. Our graduates leave prepared not only academically but as creative, responsible, and thoughtful young adults.



ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

We believe every student is capable of high levels of learning. Through perseverance, curiosity, and hard work, students develop the knowledge and skills needed for future success.



ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE

Creativity is an essential part of learning. Whether through music, dance, theater, visual arts, media arts, or creative writing, students are encouraged to express themselves, take creative risks, and continually improve their craft.



CHARACTER

Respect, integrity, responsibility, and compassion form the foundation of our school community. We strive to build strong character alongside strong academic achievement.



COMMUNITY

Relationships matter. Students, families, staff, and community partners work together to create a welcoming school where every individual feels valued, supported, and connected.

WHAT MAKES MCAA DIFFERENT?

Every school offers classes. MCAA offers experiences. Here, students become performers, artists, musicians, designers, writers, filmmakers, leaders, and scholars. They discover their strengths while developing the confidence to explore new interests and challenge themselves in meaningful ways.



AT MCAA, STUDENTS BENEFIT FROM:

- ✓ A rigorous college-preparatory academic program
- ✓ Outstanding visual and performing arts opportunities
- ✓ Smaller class sizes and personalized support
- ✓ Teachers who strive to know every student by name
- ✓ Leadership opportunities through ASB, clubs, and student organizations
- ✓ Career Technical Education pathways in the Arts, Media, and Entertainment industry sector
- ✓ Community performances, exhibitions, and service-learning opportunities

OUR FOUR PILLARS

Everything we do at MCAA is grounded in four guiding principles.

Academic Excellence

Rigorous coursework that prepares students for college, careers, and lifelong learning.

Artistic Excellence

Meaningful opportunities to develop artistic talents through performance, creativity, and collaboration.

Character

Respect, integrity, responsibility, empathy, and perseverance guide everything we do.

Community

Students, families, staff, and community partners work together to create a welcoming and supportive learning environment.

STAY CONNECTED

Students and families should regularly use:

- ✓ Aeries Parent and Student Portal
 - ✓ ParentSquare
 - ✓ Google Classroom
 - ✓ MCAA Website
 - ✓ School Calendar
 - ✓ School Email
-

SUCCESS AT MCAA

Success at MCAA is measured by much more than report cards. We believe successful students are those who consistently demonstrate effort, responsibility, creativity, kindness, and a willingness to grow. Throughout the school year, challenge yourself to:

Be Present & Engaged

Attend school every day and arrive prepared to learn. Participate in class discussions, performances, rehearsals, projects, and school activities.

Be Respectful & Responsible

Treat classmates, staff, visitors, and yourself with dignity and kindness. Complete your work, meet your commitments, and take ownership of your choices.

Be Courageous & Connected

Try something new. Perform on stage. Share your ideas. Ask questions. Learn from mistakes. Get involved. Join a club. Attend performances. Volunteer. Build friendships. Become part of the MCAA community.

The habits you develop during your time at MCAA will help prepare you not only for graduation, but for success in college, careers, and life.

ART. ACADEMICS. IMPACT.

ACADEMIC SUCCESS

"Success is the sum of small efforts, repeated day after day."

— Robert Collier

Academic success begins with showing up, participating, asking questions, and giving your best effort every day. At MCAA, learning extends beyond textbooks and tests. Students collaborate with classmates, solve real-world problems, perform, create, and explore new ideas in every classroom. Our teachers are committed to supporting every student's growth while maintaining high expectations. Students are encouraged to take ownership of their learning, seek help when needed, and embrace challenges as opportunities to improve.

ATTENDANCE & ABSENCES

Every Day Matters

Every day at MCAA offers opportunities to learn, create, perform, collaborate, and grow. Classroom discussions, hands-on activities, rehearsals, performances, and projects are experiences that cannot always be recreated outside of school. Regular attendance is one of the most important habits students can develop and is one of the strongest predictors of academic success. When students attend school consistently and arrive prepared to learn, they build stronger relationships with their teachers and classmates, stay engaged in their coursework, and develop the habits that lead to success in college, careers, and life.

MCAA encourages every student to maintain at least 90% attendance, with a schoolwide goal of 96% or higher.



ART. ACADEMICS. IMPACT.



MCAA ACADEMIC EXPECTATIONS

These schoolwide expectations apply across all classes unless otherwise directed by your teacher or required by the nature of a specific assignment or activity.

LATE WORK

Late work may be accepted for up to four (4) weeks after the original due date unless the nature of the assignment requires a shorter submission window.

No late work will be accepted during the final two weeks of each semester.

All late work must be submitted no later than two weeks before the final instructional day of the semester, regardless of the original due date.

Students who experience extenuating circumstances should communicate with their teacher as early as possible to develop an appropriate plan for success.

GRADE ROUNDING

- 59.5 → D-
- 69.5 → C-
- 79.5 → B-
- 89.5 → A-

ACADEMIC INTEGRITY

- Do your own work.
- Use AI only when authorized.
- Give credit to others.

ELECTRONIC DEVICES

- Teacher permission required during instruction.
- Respect learning.
- Respect others.

STUDENT EXPECTATIONS

Students are expected to:

- ✓ Attend school every day whenever possible.
- ✓ Arrive on time and prepared for each class.
- ✓ Participate actively in classroom learning and school activities.
- ✓ Complete all assignments following an absence.

REPORTING AN ABSENCE

If a student is absent for all or part of the school day, a parent or legal guardian should notify the Attendance Office as soon as possible by telephone or provide a signed written note when the student returns to school.

Absence notes should include:

- ✓ Date the note was written
- ✓ Date(s) of the absence
- ✓ Reason for the absence
- ✓ Parent or guardian signature

Absences that are not cleared within one week may be recorded as unverified in accordance with district policy and may be considered truant.

PERFORMANCES & SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Because performances, rehearsals, competitions, and exhibitions are an important part of the MCAA experience, students participating in these activities are expected to attend all scheduled classes on the day of the event unless an absence has been approved by school administration.

MAKING UP MISSED WORK

Students are responsible for contacting their teachers after an absence to obtain missed assignments and establish reasonable timelines for completing their work. Teachers will provide opportunities for students to make up work in accordance with school policy.

QUICK TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ Attend school every day whenever possible.
- ✓ Clear absences promptly with the Attendance Office.
- ✓ Communicate with teachers and complete missed work after returning to school.

ART. ACADEMICS. IMPACT.

Student Rights & Responsibilities

Every Student Matters.



“

The strength of a community is measured by how it treats every member. Every student at Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts has the right to learn in an environment that is safe, welcoming, respectful, and supportive. Along with these rights comes the responsibility to contribute positively to the school community and to respect the rights of others.

”



Every Student Has the Right To:



Learn in a safe and orderly environment



Be treated with dignity, fairness, and respect



Receive a high-quality education



Express ideas respectfully



Participate in school programs and activities without unfair discrimination



Request help from trusted adults when concerns arise



Learn in classrooms that support creativity, curiosity, and academic excellence



Every Student Has the Responsibility To:



Attend school regularly and arrive prepared to learn



Treat others with kindness and respect



Follow school expectations



Protect school property



Demonstrate honesty and integrity



Respect differences and contribute positively to the school community



Accept responsibility for personal choices and actions



Rights and responsibilities work together to create a school where everyone feels valued and supported.

Quick Takeaways



Every student deserves respect.



Every student has responsibilities.



Together we create a positive school community.

Tardies

Every Minute Counts.



Arriving on time shows responsibility, respect for others, and readiness to learn. It sets the tone for a successful day!



Student Expectations

Be in your seat and ready to learn when the bell rings. If you arrive late, report directly to the office to check in and get a tardy pass.



When Tardies Become a Concern

Repeated tardiness disrupts learning and affects your success. If tardies become a pattern, the following interventions may be used:

- ★ Parent or guardian contact
- ★ Student conferences
- ★ Detention or campus service
- ★ Saturday School or other interventions
- ★ Referral to the School Attendance Review Board (SARB), when appropriate



We are committed to working together with students and families to develop positive attendance habits and support your success.



- ✓ Arrive before the bell.
- ✓ Check in through the office if you arrive late.
- ✓ Good attendance habits begin with being on time.



Academic Success & Support

Learning Is a Journey.

“

The beautiful thing about learning is that no one can take it away from you.

– B.B. King

”

Challenges are a natural part of learning. When you are struggling, asking for help is a sign of strength. Accepting support and staying committed to your goals will help you grow academically and personally. Perseverance today builds the foundation for your tomorrow.



Academic Expectations

- ✓ Maintain a cumulative GPA of at least 2.0
- ✓ Earn passing grades in all classes
- ✓ Complete assignments on time
- ✓ Seek assistance when they need additional support



Academic Support

If you are experiencing academic difficulty, you may be placed on an Academic Support Plan. The plan is designed to help you improve, stay on track, and reach your full potential.

Support Strategies May Include:



Scheduled tutoring



9th Block intervention



Academic progress meetings



Goal setting



Regular communication with families



Students who are not meeting academic expectations may experience a temporary loss of eligibility for selected extracurricular activities. Our goal is to support you in returning to good academic standing as quickly as possible.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ Maintain at least a 2.0 GPA
- ✓ Ask for help early
- ✓ Academic support is designed to help you succeed



Graduation Requirements

Planning for the Future.

“

Graduation represents years of learning, personal growth, artistic development, and preparation for life after high school. Meet with your counselor regularly to review graduation requirements, monitor your academic progress, and discuss your college and career goals.

To earn a diploma, students must complete all requirements established by MCAA and the Marysville Joint Unified School District.

”

	English	40
	Mathematics	30
	Social Science	30
	Science	30
	Physical Education	20
	Health	5
	Careers	5
	Career Technical Education, Visual & Performing Arts, and/or World Language	20
	Senior Seminar	10
	Electives	40
	Total Required Credits	230

In addition, students must:

- Maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.0
- Complete all state and local graduation requirements
- Meet school expectations to participate in commencement activities

Quick Takeaways

- Monitor your credits each semester
- Meet with your counselor regularly
- Plan ahead for graduation and beyond

Plan ahead, stay engaged, and use your resources—your future is a masterpiece in the making!



Responsible Technology Use

Technology Is a Tool for Learning.

“

Technology is most powerful when it brings people together to learn, create, and solve problems.

— Matt Mullenweg

”

Technology supports instruction, creativity, learning opportunities, and preparation for college, careers, and life. Technology should always be used responsibly, respectfully, and with integrity.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Use school technology for educational purposes
- ✓ Follow teacher directions regarding technology use
- ✓ Protect school-issued devices and equipment
- ✓ Respect the privacy and work of others
- ✓ Demonstrate honesty and academic integrity when using digital resources
- ✓ Students are responsible for all activity that occurs under their assigned accounts



Appropriate Use

- ✓ Complete assignments
- ✓ Conduct research
- ✓ Collaborate with classmates
- ✓ Access educational resources
- ✓ Create digital projects
- ✓ Communicate appropriately with teachers

Teachers may establish additional expectations based on classroom activities and instructional goals.



Inappropriate Use

- ✗ Accessing inappropriate or illegal content
- ✗ Attempting to bypass internet filters or network security
- ✗ Damaging school devices or equipment
- ✗ Sharing passwords or using another person's account
- ✗ Using technology to bully, harass, or intimidate others
- ✗ Engaging in plagiarism or academic dishonesty
- ✗ Using school technology for unlawful or disruptive purposes



Inappropriate use of technology may result in loss of technology privileges, disciplinary action, restitution when appropriate, and other consequences consistent with district policy.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ Use technology to learn, create, and collaborate
- ✓ Protect school equipment and your digital accounts
- ✓ Use technology responsibly and with integrity



Meals & Lunch Procedures

Taking Time to Recharge.



Healthy students learn more effectively. Breakfast and lunch provide time to recharge, connect with friends, and prepare for the rest of the school day. We encourage healthy choices and respect for our shared dining spaces.



Breakfast and Lunch

Through the Community Eligibility Provision (CEP), breakfast and lunch are available to every MCAA student at no cost.

Students may choose to:



Eat in the
Marysville High
School cafeteria



Eat in designated
outdoor eating
areas



Bring lunch
from home



During Lunch

We all share this time and space. Please:

- ✓ Clean up after themselves
- ✓ Dispose of trash properly
- ✓ Respect staff and fellow students
- ✓ Remain within approved campus areas



No food-delivery services are allowed on campus. This includes DoorDash, Uber Eats, and similar services.



Food and beverages are not permitted in classrooms unless approved by the teacher or administrator.



Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts is a closed campus. Students may not leave campus during lunch without authorization through the school office.



Quick Takeaways



Breakfast and lunch are provided at no cost.



Help keep campus clean.

Food deliveries are not permitted.



Student Creative Works

Creativity Has Value.

“

Creativity takes courage.

— Henri Matisse

”



Creativity is at the heart of the MCAA experience. Through music, theatre, dance, visual arts, creative writing, media arts, and academic projects, our students discover ideas, express their voices, and develop their talents.



