

2016-17 Student Handbook



Mt. Pleasant
www.cabarrus.k12.nc.us/mpm
Middle School
Tigers

This agenda belongs to:

Name: _____

Venture Teacher: _____

Period	First Semester	Second Semester
1 st		
2 nd		
3 rd		
4 th		
5 th		
6 th		

Mt. Pleasant Middle School General Information:

Address: 8325 Highway 49 North

Business Phone Number: 704-436-9302

Fax Number: 704-436-6112

Website: www.cabarrus.k12.nc.us/mpms

Mascot: Tigers

School Colors: Royal Blue/ Varsity Gold

Principal (8th Grade Discipline): Timothy Farrar, ext. 3140 timothy.farrar@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Assistant Principal of Instruction (6th Grade Discipline): Kim Hoyle, ext. 3142
kimberly.hoyle@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Assistant Principal (7th Grade Discipline): Andy Maness, ext. 3141
john.maness@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

School Treasurer: Shannon Huneycutt, ext. 3143

Data Manager/Attendance: Cheryl Widenhouse, ext. 3145
cheryl.widenhouse@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Nurse: Jennifer Koob, ext. 3146 , jennifer.koob@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Technology Facilitator: Jan Holshouser, ext. 1125, janice.holshouser@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Cafeteria Manager: Linda Earl, linda.earl@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

School Resource Officer: Deputy Andrew Thousand, ext. 1157,
andrew.thousand@cabarrus.k12.nc.us

Media Specialist: Julie Stephenson, ext. 3149

Athletic Director: Sandi Deaton, ext. 1299

School Hours: Drop off 8:30 A.M., Homeroom 9 A.M., Dismissal 4 P.M. Students may not be picked up between 3:40 P.M. and 4:00 P.M.

PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Welcome to Mount Pleasant Middle School! We are happy to have you as part of our family and look forward to a successful year. We have many exciting things going on at Mt. Pleasant and hope you will become involved in as many activities as possible. Please read over the information in this student handbook and discuss it with your parents. It is essential that you know the details of this handbook in order to understand the **rules and procedures** at Mount Pleasant Middle

This agenda is an excellent tool to help you organize yourself. You can write down your **homework assignments**, use **the calendar to remind you of project due dates and tests**, write down friends' **phone numbers** in the address book, keep track of your **grades**, and read through the numerous other resources this agenda contains.

It is my belief, that if you use this agenda as your planner in this way, it will serve as a great resource for you that will help you become a successful student. We want you **have a wonderful year at Mount Pleasant Middle!**

MISSION STATEMENT OF MT. PLEASANT MIDDLE SCHOOL:

The staff of Mount Pleasant Middle is committed to the development of students as lifelong learners, responsible individuals, and contributing citizens in a dynamic, rapidly changing world.

SCHOOL ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL

Our doors are open to students at 8:30 each morning. This is the earliest that students should be on campus. Therefore, car riders should not be dropped off prior to 8:30. Upon arrival in the morning, students will report to their assigned areas (eighth grade – auditorium, seventh grade – home side of gym, sixth grade – visitors' side of gym). Students will remain in their assigned area until dismissed by the supervising teachers. Parents bringing students to

school and/or picking students up should use the large parking area at the front of the building. Students should cross the front parking lot at the designated crosswalk. Parents cannot drop off or pick up students at the back of the building. Bus drop-off and pick-up will be at the auxiliary gym. Classes start at 9:00am and dismiss at 4:00pm. Car riders should be picked up by 4:15pm. Only those students who have parent notes on file in the office may walk home. After leaving campus, students may not return unless accompanied by an adult. This includes extracurricular activities.

TARDIES

Promptness is very important at MPMS. Students who are tardy are unable to enter homeroom without a pass. Students who are late to school (after 9:00am) should report directly to the main office and provide a written note from a parent or guardian. In order for a tardy due to illness or injury to be excused, a doctor's note should be submitted from the medical/dental facility.