Ownership of Student Work

Students retain ownership of the original artistic and intellectual work they create while attending MCAA. This includes, but is not limited to, painting, composing music, producing a film, writing a screenplay, designing graphics, or developing another original work.



Showcasing Student Achievement

Unless otherwise prohibited by law or district policy, student work, performances, exhibitions, photographs, videos, and recordings may be displayed or used by MCAA for educational purposes, school publications, school website and social media, recruitment materials, community presentations, and historical archives.



Creative Responsibility

- ✓ Give appropriate credit when using another person's work.
- ✓ Respect copyright and intellectual property.
- ✓ Demonstrate honesty in all creative and academic endeavors.
- ✓ Support classmates through positive and constructive feedback.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ Your original creative work belongs to you.
- ✓ Respect the creative work of others.
- ✓ Take pride in sharing your talents with the MCAA community.



Student Life

“

Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.

– Helen Keller

”

Student life at MCAA extends far beyond the classroom. Rehearsals, performances, field trips, club meetings, service projects, and school events build friendships, leadership skills, and school community. We encourage students to become active participants in campus life. Experiences outside the classroom often become some of the most meaningful memories while preparing students for future success.



Production Expectations

Commitment Builds Excellence.

Outstanding performances result from preparation, teamwork, dedication, and commitment to excellence. Productions, concerts, exhibitions, competitions, and performances are an important part of the educational experience at MCAA.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Maintain satisfactory academic progress
- ✓ Demonstrate positive behavior
- ✓ Attend scheduled rehearsals and performances
- ✓ Communicate with directors and teachers when conflicts arise
- ✓ Support fellow performers and production team members

Students in performance-based classes should understand that rehearsals and performances may be required components of the course and may be included in grading, as outlined in each course syllabus.



Production Agreements

Some productions or events require students and families to sign a Production Agreement outlining participation expectations, rehearsal schedules, eligibility requirements, and performance responsibilities.



When Challenges Arise

When expectations cannot be met because of attendance, academic performance, behavior, or scheduling conflicts, staff will may be removed from a production or encouraged to enroll in another elective if needed. Our goal is to support student success while maintaining the integrity of the production.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ Performances require commitment and preparation
- ✓ Attend rehearsals and performances as scheduled
- ✓ Communicate early if challenges arise



Field Trips

Learning Beyond the Classroom



The world is the greatest classroom.



Some of the most meaningful learning takes place outside the classroom. Field trips allow students to experience history, science, the arts, business, and culture in ways that deepen classroom learning and broaden perspectives; whether attending a museum, college campus, theatre production, competition, or community event, students represent both themselves and MCAA.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Follow all school rules
- ✓ Follow directions from staff and chaperones
- ✓ Demonstrate respectful behavior
- ✓ Remain with their assigned group
- ✓ Represent MCAA with professionalism and courtesy



Eligibility

Participation in field trips may require satisfactory attendance, positive behavior, and appropriate academic progress.

Certain field trips may have additional participation requirements communicated in advance.

Students unable to participate will be provided with an alternative educational assignment whenever appropriate.



Safety

Student safety is our highest priority.

All students must submit completed permission forms before participating in a field trip.

Emergency contact information and medical needs should be kept current throughout the school year.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ Field trips extend classroom learning
- ✓ Represent MCAA with pride
- ✓ Complete permission forms before every trip





Dances & School Events

Celebrating Our Community.



“

The best memories are made when people come together.

”



School dances, performances, assemblies, and special events celebrate our school community, build friendships, and create lasting memories. These events are an extension of the school day. The same expectations for respectful behavior apply whether you are in the classroom, at a performance, or attending a dance.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Demonstrate respectful and responsible behavior
- ✓ Follow the directions of school staff and event supervisors
- ✓ Dress appropriately for the event
- ✓ Respect school property and the property of others
- ✓ Represent MCAA positively throughout the event
- ✓ Students are expected to remain at the event unless released by a parent or guardian or approved by school staff.



Guest Attendance

Guests may be permitted at selected events when approved in advance by school administration. All guest requests must:

- ✓ Be submitted by the published deadline
- ✓ Include all required forms and signatures
- ✓ Meet school eligibility requirements
- ✓ Approval is a privilege and may be denied when necessary to maintain a safe and positive school environment.



Eligibility

Participation in selected extracurricular activities may depend upon satisfactory academic progress, attendance, and behavior. Students receiving academic or behavioral interventions may temporarily lose eligibility until expectations have been met.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ School expectations apply at every event
- ✓ Guest attendance requires prior approval
- ✓ Academic success and positive behavior support participation



Transportation

Arriving Safely.



Getting to and from school safely is an important part of every student's day. Whether you ride the school bus, drive yourself, ride with family members, or use public transportation, you are expected to represent MCAA by demonstrating safe and respectful behavior.



School Bus Transportation

- ✓ Bus transportation is provided through Marysville Joint Unified School District for eligible students.
- ✓ Students riding the bus are expected to follow the driver's directions, treat others respectfully, remain seated while the bus is moving, and help maintain a safe environment for everyone.
- ! Bus transportation is a privilege and unsafe or disruptive behavior may result in the loss of transportation privileges.
- ✓ Students wishing to ride a different bus must receive approval from the school office before dismissal.



Students Living Outside MJUSD

- ✓ Students residing outside the Marysville Joint Unified School District are responsible for arranging transportation to and from school.
- ✓ Public transportation options are available through Yuba-Sutter Transit.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ Follow all bus expectations.
- ✓ Transportation privileges depend on responsible behavior.
- ✓ Obtain approval before changing bus routes.



Visitors & Guest Passes

Welcoming Our Community.



“

Families and community members are important partners in the success of our students. To help maintain a safe and secure learning environment, all visitors are asked to follow school procedures while on campus.

”



Visitor Expectations

- ✓ Check in at the school office upon arrival.
- ✓ Receive and wear a visitor badge while on campus.
- ✓ Follow school procedures and staff directions.
- ✓ Visitors who do not follow school expectations may be asked to leave campus.



Student Visitors

Prospective students may visit MCAA with prior administrative approval. Visits should be arranged in advance and require permission from the student's current school, approval from participating teachers, and approval from school administration. These visits provide future students with an opportunity to experience the MCAA community while minimizing disruptions to classroom instruction.



Quick Takeaways

- ✓ All visitors must check in at the office.
- ✓ Wear a visitor badge while on campus.
- ✓ Student visits require advance approval.



School Identification Cards

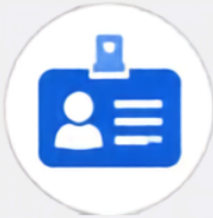
Your School Identity.



“

Your character is your reputation.

”



The MCAA Student Identification Card is more than just a school ID. It identifies you as a member of the Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts community. You may use your ID to access school services, participate in activities, and identify yourself during school events. Carrying your student ID helps our staff maintain a safe campus by quickly identifying students and visitors.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Carry their school identification card during the school day
- ✓ Present their ID when requested by school staff
- ✓ Keep their ID in good condition
- ✓ Report lost or damaged IDs to the school office promptly
- ✓ Replacement fees may apply for lost or damaged identification cards



Why It Matters

Student identification helps maintain campus safety, verify student identity, support participation in school activities, and improve efficiency when checking out materials or attending events.

Quick Takeaways



Carry your student ID each day



Report lost or damaged ID's promptly



Your ID helps keep our campus safe



Leaving the Classroom

Respecting Everyone's Learning.



Every minute of instruction matters. Remaining in class helps you stay engaged while minimizing disruptions to learning for yourself and others. Whenever possible, personal needs should be addressed before or after class.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Students should remain in their assigned classroom during instructional time.
- ✓ Students leaving class must receive permission from their teacher, carry an authorized hall pass, and return promptly to class.
- ✓ Except in emergencies, hall passes are generally not issued during the first or last ten minutes of a class period.
- ✓ Students arriving late to school must report to the school office before attending class.



Shared Responsibility

Teachers and staff work together to ensure that students are safe and accounted for throughout the school day. Following hall pass procedures helps maintain campus security while protecting instructional time.

Quick Takeaways



Stay in class unless you have permission to leave.



Carry your hall pass.



Return to class promptly.



Classes at Marysville High School

Expanding Opportunities.



“

Your character is your reputation.

”



One advantage of being part of the Marysville Joint Unified School District is access to additional academic opportunities. When appropriate, MCAA students may enroll in selected Marysville High School courses that are not available at MCAA, and eligible Marysville High School students may enroll in selected MCAA courses when scheduling permits.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Students interested in cross-campus enrollment should meet with their counselor.
- ✓ Ensure graduation requirements remain on track.
- ✓ Consider transportation and scheduling.
- ✓ Maintain satisfactory academic progress.

Cross-campus enrollment decisions are made based on educational benefit, scheduling availability, and administrative approval.

Quick Takeaways



Additional course options may be available.



Work with your counselor.



Plan ahead when requesting schedule changes.



Leaving Campus

Safety Is Our Priority.



“

Student safety depends on knowing where every student is during the school day. For that reason, MCAA operates as a closed campus.

”



Student Expectations

Students may not leave campus during the school day unless authorized through the school office.

- ✓ Students leaving campus must receive parent or guardian permission.
- ✓ Students must obtain an approved Leave of Grounds Pass.
- ✓ Students must sign out through the school office before leaving.
- ✓ Students must report to the office before returning to class when they return to campus.



Why This Matters

Closed campus procedures help protect student safety, ensure accurate attendance, allow staff to respond effectively during emergencies, and maintain a secure learning environment.

Students leaving campus without authorization may be considered truant and may be subject to disciplinary action.

Quick Takeaways



MCAA is a closed campus.



Obtain approval before leaving.



Always sign out through the office.



Bullying, Harassment & Discrimination

Everyone Belongs.



“

**Be kind whenever possible.
It is always possible.**

— The Dalai Lama

”



Every student deserves to learn in a safe, welcoming, and inclusive environment. MCAA is committed to a school culture where differences are respected, every voice is valued, and all students feel a sense of belonging.

Bullying, harassment, intimidation, discrimination, hazing, threats, cyberbullying, and acts of violence have no place in our school community.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Treat others with dignity and respect
- ✓ Celebrate diversity
- ✓ Resolve disagreements respectfully
- ✓ Report concerns when they witness bullying or harassment
- ✓ Help create a welcoming environment for everyone



Students who experience or witness bullying, harassment, discrimination, or intimidation should report the concern to any trusted adult, teacher, counselor, or administrator. Reports will be taken seriously and investigated promptly. Retaliation against anyone who reports a concern or participates in an investigation is strictly prohibited.



Working Together

Creating a positive school culture is everyone's responsibility. Kindness, inclusion, empathy, and respect strengthen the MCAA community for everyone.

Quick Takeaways



Everyone deserves respect.



Report concerns to a trusted adult.



Help create a welcoming community.



Electronic Devices

Technology Supports Learning.



“

Technology is an important part of how we learn, create, communicate, and collaborate. Electronic devices should enhance learning—not distract from it. Teachers determine when technology supports instructional goals and when devices should remain put away.

”



Student Expectations

The following devices are considered personal electronic devices at school:



Cell Phones



Smart Watches



Earbuds and Headphones



Tablets



Other Personal Electronic Devices

During instructional time, electronic devices may only be used when specifically authorized by the teacher. Students should store devices appropriately when they are not being used for instruction.



Unauthorized Use

Examples of unauthorized use include:

- ✗ Texting or messaging
- ✗ Accessing social media
- ✗ Playing games
- ✗ Watching videos unrelated to instruction
- ✗ Using earbuds during instruction without permission
- ✗ Recording or photographing others without permission
- ✗ Academic dishonesty

Teachers may temporarily confiscate electronic devices when necessary to maintain a productive learning environment.

Repeated misuse may result in additional disciplinary consequences consistent with district policy.



Respecting Privacy

Never record others without permission. Respect your classmates' privacy at all times.



Quick Takeaways



Keep devices put away unless directed by your teacher.



Never record others without permission.



Use technology responsibly.



Lockers

Shared Spaces, Shared Responsibility.



Lockers are provided to help students organize materials and safely store personal belongings during the school day. Taking care of school property demonstrates responsibility and respect for our shared learning environment. Please keep your locker clean, organized, and secure throughout the school year.



Student Expectations

- ✓ Students are responsible for using only the locker assigned to them.
- ✓ Provide an approved lock when required.
- ✓ Keep lockers clean and in good condition.
- ✓ Remove all personal belongings at the end of the school year.



Students should avoid bringing valuable items to school whenever possible.



School Property

Student lockers remain the property of Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts. When permitted by law and district policy, lockers may be inspected to help maintain campus safety and security. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged personal property stored in lockers.

Quick Takeaways



Use only your assigned locker.



Keep your locker clean and secure.



Avoid bringing valuables to school.



Parking & Driving on Campus

Driving Is a Responsibility.



“

Earning the privilege to drive to school represents an important milestone for many students. Driving carries significant responsibility. Students who drive to MCAA are expected to operate vehicles safely, follow all traffic laws, and demonstrate courtesy toward pedestrians, fellow drivers, and neighboring schools.

”



Student Expectations

- ✓ Register their vehicle with the school
- ✓ Display a valid parking permit
- ✓ Park only in designated student parking areas
- ✓ Follow all traffic laws
- ✓ Drive at safe speeds
- ✓ Respect school property and neighboring campuses
- ✓ Vehicles should remain parked during the school day unless students have received permission to leave campus.



Parking Privileges

Parking on campus is a privilege. Unsafe driving, reckless behavior, or repeated violations of school parking expectations may result in suspension or revocation of parking privileges, in addition to other disciplinary consequences when appropriate.

Vehicles parked on school property remain subject to applicable law and district policy.

Quick Takeaways



Register your vehicle.



Drive safely.



Parking is a privilege that comes with responsibility.



Building a Positive School Community

Every Choice Matters.



“

One of the greatest strengths of MCAA is the positive relationships shared among students, staff, and families. Every interaction contributes to the culture of our school. By choosing kindness, honesty, responsibility, and respect, we create an environment where everyone has the opportunity to succeed. Students are expected to contribute positively to the school community both inside and outside the classroom.

”



Community Expectations

- ✓ Treat others with kindness and respect
- ✓ Follow staff directions
- ✓ Demonstrate honesty and integrity
- ✓ Accept responsibility for their actions
- ✓ Respect school property and the property of others
- ✓ Contribute to a safe and welcoming learning environment



Restorative Practices

When conflicts occur, MCAA believes in helping students learn from mistakes whenever appropriate.

School staff may use restorative conversations, problem-solving meetings, mediation, parent conferences, and other supportive interventions to help students repair relationships and make positive choices moving forward.



Serious or repeated misconduct may result in disciplinary action consistent with California Education Code, district policy, and charter school procedures.

Quick Takeaways



Treat others
with respect.



Accept
responsibility
for your choices.



Help create
a positive
school culture.



Student Expectations



“ Character is doing the right thing even when no one is watching. ”



Being part of the MCAA community means more than attending classes. Every student contributes to the culture of our school through daily choices, attitudes, and actions. The expectations in this section are designed to create a school where every student feels safe, respected, supported, and inspired to learn. Respect for ourselves, respect for others, and respect for our school guide everything we do.



Student Dress Expectations Dress for Success

The way we present ourselves reflects pride in ourselves and respect for our school community. Our dress expectations promote a safe, welcoming, and distraction-free learning environment. Individual style and self-expression are valued at MCAA, providing clothing remains appropriate for the school setting.



Student Expectations



Clothing should be appropriate for a school environment.



Clothing should allow students to participate safely in all school activities.



Clothing should not disrupt the learning environment.



Students must wear shoes at all times while on campus.



Prohibited Clothing or Accessories That May Not Display:

Proanity or vulgar language
Hate speech or discriminatory messages
References to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, or illegal substances
Gang-related symbols or imagery prohibited by district policy
Material that is sexually explicit or promotes violence



Head Coverings

Hats, caps, hoods, scarves, or other head coverings may not be worn inside classrooms or school offices unless required for medical reasons, worn for sincerely held religious or cultural purposes, or approved by school administration for a school activity.



If Concerns Arise

If questions or concerns arise about a student's dress, staff will work respectfully with the student to resolve the situation. Our goal is to correct the issue while minimizing lost instructional time whenever possible. Repeated violations may result in progressive disciplinary action consistent with school and district policy.

Quick Takeaways



Dress appropriately for school.



Shoes are required at all times.



Clothing should support a positive learning environment.



Building Responsibility

Learning from Mistakes.



“

Everyone makes mistakes. One of the goals of education is helping students learn from those mistakes, accept responsibility, repair relationships when possible, and continue growing. Most concerns are addressed through conversations, problem solving, and collaboration between students, families, and staff.

”



Progressive Responses

- ✓ Student conferences
- ✓ Parent or guardian communication
- ✓ Restorative conversations
- ✓ Counseling referrals
- ✓ Academic or behavioral support plans
- ✓ Detention or campus service
- ✓ Suspension when required by law or necessary to maintain safety

Each situation is considered individually based upon the nature of the behavior, student history, and applicable laws and policies.



Our Goal



Discipline is intended to protect the learning environment.



Help students develop responsibility.



Restore relationships whenever appropriate.



Encourage positive decision-making.

Accountability and support work together to help students become successful adults.

Quick Takeaways



Learn from mistakes.



Accept responsibility.



Ask for help when needed.



Student Health Services

Healthy Students Learn Better.



“

Physical and emotional well-being play an important role in student success. When students are healthy, they are better able to focus, participate, perform, and learn. MCAA works closely with families to support student health while maintaining a safe school environment.

”



If You Become Ill

- ✓ Students who become ill or are injured during the school day should notify their teacher immediately.
- ✓ Report to the school office with permission.
- ✓ Follow staff directions regarding care and parent notification.
- ✓ Students should never leave campus because of illness without checking out through the school office.



Medications

- ✓ Prescription and over-the-counter medications must be managed according to district policy and applicable law.
- ✓ Students should never share medication with another student.
- ✓ Families should contact the school office if medication must be administered during the school day.



Working Together

- ✓ Parents and guardians are encouraged to keep emergency contacts and medical information current throughout the school year.
- ✓ Accurate information helps our staff respond quickly and appropriately during emergencies.

Quick Takeaways



Tell your teacher if you become ill.



Report to the office before leaving campus.



Keep emergency information up to date.



Tobacco, Nicotine, Alcohol & Drugs

Healthy Choices Support Success.



“

Take care of your body. It's the only
place you have to live.

— Jim Rohn

”



Student health and well-being are essential to academic success, artistic performance, and personal growth. MCAA is committed to maintaining a healthy, safe, and drug-free learning environment where every student has the opportunity to succeed.



Student Expectations



Students may not possess, use, distribute, sell, or be under the influence of tobacco products, electronic cigarettes or vaping devices, nicotine products, alcohol, illegal drugs, controlled substances without authorization, or drug paraphernalia.



These expectations apply on campus, during school-sponsored activities, while traveling on school transportation, and whenever students are under school supervision.



Why This Matters



Substance use affects student health, academic performance, decision-making, safety, and the well-being of the entire school community.



Whenever possible MCAA works with students and families to connect them with appropriate support services while also enforcing school policies and applicable laws.



Serious violations may result in disciplinary consequences consistent with California Education Code and district policy.

Quick Takeaways



MCAA is a tobacco-, vape-, alcohol-, and drug-free campus.



Healthy choices support academic success.



Support is available when students need help.



Campus Safety

We All Share Responsibility.



“

A safe school is created through partnership among students, families, and staff. Every member of the MCAA community plays an important role in maintaining a secure, respectful, and welcoming campus.

”



Campus Security



Portions of the campus are monitored by security cameras to help maintain a safe environment.



Visitors are required to check in through the school office and wear a visitor badge at all times.



Emergency procedures are practiced throughout the school year so we are prepared when it matters most.



Students are expected to report safety concerns immediately to any staff member.



Video recordings may be reviewed during investigations involving safety concerns or violations of school rules.



See Something, Say Something

Help keep our school safe by speaking up when you notice something that doesn't look or feel right.



Report safety concerns and potential threats.



Report suspicious activity or unknown individuals.



Report bullying, harassment, or any form of mistreatment.



Report vandalism or damage to school property.



Report any situation that could place others at risk.

Prompt reporting helps school staff respond quickly and protect the community.

Quick Takeaways



Help keep our campus safe.



Report concerns immediately.



Safety is everyone's responsibility.



Our Promise

Welcome to MCAA.



“

**Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much.**

— Helen Keller

”



At Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts, education is about much more than earning grades or completing assignments; it is about discovering who you are, finding your voice, and learning to think critically, create confidently, perform courageously, and lead with integrity. Every student brings unique talents, experiences, dreams, and perspectives that strengthen our community.

We Promise To...



Know You

Building meaningful relationships so every student feels seen, valued, and supported.



Challenge You

Encouraging students to think deeply, work hard, take creative risks, and pursue excellence.



Support You

Working alongside students and families when challenges arise to provide guidance, encouragement, and opportunities for growth.



Celebrate You

Celebrating achievements on stage, in the classroom, in the community, and through personal growth.



Prepare You

Preparing graduates who are academically capable, artistically confident, socially responsible, and ready to contribute meaningfully to their communities.



A Shared Commitment



Learning is meaningful.



Creativity is celebrated.



Differences are respected.



Kindness is expected.



Integrity guides our decisions.



Service strengthens
our community.

Excellence is
pursued every day.

Thank you for choosing to be part of the Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts family. We look forward to welcoming you to a year of learning, creativity, friendship, and growth.



Nondiscrimination & Equal Opportunity

Every Student Belongs.



“

MCAA is committed to providing an educational environment free from unfairful discrimination, harassment, intimidation, and bullying. Every student deserves the opportunity to learn, create, perform, and participate fully in school programs. This applies regardless of race, ethnicity, national origin, ancestry, immigration status, disability, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, religion, age, or any other characteristic protected by law.

”



Equal Access

MCAA ensures equal access to all school programs and activities, including:



Academic programs



Arts programs



Athletics and extracurricular activities, where applicable



Career Technical Education



Student leadership opportunities



School-sponsored events and activities

MCAA complies with all applicable federal and state laws, including Title IX, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (ADA), and California Education Code.



Reporting Concerns



Students or families who believe discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying has occurred are encouraged to report concerns promptly to a teacher, counselor, administrator, or other trusted school employee.



Reports will be investigated in accordance with district policy and applicable law.



Retaliation against any individual who reports concerns in good faith is prohibited.

Quick Takeaways



Everyone belongs at MCAA.



Discrimination and harassment are not tolerated.



Speak with a trusted adult if you have concerns.



Annual School Calendar

Planning for Success.



“

The annual school calendar helps students and families stay informed about important dates and events throughout the year. It supports organization, preparation, and a successful school experience for all.

”



The calendar includes:



First and last day of school



Holidays and school breaks



Minimum days



Final examination schedules



Performances and productions



Parent conferences



School events



Graduation activities



We encourage all students and families to review the calendar regularly and stay connected through ParentSquare, the school website, and other school communications.

Quick Takeaways



Review the calendar often.



Stay connected through ParentSquare.



Plan ahead for important events.



Career Technical Education Notice

Preparing Students for the Future.



“

Marysville Charter Academy for the Arts provides equal access to all Career Technical Education (CTE) programs and activities. Admission to CTE pathways is based on program availability and educational requirements and is not limited by any characteristic protected under federal or state law.

”



Students interested in learning more about CTE opportunities are encouraged to meet with their counselor to explore available pathways and future career opportunities.

Quick Takeaways



CTE opportunities are open to all eligible students.



Explore career pathways with your counselor.



Connect classroom learning with future careers.



Resolving Questions & Concerns

Working Together



“

Questions and concerns are a normal part of any school community. MCAA believes most issues are best resolved through open communication, mutual respect, and a shared commitment to finding solutions. Students and families are encouraged to communicate with teachers and staff as soon as questions arise.

”



Where to Begin



When a concern involves a classroom or academic matter, families are encouraged to begin by contacting the classroom teacher.



If additional assistance is needed, concerns may then be directed to the School Counselor, Assistant Principal (if applicable), Principal, or appropriate District Office personnel when necessary.



Certain concerns may be addressed through formal complaint procedures established by the Marysville Joint Unified School District or required by California law.



Information regarding these procedures is available through the District Office and on the District website.



Our Commitment

MCAA is committed to listening carefully, communicating respectfully, and working collaboratively with students and families to resolve concerns whenever possible.

Quick Takeaways



Ask questions early.



Work together to resolve concerns.



We are here to help.