Also, it is essential that students report to class on time. Students will receive the following consequences for being tardy to class:

1st Tardy: Warning

2nd Tardy: Parent contact

3rd Tardy: After School detention

4th Tardy: Referral to Administration

5th +Tardy (dies): Administrative Decision

ATTENDANCE/CHECK-IN/CHECK-OUT

Good attendance is critical for success in school. All absences will be coded unexcused unless a written note from the parent/guardian is received within 24 hours. State law allows absences to be excused for the following reasons: illness or injury, quarantine, death in the immediate family, medical or dental appointments, court or administrative proceedings, religious observance, or educational opportunity. All other absences are coded as unlawful. Educational opportunities must be approved by Administration. Please obtain a form from the office or via the CCS website.

Parents may submit excuse notes electronically by visiting our school webpage. Absences for personal trips are not excused according to state guidelines. Excessive student absences will result in a meeting with school administration and the School Social Worker. In addition, chronic absences could result in a referral

In order to be recorded present a student must be in attendance at least one-half day. **The half-day point is 12:30 P.M.** Students who miss 20 days during the school year may receive no credit and may be retained or required to participate in some form of remediation. Students who have 10 absences must provide a doctor's note for each additional absence.

Parents needing to check-in or check-out their student during the school day should report to the office. Students will be called to the office after the parent has arrived for check-out. No check-outs will be allowed after 3:40 P.M. Check-outs accumulate on a quarterly basis and start over each nine weeks. In order for a check-out due to illness or injury to be excused, a doctor's note should be submitted from the medical/dental facility. Notes should be given to the homeroom teacher the following day. Students will receive warnings for the first 2 unexcused check-outs of each quarter. Students receiving a third or fourth check-out within a given quarter will be assigned after school detention. Further check-outs will result in an administrative referral and assigned in-school suspension.

MAKE-UP WORK

When a student is absent for any reason, the responsibility for completing all make-up work rests with the student. Students are encouraged to check with their teacher for missed assignments. Parents without access to the Internet can request make-up work by calling the main office in order to pick up a hardcopy during normal office hours (8:30am-5:00pm). Make-up work should be completed within three days upon return to school unless prior arrangements have been made with the subject teacher. Failure to complete make-up work will lower a student's grade and may lead to failure for that subject.

PTSO MEMBERSHIP

The Mt. Pleasant Middle School Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) provides valuable volunteer time, financial support, and advice for the overall improvement of our school. School effectiveness is positively impacted by quality parent participation. You will receive an invitation to join our PTSO. We encourage you to participate in any way that you are comfortable. PTSO information can be found on the MPMS website.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

To ensure the safety of our students, all visitors are required to sign-in through the office and obtain a visitor's pass. Parents of students are allowed to join their child during lunch. We encourage our parents to buy lunch through the cafeteria. Outside food must be in nondescript packaging free of any logos or labeling. Due to limited space, we

must limit our visitors to parents only. We have a special seating arrangement in the cafeteria for guests. Our teachers always appreciate being notified in advance of lunch visits.

Teachers communicate with parents about student progress in a variety of ways. These include individual parent conferences, telephone calls, notes, e-mail, and progress reports. In addition, parents are encouraged to inform school personnel about significant changes in the home environment that may affect the student's school performance. Parent/teacher conferences can be scheduled by calling Sharon Duncan, the school receptionist (704-436-9302).

GRADING SCALE

Grades on report cards are assigned by numerical equivalents rather than letter grades. Report cards will be distributed Nov. 3, January 26, and March 30. Progress reports will be distributed Oct. 3, December 13, February 28, and May 11. The following scale can be used in comparing numerical grades to letter equivalents:

Superior	90-100	A
Above Average	80-89	B
Average	70-79	C
Below Average	60-69	D
Unsatisfactory	Below 60	F

Progress Reports/Report Card Dates

	Report /Key Event	Date Due
1st Quarter	Progress Reports	10/03/16
	End of 1st Quarter	10/27/16
	Report Cards Go Home	11/03/16
2nd Quarter	Progress Reports	12/13/16
	End of Second Quarter	01/20/17
	Report Cards Go Home	01/26/17
3rd Quarter	Progress Reports	02/28/17
	End of 3rd Quarter	03/23/17
	Report Cards Go Home	03/30/17
4th Quarter	Progress Reports	05/11/17
	End of 4th Quarter	06/09/17
	MS Report Cards Go Home	TBD

ACADEMIC RECOGNITION

MPMS encourages and rewards academic excellence. Students who excel and maintain a specific grade point average will be named to the honor roll.