	Subject	Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday				

Week Beginning: August 10, 2026

[illegible]

[illegible]

Week Beginning: August, 17, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: August 24, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Back to School Spirit Week		
		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
		Back to School Night 5:30-7:00		
Friday		Back to School Spirit Week		
		9th Block Whole School Back to School Rally		
		Back to School Dance 6:00-9:00		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: August 31, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Club Fair		
Friday		Club Fair		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: September 7, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
Friday		Picture Day		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: September 14, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: September 21, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Site Council/LCAP Meeting @ 3:15		
Friday				
Notes:				

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: October 5, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday		End of 1st Quarter		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: October 12, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
		Picture Make-Up Day		
Friday		Excel Club Fall Blood Drive		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: October 19, 2026				
Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday		Spirit Week		
Tuesday		Spirit Week		
Wednesday		Minimum Day		
		Spirit Week		
		Senior Picture Make-Ups		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Spirit Week		
		Site Council/LCAP Meeting @ 3:15		
Friday		Spirit Week		
		Halloween Dance 6:00-9:00		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: October 26, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Whole School Rally		
Friday		Teacher Work Day (Non-Student Attendance)		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: November 2, 2026				
Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday		PTCO Meeting @ 6:00		
Tuesday		9th Block Class Meetings		
Wednesday		Minimum Day		
		Financial Aid Night		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Advanced Drama Fall Production		
Friday		Advanced Drama Fall Production		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: November 9, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
		Site Council/LCAP Meeting @ 3:15		
		Advanced Drama Fall Production		
Friday		Advanced Drama Fall Production		
Notes: Advanced Drama Fall Production–Saturday, November 14				

Week Beginning: November 16, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Mariachi/Bluegrass/Orchestra @ Sutter Theater @ 6:00		
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: November 23, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Thanksgiving Recess		
Friday		Thanksgiving Recess		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: November 30, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Choir Performances @ Sutter Theater		
Friday				
Notes: Marysville Christmas Parade Saturday, December 5				

Week Beginning: December 7, 2026				
Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday		PTCO Meeting @ 6:00		
Tuesday				
Wednesday		Minimum Day		
		Advanced Guitar Performance @ Sutter Theater		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
Friday		9th Block All School Rally–Kick Off for Finals		
Notes: Fall Dance Show @ McKenney Saturday, December 12				

Week Beginning: December 14, 2026				
Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday		Choir Performance @ Hillcrest Plaza		
Tuesday		Finals Blocks 1 & 3		
Wednesday		Finals Blocks 2 & 4		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Finals Blocks 5 & 7		
Friday		Finals Blocks 6 & 8		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: December 21, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Winter Recess		
Friday		Winter Recess		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: December 28, 2026

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Winter Recess		
Friday		Winter Recess		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: January 4, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: January 11, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
Friday		9th Block All School Rally (Intro to Kindness Week)		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: January 18, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Kindness Week		
Friday		Kindness Week		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: January 25, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: February 1, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Site Council/LCAP Meeting @ 3:15		
Friday		Lenaea Festival		
Notes: Lenaea Festival–February 5-7				

Week Beginning: February 8, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: February 15, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		February Recess		
Friday		February Recess		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: February 22, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday				
Notes:				

Week Beginning: March 1, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday		CMEA Northern Choir Festival @ Butte College		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: March 8, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
Friday		9th Block Whole School Rally		
		End of 3rd Quarter		
		MORP Dance 6:00-9:00		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: March 15, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday		Battle of the Bands		
Notes: Bok Kai Parade—Saturday, March 20, 2027				

Week Beginning: March 22, 2027				
Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday		Beginning Drama Production		
Tuesday		Beginning Drama Production		
Wednesday		Minimum Day		
		Beginning Drama Production		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Minimum Day		
		Beginning Drama Production		
Friday		Spring Recess		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: March 29, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Spring Recess		
Friday		Spring Recess		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: April 5, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday		Butte College Jazz Festival		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: April 12, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
		Site Council/LCAP Meeting @ 3:15		
Friday				
Notes: Music in the Parks–Saturday, April 17				

Week Beginning: April 19, 2027

	Subject	Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday				
Tuesday				
Wednesday				

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		9th Block Link Crew Recruitment Activity		
Friday		Spring Drama Production		
Notes: Spring Drama Production–Saturday, April 24				

Week Beginning: April 26, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		State Testing Window		
		Spring Drama Production		
		Reno Jazz Festival		
Friday		No School (Potential Make-Up Day)		
		Spring Drama Production		
		Reno Jazz Festival		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: May 3, 2027				
Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday		State Testing Window		
		AP Testing Window		
		Staff Appreciation Week		
Tuesday		State Testing Window		
		AP Testing Window		
		Staff Appreciation Week		
		9th Block Class Meetings		
Wednesday		Minimum Day		
		State Testing Window		
		AP Testing Window		
		Staff Appreciation Week		
		Orchestra/Mariachi/Bluegrass Performances		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		State Testing Window		
		AP Testing Window		
		Staff Appreciation Week		
		Intermediate Drama Showcase		
Friday		State Testing Window		
		AP Testing Window		
		Staff Appreciation Week		
Notes: Prom–Juniors & Seniors Only–6:00-10:00				

Week Beginning: May 10, 2027

				Subject	Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday					AP Testing Window		
					PTCO Meeting @ 6:00		
Tuesday					AP Testing Window		
					Band Performance		
Wednesday					AP Testing Window		
					Excel Club Spring Blood Drive		
					Choir Performance		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		AP Testing Window		
		9th Block Link Crew Connect Groups		
		Site Council/LCAP Meeting @ 3:15		
Friday		AP Testing Window		
		9th Block Whole School Rally		
Notes: Spring Dance Showcase @ McKenney–Saturday, May 15 @ 7:00 Spring Dance Showcase @ McKenney–Sunday, May 16 @ 2:00				

Week Beginning: May 17, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday				
Friday		Linkapalooza Dance 6:00-9:00		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: May 24, 2027

[illegible]

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		8th Grade Trip/Senior Trip (?)		
Friday		Senior Showcase & Awards		
Notes:				

Week Beginning: May 31, 2027				
Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Monday		Memorial Day–No School		
Tuesday		Minimum Day		
		Graduation/Promotion Practice		
Wednesday		Minimum Day		
		Promotion @ 5:00/Graduation @ 7:00		

Subject		Homework Details	Due Date	Done ✓
Thursday		Minimum Day		
		8th Grade Promotion Party		
		Senior Luncheon		
Friday		Minimum Day		
		Last Day of School		
Notes:				

A COMPANION TO THE STUDENT HANDBOOK & WEEKLY PLANNER

LEARN CREATE SERVE LEAD

MARYSVILLE CHARTER ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS

2026–2027

WELCOME TO MCAA



Every school gives you a planner. But this guide is something more. It's designed to help you become more organized, more confident, and more successful—not just in school, but in life.

Inside, you'll find practical tools and strategies to help you:

- ✓ Stay organized
- ✓ Manage your time
- ✓ Study smarter
- ✓ Write better
- ✓ Solve problems
- ✓ Prepare for college, careers, and life after high school

Don't worry about reading it all at once. Use it when you need it. Highlight important ideas. Write notes in the margins. Return to the pages that help you. And remember: success isn't about being perfect — it's about getting a little better every day.

Welcome to another great year at MCAA. We're glad you're here.



TABLE OF CONTENTS



UNIT ONE MAKE IT YOUR YEAR

- S1 – Learn How to Win the School Year
- S2 – Using Your Planner Every Day
- S3 – Take Control of Your Time
- S4 – Study Smarter
- S5 – Plan Big Projects
- S6 – Be Ready for Test Day
- S7 – Take Better Notes
- S8 – Read With Purpose



UNIT TWO WRITE WITH PURPOSE

- S9 – Write Better
- S10 – Writing Process
- S11 – Proofread Like a Pro
- S12 – Revise First. Edit Last.
- S13 – Build Strong Sentences
- S14 – Build Better Paragraphs
- S15 – Connect Ideas
- S16 – Writer's Toolbox
- S17 – Common Writing Mistakes
- S18 – Spell It Right



UNIT THREE RESEARCH & RESPONSIBILITY

- S19 – Find Information You Can Trust
- S20 – Can I Trust This?
- S21 – Use AI Wisely
- S22 – Academic Integrity
- S23 – Be a Good Digital Citizen



UNIT FOUR THINK & SOLVE

- S24 – Think Like a Problem Solver
- S25 – Algebra Toolbox
- S26 – Algebra Success
- S27 – Geometry Toolbox
- S28 – Read Graphs Like a Story
- S29 – Become a Better Problem Solver



UNIT FIVE PREPARE FOR YOUR FUTURE

- S30 – Beyond MCAA
- S31 – Build Your First Résumé
- S32 – Interview with Confidence
- S33 – Communicate Professionally
- S34 – Professional Email
- S35 – My MCAA Journey

HOW TO USE *This Guide*



THIS GUIDE IS YOUR TOOLBOX.

Every section is filled with strategies you can use throughout the school year.



WHEN YOU HAVE
A PROJECT,
OPEN THE
PROJECT PLANNING



PREPARING
FOR A TEST,
USE THE
STUDY SKILLS
PAGES.



WRITING
AN ESSAY,
FLIP TO THE
WRITING TOOLBOX.



GETTING READY
FOR AN INTERVIEW,
TURN TO THE
CAREER
SECTION.

LOOK FOR THESE HELPFUL ELEMENTS IN EVERY SECTION:



MCAA IN ACTION — real examples inspired by experiences MCAA students may have in school and throughout the community.



MCAA SHORTCUT — quick ideas students can begin using immediately.



TRY IT — one small action they can take today.



THINK ABOUT IT — a short reflection to help them continue growing.

THIS ISN'T JUST ANOTHER HANDBOOK,
IT'S A GUIDE YOU'LL USE ALL YEAR LONG.

Make it your own.





LEARN HOW TO

Win the School Year



“

Success isn't something that happens to you. It's something you build.

”



No one starts middle school or high school already knowing how to stay organized, prepare for tests, or manage time—because those are **learned skills**.



This unit introduces the habits successful students practice every day.

You don't have to master them all immediately. **Keep improving.**



Small habits create **big results**.

SUCCESSFUL STUDENTS...

- ✓ come prepared
- ✓ ask questions
- ✓ stay organized
- ✓ learn from mistakes
- ✓ help others succeed



MCAA IN ACTION

A new seventh grader arrives nervous on the first day.

Within a few weeks, they learn where classes are, how to use a planner, when to ask questions, and how to stay organized.

Nothing magical happened—they simply practiced good habits every day.



S-2 USE YOUR

Planner Every Day



A PLANNER IS MORE THAN
A PLACE TO WRITE HOMEWORK –
IT'S A **PERSONAL ORGANIZATION SYSTEM**.

YOUR PLANNER SHOULD TRACK:



ASSIGNMENTS



PROJECTS



TESTS



REHEARSALS



PERFORMANCES



PRACTICES



MEETINGS



VOLUNTEER



COMMITMENTS



PERSONAL GOALS



FOUR TIMES TO CHECK YOUR PLANNER



BEFORE SCHOOL



DURING EACH CLASS



BEFORE LEAVING SCHOOL



EVERY EVENING AT HOME

If it's important...Write it down.



BREAK BIG JOBS INTO SMALL STEPS

"SCIENCE PROJECT DUE FRIDAY," WRITE:

MONDAY

Choose topic

TUESDAY

Research

WEDNESDAY

Outline

THURSDAY

Finish

FRIDAY

Review and submit

MCAA IN ACTION – Environmental Club members are designing a new campus landscape area by creating a timeline, assigning responsibilities, and checking progress each week.

MCAA SHORTCUT – before leaving school each day, look at tomorrow – a two-minute review today can prevent problems tomorrow.

TRY IT – write down three important things you need to accomplish tomorrow, and tomorrow evening see how many you completed.

THINK ABOUT IT – what is one way your planner could help reduce your stress this year?

“A goal without a plan is only a wish.”
– **Antoine de Saint-Exupéry**

S-3 TAKE CONTROL

of Your Time



THE DIFFERENCE IS NOT HAVING MORE TIME—IT’S DECIDING HOW TO USE IT.

Successful students plan ahead instead of waiting until the last minute.



PLAN AHEAD

Each Sunday evening, look at the coming week and write down important:



Assignments



Rehearsals & Performances



Practices



Activities



Planning ahead reduces stress.



DECIDE WHAT COMES FIRST



What is due first



What will take the longest



Who is depending on me



COMPLETE IMPORTANT WORK BEFORE EASY WORK.



DON'T WAIT



The night before a project is due **not** the time to begin it.



Starting early gives you something valuable:

choices.



MAKE TIME FOR BALANCE



School



Exercise



Sleep



Creative Activities



Family



Community Involvement



Friends



Balance helps you do your best work.

MCAA IN ACTION — A student is preparing for the spring musical, finishing a history project, and volunteering at a community cleanup. By planning a little work each day, everything is completed without unnecessary stress.

MCAA SHORTCUT — If something takes less than five minutes, it do now.

TRY IT — Open your planner, look ahead one week, and ask what you can begin today.

THINK ABOUT IT — When do you usually feel rushed, and what habit could help you stay ahead?

STUDY SMARTER

Studying is not **reading notes** over and over.
Real studying means **doing something** with what you've learned.



The more **actively** your brain works,
the more it **remembers**.

FIVE STUDY HABITS THAT WORK



1. REVIEW YOUR NOTES
the same day.



2. STUDY IN SHORT SESSIONS
(20–30 minutes).



3. REMOVE DISTRACTIONS.
Focus on one thing at a time.



4. PRACTICE — NOT JUST READ.
Do something with the information.



5. ASK QUESTIONS EARLY.
Get help before small
problems become big ones.



DON'T CRAM

Studying for 20 minutes over
several days is **far more effective**
than studying for three hours the
night before a test.



Your brain remembers
information better
through **repetition**.

STUDY ACTIVELY



Explain the lesson to someone else.



Make flashcards.



Solve practice problems.



Draw diagrams.



Write your own quiz questions.

*If you can teach it...
You probably understand it.*

MCAA IN ACTION —

A student preparing for Concert Band auditions practiced one difficult section at a time instead of playing the entire piece repeatedly. By focusing and mastering each part, the complete performance became stronger.

MCAA SHORTCUT —

At the end of every class, write one thing you learned and one question you still have — those two notes become a great study guide.

TRY IT

Tonight, spend just **15 minutes** reviewing today's lessons.

THINK ABOUT IT

Which study habit would help you the most?

S-5 | PLAN BIG

Projects



Large projects become stressful when they remain one large job. **Successful students divide them into smaller pieces.**



1. START WITH THE DEADLINE

Write the due date in your planner **FIRST**.

Then work backwards by asking, "What has to happen before that?"



3. SCHEDULE YOUR WORK

Even **20–30 minutes** each day keeps a project moving forward.

Small progress adds up quickly.



4. EXPECT PROBLEMS

Technology may fail.

Research may take longer.

Plans may change.

Starting early gives you time to adjust.



2. BREAK IT INTO STEPS

1 Choose a topic

2 Research

3 Outline

4 First draft

5 Revise

6 Proofread

7 Submit



Each completed step builds momentum.

MCAA IN ACTION —

Visual Arts students are creating a large mural for a community organization. They measure the wall, enlarge the design using proportional scaling, assign sections, gather materials, and develop a heliograph good planning turns many individual efforts into one successful project.

MCAA SHORTCUT —

Feeling overwhelmed? Ask yourself "What's the next step?" Then complete only that step.

TRY IT —

Think about your next major assignment. List the first five steps, and schedule the first one today.

THINK ABOUT IT —

Do you usually start early or wait until the deadline gets close?



S-6 BE READY for Test Day



GOOD TEST SCORES USUALLY BEGIN
SEVERAL DAYS BEFORE THE TEST.
CONFIDENCE COMES FROM PREPARATION, NOT LUCK.



START EARLY

Review each lesson while it is fresh.
Don't wait until the night before.



PRACTICE

Reading is not enough.
If your teacher expects you to solve problems, practice solving problems. If you will perform, practice performing. Study the way you will be tested.



SLEEP MATTERS

A tired brain doesn't perform at its best. The night before a test, finish studying, get a good night's sleep, and arrive prepared.



DURING THE TEST



Read directions carefully.



Answer the easy questions first.



Skip difficult questions and return later.



Stay calm.



One question never determines your entire grade.

MCAA IN ACTION — A dance performance is not learned the night before opening night. Every rehearsal builds skill, timing, and confidence — preparing for tests works exactly the same way!

MCAA SHORTCUT — Don't try to learn everything the night before; review what you already know and strengthen what you don't.

TRY IT — Look ahead in your planner, circle your next test, and ask: What will I review tonight?

THINK ABOUT IT — How could you prepare differently for your next test?

UNIT
ONE

S-7

TAKE BETTER

Notes



GOOD NOTES HELP YOUR FUTURE SELF.

Write your notes so they will still make sense next week, not just today.



LISTEN FIRST

- Don't try to write every word.

- Listen for:

- ☒ Main ideas

- ☒ Vocabulary

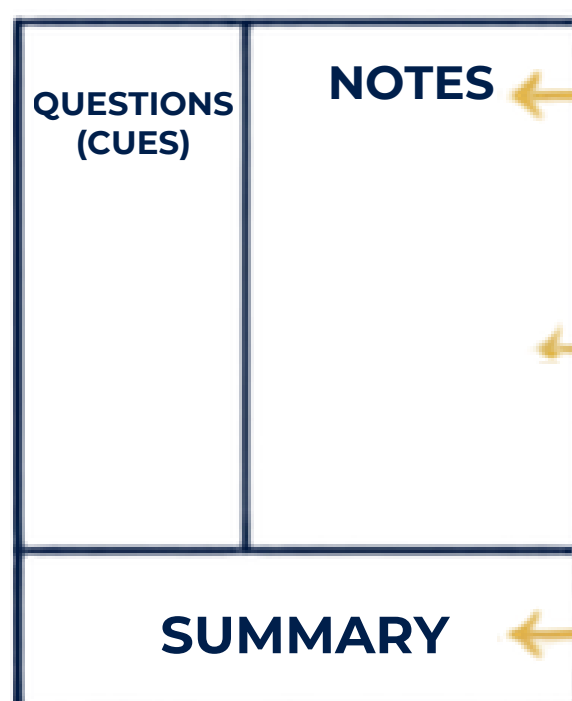
- ☒ Examples

- ☒ Teacher emphasis

(repeats, tone, pauses)

ORGANIZE
EVERY PAGE

- Date
- Lesson Title
- Vocabulary
- Examples
- Questions
- Leave room for additional notes later.

USE CORNELL
NOTES

Write notes here during class.

Write questions or key words after class.

Write a short summary after class. It helps you remember much more!

REVIEW WITHIN
24 HOURS

- ☒ Highlight important ideas
- ☒ Correct mistakes
- ☒ Add missing information
- ☒ Write one question

Small reviews prevent big problems later.

MCAA IN ACTION — During rehearsal, the director changes several staging positions. Students who write those changes down remember them at the next rehearsal. Students who don't spend rehearsal trying to remember.

MCAA SHORTCUT — Before leaving class, write one possible quiz question. By test day, you'll already have a study guide.

TRY IT — Tomorrow, write fewer words, listen more carefully, and focus on quality not quantity.

THINK ABOUT IT — If a friend borrowed your notes, would they understand the lesson?

READ

With Purpose



READING ISN'T ABOUT FINISHING PAGES; IT'S ABOUT UNDERSTANDING IDEAS.

GOOD READERS ASK QUESTIONS WHILE THEY READ.

BEFORE YOU READ



HEADINGS

Look at titles and subheadings.



PICTURES

Study images, captions, and diagrams.



CHARTS

Check graphs, tables, and timelines.



VOCABULARY

Scan bold words and definitions.



WHAT AM I ABOUT TO LEARN?

WHILE YOU READ



Highlight important ideas.



CIRCLE unfamiliar words.



WRITE questions.



PAUSE after each section and summarize it.

AFTER YOU READ



WHAT WAS THE MAIN IDEA?



WHAT WERE THREE IMPORTANT DETAILS?



WHAT QUESTIONS REMAIN?



IF YOU CAN EXPLAIN IT...

You probably understood it.

Every new word is an opportunity.

Use context clues first.

Then check the dictionary.

Finally, use the word yourself.

MCAA IN ACTION

In a theater class, students read a new play. They discuss unfamiliar language, research the historical setting, and explore each character's motivation—they don't just read the script, they understand it.

MCAA SHORTCUT

After every page, ask yourself: **"What was the most important idea?"**

TRY IT

Read one page from one of your classes and summarize it in three sentences without looking back.

THINK ABOUT IT

When does your attention usually drift while reading, and what could help you stay focused?

UNIT ONE REVIEW

The Habits That Matter Most



BIG HABITS. BIG IMPACT.

Strong habits today create a successful tomorrow.

KEEP BUILDING. KEEP GROWING.

THE BIG HABITS CHECKLIST



USE A PLANNER

Write it down. Plan it out.
Stay on track.

☐

MANAGE TIME

Prioritize tasks. Beat procrastination.

☐

STUDY REGULARLY

Consistent study builds confidence and mastery.

☐

PLAN PROJECTS

Break it down. Set deadlines.
Avoid the last-minute rush.

☐

PREPARE FOR TESTS

Review early. Practice often.
Walk in with confidence.

☐

TAKE ORGANIZED NOTES

Clear notes today. Better understanding tomorrow.

☐

READ ACTIVELY

Highlight. Question. Summarize.
Engage with the text.

☐

CHOOSE ONE TO IMPROVE THIS WEEK.

**YOU'VE GOT
THIS!**

The one habit I will focus on is: _____

Because..._____

**BUILDING
MY SUCCESS**

UNIT TWO

S-9 WRITE, SPEAK & BE UNDERSTOOD



“ Good writing isn’t about using big words. It’s about helping other people understand your ideas. ”

Writing is more than English class. Every email, scholarship essay, artist statement, lab report, college application, resumé, text message, and presentation tells people something about you.

Writing is a skill improves with practice—just like music, dance, theater, athletics, or art.

This section is about becoming a **clearer communicator**, not a perfect writer.

★ STRONG WRITERS... ★

 PLAN BEFORE WRITING

☐

 REVISE MORE THAN ONCE

☐

 PROOFREAD CAREFULLY

☐

 READ OFTEN

☐

 KEEP IMPROVING

☐

★ MCAA IN ACTION ★

 ACTORS REHEARSE.
MUSICIANS REHEARSE.



 DANCERS REHEARSE.



 WRITERS REVISE.

★

NO ONE EXPECTS THE FIRST DRAFT—OR THE FIRST REHEARSAL—
TO BE PERFECT.

PRACTICE TODAY. BE UNDERSTOOD
TOMORROW.

S-10 WRITE BETTER

Good Writing Begins Before the First Sentence



BEFORE YOU BEGIN, ASK YOURSELF:



WHAT AM I TRYING TO SAY?



WHO WILL READ THIS?



WHAT DO I WANT THEM TO REMEMBER?

★ **CLEAR THINKING LEADS TO CLEAR WRITING.** ★

THE FIVE-STEP WRITING PROCESS

- | | | | |
|---|--|------------------|---|
| 1 | | PLAN | brainstorm, research, outline, think before writing |
| 2 | | DRAFT | get your ideas on paper, don't worry about perfection yet |
| 3 | | REVISE | improve your ideas, move sentences, add examples, make your message clearer |
| 4 | | EDIT | check grammar, spelling, capitalize, punctuation |
| 5 | | PROOFREAD | read your work one final time, better yet read it aloud because your ears often notice mistakes your eyes miss. |

MCAA IN ACTION



A Visual Arts student finishes an artist statement for the annual exhibition, then revises the wording, fixes grammar mistakes, and reads it aloud. The artwork hasn't changed, but the presentation is much stronger.

SHORTCUT

YOU CAN'T IMPROVE A BLANK PAGE.

Write first, improve later.

YOUR
TURN!

BEFORE YOUR NEXT ASSIGNMENT, SPEND FIVE MINUTES PLANNING BEFORE YOU BEGIN WRITING.

S-11 PROOFREAD LIKE A PRO



*The Easiest Way
to Improve a Grade
may only take
five minutes.*



**DON'T STOP
TOO SOON.**

Many writing mistakes happen
because students stop reading
too soon. Slow down and

CHECK YOUR WORK.



USE THIS CHECKLIST

BEFORE SUBMITTING ANY ASSIGNMENT



I ANSWERED EVERY QUESTION.

☐

MY NAME IS ON THE PAPER.

☐

I CHECKED SPELLING.

☐

I CHECKED GRAMMAR.

☐

I CHECKED PUNCTUATION.

☐

I READ IT ALOUD.

☐

I MADE IT AS CLEAR
AS POSSIBLE.

☐

READ BACKWARDS

Start with the last sentence and
then read the one before it.

Working backwards helps
you notice mistakes instead
of focusing on the story.



MCAA IN ACTION

Jamal is preparing a scholarship
essay. He takes five extra minutes
to proofread and finds:

- one missing comma
- one spelling error
- one repeated word

Those three small fixes make
his essay much stronger.

Five minutes. Big impact.

MCAA SHORTCUT

**NEVER SUBMIT YOUR FIRST
DRAFT.**

YOUR TURN

Choose one assignment
you've already
completed.

Could you improve it in five
minutes?

S-12 REVISE FIRST. EDIT LAST.

These words sound similar, but they're not.



REVISING

CHANGES YOUR IDEAS.

You look at the big picture and make your writing stronger.



Add an example.



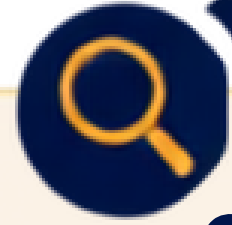
Rearrange paragraphs.



Explain something more clearly.



Remove unnecessary information.



EDITING

CORRECTS MISTAKES.

You look at the details and make your writing accurate.



Check grammar.



Check spelling.



Check punctuation.



Check capitalization.



**REMEMBER: REVISE YOUR IDEAS FIRST,
EDIT YOUR SENTENCES SECOND.**

MCAA IN ACTION



DURING REHEARAL, the director changes where actors stand on stage.

THAT'S REVISION.



BEFORE OPENING NIGHT, everyone checks costumes and microphones.

THAT'S EDITING.

WRITING FOLLOWS THE SAME PROCESS.

**DON'T POLISH
A PARAGRAPH
YOU MIGHT
DELETE.**

YOUR TURN!

Find one paragraph you've written recently.

Improve one idea.
(REVISE)

Correct one mistake.
(EDIT)

S-13 BUILD STRONG SENTENCES

Great writing starts with strong sentences!



Interesting writing uses different kinds of sentences. If every sentence sounds the same, readers lose interest.

1



SIMPLE

One complete thought.

EXAMPLE:

The orchestra rehearsed after school.



2



COMPOUND

Two complete thoughts joined together.

EXAMPLE:

The orchestra rehearsed after school, and the choir practiced in the theater.



3



COMPLEX

One main idea with supporting information.

EXAMPLE:

Although rehearsal ended late, everyone stayed focused.



MIX THEM TOGETHER!



Simple sentences create **emphasis**.



Compound sentences create **flow**.



Complex sentences add **detail**.

*Good writing uses **all three**!*

MCAAAA SHORTCUT

Look at the first word of every sentence. If several begin the same way, **rewrite a few**.

YOUR TURN!

Write one simple, one compound, and one complex sentence about the same topic.

1 SIMPLE: _____

2 COMPOUND: _____

3 COMPLEX: _____

S-14 BUILD BETTER PARAGRAPHS

★ *One Main Idea, Clear and Strong.* ★



EVERY PARAGRAPH SHOULD FOCUS ON ONE MAIN IDEA.

ONE EASY WAY TO REMEMBER THIS IS

PEEL STRUCTURE

P

POINT

introduce your idea.



E

EVIDENCE

give examples or facts.



E

EXPLAIN

tell why it matters.



L

LINK

connect to the next idea.



MCAA IN ACTION



THE CHALLENGE:

A history paper had one page-long paragraph. It was hard to follow.



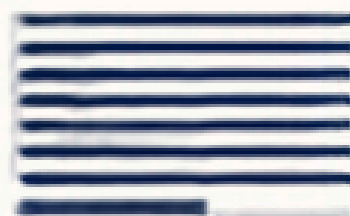
THE SOLUTION:

The writer divided the paragraph into several focused paragraphs using the PEEL structure.

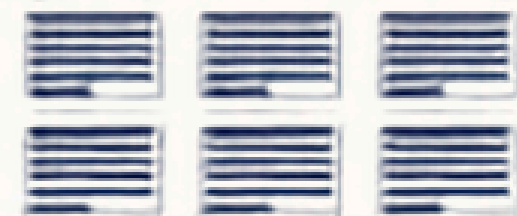


THE RESULT:

The paper became much easier to read and understand because organization helps readers understand your thinking.



BEFORE
(1 LONG PARAGRAPH)



AFTER
(FOCUSED PARAGRAPHS)



MCAA SHORTCUT



IF YOU CAN'T GIVE YOUR PARAGRAPH A TITLE, IT PROBABLY CONTAINS MORE THAN ONE IDEA.

YOUR TURN

Choose one paragraph from a recent assignment and identify the PEEL parts.

P

POINT: _____

E

EVIDENCE: _____

E

EXPLAIN: _____

L

LINK: _____

UNIT TWO

S-15 CONNECT YOUR IDEAS

Strong Ideas. Smooth Connections. Powerful Writing.



GOOD WRITING FLOWS NATURALLY.

Sentences and paragraphs connect in a way that feels smooth and easy to follow.



GREAT WRITING HELPS READERS UNDERSTAND

how one idea connects to the next.

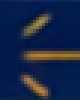


TRANSITION WORDS ACT LIKE BRIDGES.

They guide your reader from one idea to the next so your message is clear and strong.



POWERFUL TRANSITIONS



ADD IDEAS

- also
- furthermore
- in addition
- moreover
- likewise



COMPARE IDEAS

- similarly
- likewise
- in the same way
- just as



SHOW DIFFERENCES

- however
- although
- instead
- on the other hand



SHOW CAUSE & EFFECT

- because
- therefore
- as a result
- for this reason



SHOW TIME

- first
- next
- then
- finally
- eventually



CONCLUDE

- overall
- in conclusion
- ultimately
- in summary



MCAA IN ACTION

A student wrote an essay with strong ideas, but the teacher said it felt disconnected between paragraphs.

The student added a few well-chosen transition words to show connections between ideas. The paper became much easier to follow—without changing any of the ideas!



MCAA SHORTCUT

Don't use transitions just because they sound impressive—use them because they help your reader.

TRY IT!

Look at your last essay.

Circle every transition word you used.

Consider whether any could be replaced with stronger choices.

STRONG CONNECTIONS. *Stronger Writing.*

UNIT TWO



S-16 WRITER'S TOOLBOX



Build Strong Writing, Build Your Future.



BEFORE YOU SUBMIT ANY ASSIGNMENT, ASK YOURSELF...



STRONG PARAGRAPH REMINDER

P



POINT

MAKE YOUR POINT CLEARLY.

E



EVIDENCE

SUPPORT YOUR POINT WITH
FACTS, DETAILS, OR EXAMPLES.

E



EXPLAIN

EXPLAIN HOW THE EVIDENCE
SUPPORTS YOUR POINT.

L



LINK

LINK BACK TO THE QUESTION
OR THE BIGGER PICTURE.

TYPE

SIMPLE

COMPOUND

COMPLEX

PURPOSE

EMPHASIS

FLOW

DETAIL

TRY THESE INSTEAD OF ALWAYS BEGINNING WITH I:

After rehearsal...

SETS THE SCENE

During class...

SHOWS THE MOMENT

Although...

INTRODUCES CONTRAST

Because...

ADDS A REASON

Meanwhile...

CREATES A SHIFT

STRONG ENDINGS

TRY THESE INSTEAD OF

As a result...

Ultimately...

For these reasons...

This demonstrates...

"That's why..."

SHOWS OUTCOME

BRINGS IT ALL TOGETHER

SUMMARIZES SUPPORT

LEAVES A STRONG IMPACT

MCAA SHORTCUT:

Great writers revise twice.

S-17 COMMON WRITING MISTAKES

Smart writers learn, practice, and improve!



Every writer makes mistakes.
Learning to recognize them helps you improve
more quickly and **write with confidence!**

1



YOUR VS. YOU'RE

Your means belongs to you;
You're means you are.



2



THEIR • THERE • THEY'RE

Their means belongs to them;
There **means** a place;
They're means they are.



3



ITS VS. IT'S

It's **means** possession;
It's means it is.



4



THAN VS. THEN

Than means comparison;
Then means time.



5



AFFECT VS. EFFECT

Affect means action;
Effect means result.



LOSE VS. LOOSE

Lose means misplace;
Loose means not tight.

PRINCIPAL VS. PRINCIPLE

Principal means school leader;
Principle means rule or belief.

ACCEPT VS. EXCEPT

Accept means receive;
Except means not including.

SHORTCUT

When you're unsure,
*read the sentence
out loud.*

If it sounds right, it probably is!

*Strong writing
starts with
smart choices!*

TRY IT!

Write one sentence
correctly using each pair of
commonly confused words.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.

S-18

SPELL IT RIGHT



★ *These words appear in school assignments again and again. Learn them now and improve every piece of writing you create.*



Strong spelling builds strong writing. **Know the words. Use them with confidence.**

FREQUENTLY MISPELLED WORDS

accept
accommodate
achieve
appearance
argument
athlete
believe
business
calendar
conscience
curiosity
definitely
develop
dictionary

discipline
embarrass
environment
especially
excellent
experience
familiar
foreign
friend
government
guarantee
height
immediately
independent

intelligence
interesting
knowledge
library
maintenance
necessary
neighbor
opportunity
occur
occurred
physical
piece
profession
pronunciation

privilege
recommend
reference
restaurant
rhythm
schedule
separate
successful
surprise
tomorrow
vacuum
vegetable
weird
whether

writing
your
you're
their
there
they're
finally
because



QUICK TIPS

- ✓ Sound it out.
- ✓ Look for spelling patterns.
- ✓ Check it in a dictionary.

REMEMBER:

Strong writers
revise with care—
and that includes spelling!



➤ *Don't guess. **Check.** Strong writers value accuracy.* ➤



UNIT TWO REVIEW



Great Communicators



Writing is a skill—and every assignment gives you another opportunity to become a **stronger communicator**.



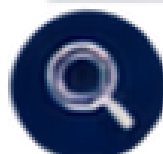
BIG HABITS, BIG IMPACT



PLAN BEFORE WRITING



REVISE IDEAS



EDIT CAREFULLY



PROOFREAD EVERY ASSIGNMENT



BUILD STRONG PARAGRAPHS



USE SENTENCE VARIETY



CONTINUE IMPROVING



THINK ABOUT IT



What is one writing habit you want to improve this semester?



*Keep practicing. Keep growing.
Keep **communicating!***

CLEAR WRITING BEGINS WITH CLEAR THINKING.

UNIT THREE

S-19 FIND INFORMATION YOU CAN TRUST



“ **Knowing how to find reliable information may be one of the most important skills you’ll ever learn.** ”

Every day, you encounter information from teachers, books, websites, videos, social media, and artificial intelligence. Some of it is excellent, some is incomplete, and some is simply wrong.

Successful students don’t believe everything they see. They ask questions, verify information, and think critically.

★ SUCCESSFUL RESEARCHERS... ★

-  **ASK QUESTIONS** ☐
-  **COMPARE SOURCES** ☐
-  **VERIFY FACTS** ☐
-  **GIVE CREDIT** ☐
-  **STAY CURIOUS** ☐

★ MCAA IN ACTION ★



Students are researching the history of Marysville before designing a community mural.

They discover that three different websites tell the story differently.

Instead of guessing which one is right, they visit the local museum, compare historical records, and interview community members.



Their finished mural reflects careful research and honors the community’s history accurately.

GOOD RESEARCH. SMART CHOICES. STRONGER LEARNING.

Find the truth. Share it well. Make a positive impact.

MCAA

UNIT THREE

S-20 CAN I TRUST THIS?



“ Not everything on the Internet is accurate. Before believing—or sharing—information, ask five simple questions. ”



WHO?

Who created it?
Are they qualified?
Can you identify the author?

☐

WHEN?

When was it published?
Is the information current?

☐

WHY?

Why was it created?
To inform? To persuade?
To entertain? To sell something?

☐

WHERE?

Where did the information come from?
Does it include evidence?
Reliable sources? Research?

☐

**CAN I
VERIFY IT?**

Can I find the same information
somewhere else?
One source is rarely enough.

☐

MCAA SHORTCUT



If something sounds
unbelievable,
**CHECK IT
BEFORE BELIEVING IT.**



TRY IT



Find one article
online and ask all
five questions
before deciding
whether you trust it.

THINK CRITICALLY. CHECK CAREFULLY. SHARE WISELY.

MCAA

UNIT THREE

S-21 USE AI WISELY



“ Artificial intelligence is becoming part of everyday life. Like every tool, it can be used well or poorly. ”

AI should help you become a stronger learner—not replace your own thinking.
Use it to support your ideas, not substitute them.
Your voice. Your growth.

★ GOOD USES FOR AI ★

- BRAINSTORM IDEAS ☐
- EXPLAIN DIFFICULT CONCEPTS ☐
- REVIEW VOCABULARY ☐
- PRACTICE INTERVIEW QUESTIONS ☐
- IMPROVE GRAMMAR ☐
- ORGANIZE INFORMATION ☐

★ POOR USES FOR AI ★

- COMPLETING ASSIGNMENTS FOR YOU ☐
- COPYING RESPONSES WITHOUT UNDERSTANDING THEM ☐
- SUBMITTING AI WORK AS YOUR OWN ☐
- AVOIDING LEARNING ☐

ASK YOURSELF

Am I still doing the thinking?
Am I learning something?
Could I explain this without AI?
If the answer is not use the tool differently.

MCAA IN ACTION

A student writes their artist statement first. Then, they use AI to improve clarity and grammar.

The ideas remain the student’s.
The writing becomes **stronger**.

MCAA
SHORTCUT:

USE AI TO **IMPROVE** YOUR WORK—NOT REPLACE IT.

TRY IT:

THE NEXT TIME YOU USE AI,
ASK IT TO **EXPLAIN** INSTEAD OF ANSWER.

UNIT THREE

S-22 ACADEMIC INTEGRITY



“Your ideas matter—and so do everyone else’s. Giving credit shows honesty, respect, and professionalism.”

Academic integrity means being honest in all your work. It’s not just about following rules—it’s about building trust, showing respect for others, and becoming the kind of professional the world needs.

★ WHAT IS PLAGIARISM? ★

Plagiarism means presenting someone else’s work as your own, including:

-  Copying text, code, or ideas without credit.
-  Paraphrasing too closely without credit.
-  Using images or media without permission when required.
-  Submitting another student’s work as your own.
-  Using AI tools in ways that violate your teacher’s expectations.

★ AVOID IT ★

-  WRITE IN YOUR OWN WORDS. ☐
-  TAKE CAREFUL NOTES. ☐
-  KEEP TRACK OF SOURCES. ☐
-  ASK QUESTIONS IF YOU’RE UNSURE. ☐
-  WHEN IN DOUBT, GIVE CREDIT. ☐

MCAA IN ACTION

A photography student is designing a poster for a community event. Instead of downloading someone else’s image, they use an original photograph from their own portfolio. The result? A poster that reflects both creativity and integrity.

MCAA SHORTCUT

Honesty builds trust.
Trust opens doors.

TRY IT

Think about your last project and ask yourself—could you identify every source you used?

UNIT THREE

S-23 BE A GOOD DIGITAL CITIZEN



“ Everything you post tells part of **your story**.

Before posting anything online, pause and ask four questions. If not, **don't post it**. ”



1. IS IT TRUE?



2. IS IT HELPFUL?



3. IS IT
RESPECTFUL?



4. IS IT SOMETHING
I'D STILL BE PROUD
OF NEXT YEAR?



PROTECT YOURSELF



NEVER SHARE:



PASSWORDS



PERSONAL INFORMATION



FINANCIAL INFORMATION



PRIVATE FAMILY INFORMATION



RESPONDING TO CYBERBULLYING



DON'T PARTICIPATE



SUPPORT THE PERSON BEING TARGETED



SAVE EVIDENCE IF APPROPRIATE



TELL A TRUSTED ADULT

Kindness matters online too.

MCAA IN ACTION

A student volunteering with a local community organization notices hurtful comments spreading through a group chat about another volunteer. Instead of joining the conversation, they encourage respect and privately check in with the person who was targeted **leadership often begins with quiet decisions that nobody else notices.**

MCAA SHORTCUT

Before posting,
imagine your **future employer** reading it.

TRY IT

Look through one of your
social media accounts and
ask whether it represents
who you're becoming.

MCAA

UNIT THREE REVIEW

Think Like a Researcher



“ The ability to think critically is one of the **greatest skills** you will ever develop. ”

THE BIG HABITS FROM UNIT THREE

- ☐  ASK QUESTIONS
- ☐  VERIFY INFORMATION
- ☐  COMPARE SOURCES
- ☐  USE AI RESPONSIBLY
- ☐  GIVE CREDIT
- ☐  THINK BEFORE SHARING



THINK ABOUT IT

Which habit from this unit will matter most after graduation—and why?

“ Curiosity asks questions. Wisdom checks the answers. ”

Make good choices.

UNIT FOUR

S-24 THINK LIKE A PROBLEM SOLVER

Think Like a Researcher



“Every challenge is an opportunity to learn something new.”



Problem solving isn't just for math class.

You use it every day—when a rehearsal doesn't go as planned, when a first draft needs revision, when a group project stalls, when a science experiment doesn't work, or when life throws something unexpected your way.



Successful people don't avoid problems; they learn how to solve them.

SUCCESSFUL PROBLEM SOLVERS...



STAY CALM



BREAK BIG PROBLEMS INTO SMALLER ONES



LOOK FOR PATTERNS



ASK QUESTIONS



LEARN FROM MISTAKES



MCAA IN ACTION



Students were creating a large **community mural**.



They discovered the original design doesn't fit the wall.



They recalculated the scale, adjusted the layout, and reworked the plan.

They kept communicating, adapted their ideas, and continued painting.

PROBLEM SOLVED—BY ADAPTING!

UNIT FOUR

S-25 ALGEBRA TOOLBOX

Keep These Formulas Handy

Linear Equations

Slope: $m = (y_2 - y_1) / (x_2 - x_1)$

Slope-Intercept Form: $y = mx + b$

Point-Slope Form: $y - y_1 = m(x - x_1)$

Quadratic Equations

Standard Form: $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$

Quadratic Formula: $x = (-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}) / 2a$

Vertex Form: $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$

Exponent Rules

Same Base (Multiply): Add exponents

Same Base (Divide): Subtract exponents

Power of a Power: Multiply exponents

Negative Exponent: Move to the denominator

MCAA SHORTCUT

Don't memorize formulas by themselves. Know when to use them.

★ UNIT FOUR ★

S-26 ALGEBRA SUCCESS

Think Like a Researcher



Algebra isn't about memorizing steps; it's about **understanding relationships.**

$$2x + 3 = 11$$

It's not just numbers—it's connections.

★ EVERY EQUATION IS LIKE A BALANCE SCALE ★



Whatever you do to **one side**, do to the **other**.

★ KEEP IT BALANCED. KEEP IT EQUAL. ★

CHECK YOUR ANSWER



Does my answer **make sense**?



Can I **substitute** it back into the original equation?

MCAA SHORTCUT

If you're stuck...Write the next step—not the final answer.

SHOW EVERY STEP



Most mistakes happen **between steps**, not at the final answer.



Writing every step helps you **catch mistakes**.



It helps you **explain your thinking**.



It can earn you **partial credit**.

CLEAR STEPS = CLEAR THINKING ★

MCAA IN ACTION

Students are programming lighting cues for a performance. They constantly adjust timing, brightness, and transitions.

Each small adjustment changes the final result.

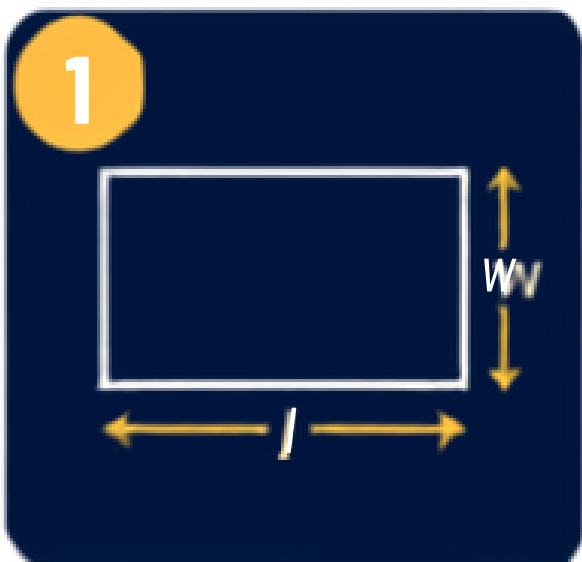
TRY IT!

Find one problem you missed recently and, **instead of correcting the answer**, find the **step** where the **mistake** happened.

YOU'VE GOT THIS.

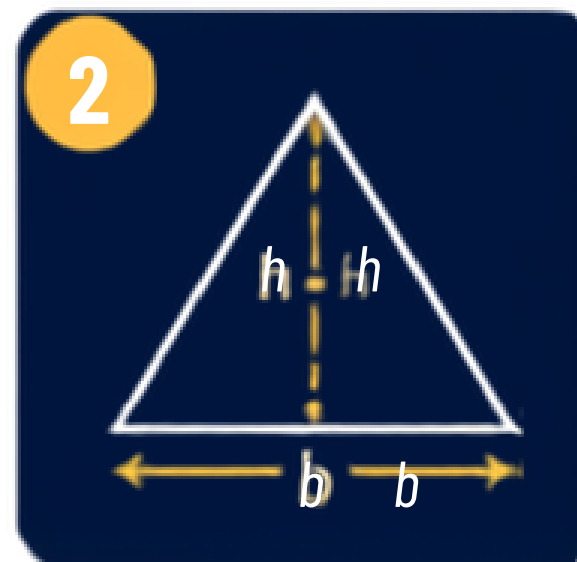
S-27 GEOMETRY TOOLBOX

COMMON FORMULAS



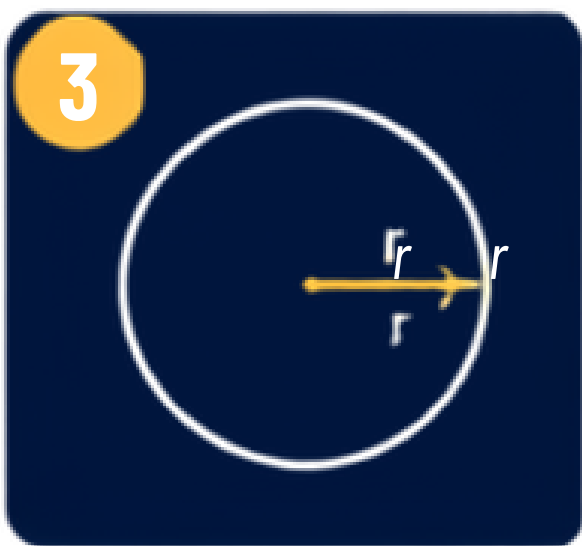
RECTANGLE

- Area = length $\times$ width
- Perimeter = $2l + 2w$



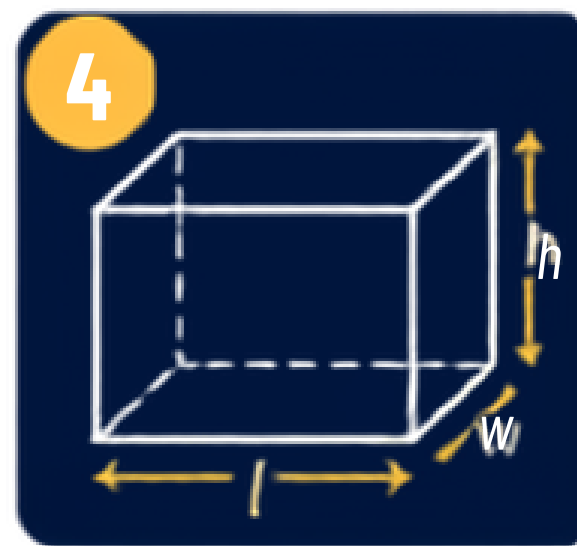
TRIANGLE

- Area = $\frac{1}{2}$
- (base $\times$ height)



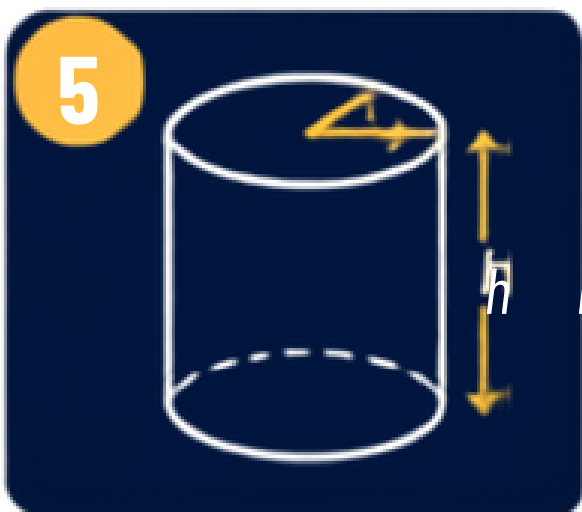
CIRCLE

- Circumference = $2\pi r$
- Area = πr^2



RECTANGULAR PRISM

- Volume = length $\times$ width $\times$ height
- Surface Area = $4\pi r^2$



CYLINDER

- Volume = $\pi r^2 h$
- Surface Area = $4\pi r^2$



SPHERE

- Volume = $\pi r^2 h$
- Surface Area = $4\pi r^2$

PYTHAGOREAN THEOREM

- $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

ANGLE RELATIONSHIPS

- Complementary = 90°
- Supplementary = 180°
- Vertical Angles = Equal

MCAA SHORTCUT

Whenever possible...Draw a picture. Visualizing the problem often reveals the solution.

UNIT FOUR

S-28 READ GRAPHS LIKE A STORY



Graphs tell stories. Ask the right questions.



BEFORE YOU ANALYZE



What do the axes represent?



What units are being used?



What is changing?



WHILE YOU READ



Is the graph increasing, decreasing, or constant?



Where does it change direction?



What patterns do you notice?



VOCABULARY

origin	The point (0, 0) where the axes cross.
x-axis	The horizontal axis.
y-axis	The vertical axis.
quadrants	The four regions created by the axes: I, II, III, IV.
positive slope	A line that rises from left to right.
negative slope	A line that falls from left to right.
zero slope	A horizontal line (no rise or fall).
undefined slope	A vertical line (no run).
intercept	Where a line crosses an axis.

MCAA IN ACTION

Photography students graph the amount of available **natural light** throughout the afternoon before planning an outdoor photo shoot.

Available Natural Light (Arbitrary Units)						
12 pm	1 pm	2 pm	3 pm	4 pm	5 pm	6 pm

MCAA SHORTCUT

Always label your axes. Organization prevents mistakes.

TRY IT!

Find one graph in your science or social science class. Can you explain what story it's telling?

S-29 BECOME A BETTER PROBLEM SOLVER

Think Like a Researcher



“ Being successful in math doesn’t mean getting every answer right; it means **continuing to think** even when the answer isn’t obvious. ”

GOOD PROBLEM SOLVERS...

- ✓  READ CAREFULLY
- ✓  ESTIMATE FIRST
- ✓  SHOW EVERY STEP
- ✓  CHECK THEIR WORK
- ✓  LEARN FROM MISTAKES
- ✓  ASK FOR HELP WHEN NEEDED

WHEN YOU FEEL STUCK...



I can’t do this.



What do I know already?

One **correct step** usually leads to another.



Environmental Club students are planning a new outdoor learning space for their school.



They measure the area.



They estimate materials.



They compare costs.

They revise the design.

They discover the first idea isn’t always the best idea—and that good planning requires **flexibility**, just like mathematics.

MCAA SHORTCUT

EVERY MISTAKE TEACHES SOMETHING.

Figure out **WHY** before moving on.

TRY IT!

Think about the last difficult problem you solved.

What helped you finally understand it?

UNIT FOUR

UNIT FOUR REVIEW

Think Like a Problem Solver

★ BIG HABITS. BIG IMPACT. ★



STAY CURIOUS



BREAK PROBLEMS
INTO SMALLER PARTS



LOOK FOR PATTERNS



LEARN FROM MISTAKES



KEEP TRYING



PROBLEM SOLVING
ISN'T SIMPLY A
MATH SKILL—

**IT'S A
LIFE SKILL.**



IN SCHOOL



AT WORK



IN LIFE

USE IT EVERY DAY. EVERYWHERE.



THINK ABOUT IT

Which problem-solving habit
will help you most this year?

**Persistence often matters
more than speed.**

S-30 BEYOND MCAA

66 *The habits you build today become the opportunities you earn tomorrow.* 99



YOU DON'T NEED TO HAVE IT ALL FIGURED OUT—AND THAT'S OK.

No one expects you to have your entire future planned out. In fact, very few adults do. What matters most is the choices you make today. The habits you build now prepare you for wherever life takes you next—college, a trade, military service, an apprenticeship, employment, or another path.

WHEREVER YOU GO...

Take with you:

- ✓ **INTEGRITY**
- ✓ **CURIOSITY**
- ✓ **KINDNESS**
- ✓ **CREATIVITY**
- ✓ **PERSISTENCE**

THE MCAA QUALITIES THAT CONTINUE TO MATTER



BE DEPENDABLE
SHOW UP. FOLLOW THROUGH. BE SOMEONE OTHERS CAN COUNT ON.



COMMUNICATE
SHARE YOUR IDEAS. LISTEN WITH RESPECT. SPEAK WITH PURPOSE.



BE CURIOUS
ASK QUESTIONS. EXPLORE IDEAS. KEEP LEARNING.

SERVE YOUR COMMUNITY
GIVE BACK. MAKE A DIFFERENCE. LEAVE PLACES BETTER THAN YOU FOUND THEM.



WORK WELL WITH OTHERS
LISTEN. COLLABORATE. BUILD STRONG TEAMS AND FRIENDSHIPS.

CONTINUE TO LEARN
STAY OPEN. BUILD NEW SKILLS. GROW EVERY DAY.

After graduating, Jordan—an MCAA Class of 2023 graduate—wasn't sure what came next. He started volunteering at a local nonprofit that supports youth and families. At first, he came to help. Over time, he became someone they could always count on.

DEPENDABILITY INITIATIVE CREATIVITY COMPASSION

Because of his habits, he earned their trust—and new opportunities. Today, Jordan leads projects, mentors younger students, and is pursuing a career in community development.

MCAA IN ACTION

STRONGER TOGETHER

OPPORTUNITIES AREN'T GIVEN—THEY'RE BUILT OVER TIME. YOU'VE ALREADY STARTED.

S-31 BUILD YOUR FIRST RESUME

“Many high school students think,
“I don’t have enough experience.””

But you usually have more than you realize.



EDUCATION

MARYSVILLE CHARTER ACADEMY FOR THE ARTS



Expected Graduation: 20XX



ACTIVITIES



PERFORMING ARTS



ATHLETICS



CLUBS



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS



LEADERSHIP



VOLUNTEER WORK



EXPERIENCE



PART-TIME JOBS



FAMILY BUSINESS



BABYSITTING



VOLUNTEER SERVICE



TUTORING



COMMUNITY EVENTS



SKILLS



GOOGLE WORKSPACE



PHOTOGRAPHY



CUSTOMER SERVICE



MICROSOFT OFFICE



GRAPHIC DESIGN



ORGANIZATION



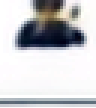
PUBLIC SPEAKING



TIME MANAGEMENT



PROBLEM SOLVING



LEADERSHIP

MCAA
SHORTCUT
CREATE ONE
DOCUMENT CALLED:

My
Accomplishments

HAVE IT
INCLUDE:
EVERY AWARD.

EVERY PERFORMANCE.

EVERY VOLUNTEER
PROJECT.

EVERY LEADERSHIP
ROLE.

ADD IT

KEEP IT
SIMPLE

Aa

FUTURE-YOU WILL
BE THANKFUL.

ONE PAGE
IS BEST

EASY-TO-
READ
FONT

NO
SPELLING
ERRORS

SAVE
AS
A PDF

UPDATE IT
EVERY
YEAR

S-32 INTERVIEW WITH CONFIDENCE

“An interview isn’t a test; it’s a conversation. The interviewer wants to know who you are—not whether you’re perfect.”



REMEMBER:

Interviewers aren’t looking for perfect. They’re looking for real, motivated, and coachable people.

BEFORE YOU ARRIVE

-  RESEARCH THE ORGANIZATION
-  ARRIVE EARLY
-  DRESS APPROPRIATELY
-  BRING YOUR RÉSUMÉ
-  SILENCE YOUR PHONE

DURING THE INTERVIEW

-  LISTEN CAREFULLY
-  SMILE
-  ANSWER HONESTLY
-  USE EXAMPLES
-  ASK THOUGHTFUL QUESTIONS
-  THANK THE INTERVIEWER

QUESTIONS YOU MAY HEAR ☆

- 1 Tell me about yourself.
- 2 Why do you want this opportunity?
- 3 Describe a challenge you’ve overcome.
- 4 Tell me about working on a team.
- 5 What are your strengths?

MCAA IN ACTION

Jalen volunteered with a local service organization throughout high school—serving meals, mentoring younger kids, and organizing donation drives.

In his scholarship interview, he used real stories about the people he helped and showed how he made a positive impact. Just impress them—he inspired them.

MCAA SHORTCUT

People remember stories.
Use examples—not just adjectives.

TRY IT!

Practice a five-minute interview with a friend, teacher, or family member. Then reflect: What well? What can you improve?

BE REAL. BE READY. BE YOU.

S-33 COMMUNICATE LIKE A PROFESSIONAL

“

”



PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION BEGINS WITH **RESPECT**.

The way you speak, listen, and respond shows your character. Communicate with respect, clarity, and care—every time, in every conversation.



FOUR HABITS



Listen first.



Speak clearly.



Be dependable.



Say thank you.



Simple Habits



Big impact.

People may forget exactly what you said. They rarely forget how you made them feel. Professional communication begins with respect.

SOLVE PROBLEMS

Instead of asking, "Whose fault is this?" Ask, "How can I help?" People notice those who solve problems.

MCAA IN ACTION

While volunteering at a community event, a last-minute problem threatens to delay the program. Rather than waiting for instructions, several students quietly step in, solve the issue, and help the event continue smoothly. Leadership often looks like service.

MCAA SHORTCUT

Be the person others can count on.

TRY IT

Write one thank-you note this week. It doesn't have to be long. It just has to be sincere.

S-34 WRITE PROFESSIONAL EMAILS

“ Today's email can open tomorrow's doors. ”



SOMEDAY YOU WILL EMAIL
A COLLEGE PROFESSOR, AN EMPLOYER,
A SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE,
A CUSTOMER, OR A COMMUNITY LEADER.
Professional emails create
positive first impressions and
open doors to opportunities.

BEFORE SENDING

- ✓ READ IT ONCE
- ✓ CHECK SPELLING
- ✓ CHECK TONE
- ✓ BE RESPECTFUL
- ✓ IF YOU'RE UPSET, WAIT AND READ IT AGAIN.

EVERY EMAIL SHOULD INCLUDE



SUBJECT
LINE



GREETING



PURPOSE



IMPORTANT
DETAILS



CLOSING



YOUR
NAME



MCAA IN ACTION



Jada loves the arts and wants real-world experience. She finds a local arts organization and emails to ask about internship opportunities.



SHE WRITES A
CLEAR, POLITE
EMAIL.



THE DIRECTOR
REPLIES AND
INVITES HER TO
LEARN MORE.



JADA MEETS
THE TEAM FOR
AN INTERVIEW.



JADA EARNS AN
INTERNSHIP AND
GAINS VALUABLE
EXPERIENCE!

ONE THOUGHTFUL EMAIL CAN START
SOMETHING BIG.

MCAA SHORTCUT

WRITE EVERY EMAIL AS
IF IT MIGHT BE
FORWARDED.

BECAUSE IT MIGHT.

TRY IT

Write a thank-you email to someone who has encouraged you this year.

S-35 YOUR MCAA JOURNEY

“ The journey doesn’t end at graduation. ”
It’s just the beginning.



You arrived on campus with questions and maybe a little nervousness.

- ▶ Where are my classes?
- ▶ How do I open my locker?
- ▶ Who will my teachers be?
- ▶ Who will my friends become?



Today, you look back—not at grades, performance, or awards—but at **GROWTH**.

Because the best measure of your time at MCAA isn’t what you earned, but who you became.



LOOKING BACK

Take a moment to reflect on your MCAA journey.



I learned...



I overcame...



I contributed...



I am proud that...



THE PEOPLE WHO HELPED ME GROW

Every journey has guides. Thank the people who believed in you.



TEACHER



FAMILY MEMBER



FRIEND



COACH



DIRECTOR OR MENTOR



SOMEONE ELSE



LOOKING FORWARD

Dream big, Stay true.



One goal I have after leaving MCAA is...



One quality I hope people always remember

The goal of MCAA has never been simply to help students graduate.

IT IS TO HELP YOU KEEP LEARNING, CREATING, SERVING, AND GROWING

THANK YOU

for being part of the MCAA story.

Now go write the next chapter.

⇒ **UNIT FIVE REFLECTION** ⇐

LOOKING BEYOND MCAA

✦ — “ *As you continue your journey...* ” — ✦



STAY CURIOUS.



CONTINUE LEARNING.



**KEEP YOUR
COMMITMENTS.**



**SERVE YOUR
COMMUNITY.**



**CREATE OPPORTUNITIES
FOR OTHERS.**



**LEAVE EVERY PLACE BETTER
THAN YOU FOUND IT.**

★ **THINK ABOUT IT** ★



**What kind of
person do you
hope to become?**

*Not what career.
Not what degree.*

**What kind
of person?**

✦ — “ **YOUR FUTURE IS BUILT** ” — ✦

ONE CHOICE AT A TIME.



NOW GO WRITE THE NEXT CHAPTER.



2026-27 SCHOOL CALENDAR

MARYSVILLE JOINT UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

180 Student Attendance Days 183 Instructional Staff Work Days

JULY 2026					0 AUGUST					14 SEPTEMBER					21 OCTOBER					21																			
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F															
		1		2	3										1	2	3	4					1	2															
6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	7	8	9	10	11	5	6	7	8	9				8	9															
13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	14	15	16	17	18	12	13	14	15	16				15	16															
20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	21	22	23	24	25	19	20	21	22	23				22	23															
27	28	29	30	31	24	25	26	27	28	28	29	30			26	27	28	29	30				29	30															
NOVEMBER					15 DECEMBER					14 JANUARY 2027					19 FEBRUARY					14																			
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F															
						1	2	3	4					1	1	2	3	4	5																				
2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	4	5	6	7	8	8	9	10	11	12				11	12															
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	11	12	13	14	15	15	16	17	18	19				18	19															
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	18	19	20	21	22	22	23	24	25	26				25	26															
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31		25	26	27	28	29																									
30																																							
MARCH					19 APRIL					19 MAY					20 JUNE					4																			
M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F	M	T	W	Th	F															
1	2	3		4	5			1	2						3	4	5	6	7				3	4															
8	9	10	11	12	12	5	6	7	8	9					10	11	12	13	14				10	11															
15	16	17	18	19	19	12	13	14	15	16					17	18	19	20	21				18	19															
22	23	24	25	26	19	20	21	22	23	23					24	25	26	27	28				24	25															
29	30	31			26	27	28	29	30	24	25	26	27	28	28	29	30																						
2026-27 KEY DATES																																							
HOLIDAYS - SCHOOL not in SESSION										Staff Contract Days (Students Not in Attendance)										Staff Work Days: Aug. 10 - Teacher Video Work Day, Aug. 11 - Work Day, and Oct. 30 - Site Work Day																			
July 4										Independence Day										First & Last Day of School										August 12 th and June 4 th 9/9, 9/16, 9/23, 10/07, 10/21, 11/4, 11/18, 12/2, 12/9, 1/13, 1/27, 2/3, 2/24, 3/3, 3/10, 3/17, 3/24, 4/14, 5/5, and 5/19 (some schools may have additional dates)									
September 7										Labor Day										Collaboration Minimum Days										October 1 (Goats Day), December 18, March 25, June 4									
November 11										Veteran's Day										Student & Teacher Minimum Day										April 30 and June 7									
November 23-27										Thanksgiving Recess										Makeup Days (Only if Needed)										Aug. 6, 7 and June 8									
December 21 - January 1										Winter Recess										Voluntary Professional Development Days																			
January 18										Martin Luther King Day																													
February 8										President's Day																													
February 15-19										February Recess																													
March 26 - April 2										Spring Recess																													
April 30										School Not in Session or Makeup Day																													
May 31										Memorial Day																													
June 18										Juneleenth																													