“A” Honor Roll: All students who maintain a 90 or higher in all subjects for a grading period.

“A/B” Honor Roll: All students who maintain an 80 or higher in all subjects for a grading period.

PROMOTION GUIDELINES

Students who pass 4 of 6 subjects will be considered for promotion. Three of these subjects must be in the core academics of math, science, social studies, and English/LA. Cabarrus County Schools' guidelines require that students be absent no more than 20 school days to be promoted.

AFTER SCHOOL HELP

Students wishing to receive additional instruction before or after school may make arrangements with the subject teacher using the following guidelines:

- ◆ Help is available per teacher's schedule
- ◆ Students should prepare a list of areas of difficulty or questions beforehand.
- ◆ Students should be picked up in a timely manner. (Information on long-term tutoring is available on website.)

PEER TUTORS

This student group provides valuable tutoring for the student body. Members are recommended by teachers and are selected after an interview process. They are trained by and work with the school counselors. After being trained, our tutors work with fellow students eager for additional assistance.

HELPFUL HINTS

1. Do not bring excessive amounts of money or valuable personal property to school. The school is not responsible for any loss incurred. Students are expected to store items of value in their lockers.
2. Valuables or money should not be taken to PE classes.
3. Make wise choices. Think for yourself. You will be held responsible for your own words and actions.
4. Bookbags are not to be brought into the classroom. Bookbags must fit in school lockers.
5. With the exception of school-approved fundraisers, selling items is not allowed at school.

TEXTBOOKS

It is the student's responsibility to keep textbooks in their possession and to keep them in good condition. Students are required to pay for lost books and for damage greater than that of normal use. Any lost book must be paid for before another one will be issued. New textbooks now cost the school up to \$70.00 each.

STUDENT FEES

The Cabarrus County Board of Education has reinstated the student fee for the 2016-17 school year. The fee is \$10 per student for the year. Fees are also charged for classes that require consumable items; teachers will notify students of these fee amounts. Identification cards and locks for lockers are required and are provided free of charge. There will be a \$5.00 charge to replace lost ID cards and locks.

STUDENT ID CARDS

All students are expected to wear a lanyard with school ID card at all times. Cards are used for security, Internet access, cafeteria purchases, library checkouts, athletic events, and all incentive/dance events. Cards may not be covered or defaced in any way. Replacement cards will be made after a \$5.00 payment is received.

LOCKERS

Each student is assigned a locker and lock for books and personal items. Students may only use their assigned locker. All students are required to keep a school lock on their locker at all times. If lost, students will be charged \$5.00 to replace the lock. Lockers are school property and are subject to inspection at any time. Students are encouraged to keep lockers clean at all times.

STUDENT AGENDA

At the beginning of each school year, a planner/agenda is provided for all students to help them with organization and the recording of assignments. Parents are encouraged to check this planner on a regular basis. Replacement planners will cost \$5.00.

VENTURE PROGRAM

Each student at MPMS will be a member of a Venture group. A major goal of the Venture program is to provide each student with an interest-based club. Students will gain a sense of membership in a small group and a close relationship with a faculty member. The focus of Venture time will include experiences around the club theme, remediation and enrichment. Venture groups will be determined a few weeks into the school year as students will have input into their club selection.

HALL BEHAVIOR

1. Students should not block the hallway between classes.
2. Do not run or loiter in the halls.
3. Students must carry a pass, and not talk, when in the halls during class time.
4. Avoid excessive noise, horseplay, physical contact or any display of affection.
5. Students will not be allowed out of class during the first or last 10 minutes of class.
6. Students should avoid unauthorized areas while changing classes.
7. PBIS signs stress expectations for all students.

SCHOOL NURSE

Students who are sick should report to the nurse's station after receiving a note from their classroom teacher. Any calls to parents will be made by the school nurse.

MEDICATION

Students who need to take medicine on a regular basis must have a completed Physician's Authorization Form for Cabarrus County Schools on file at the school signed by his/her parent/guardian and doctor before any medication (prescription or nonprescription) can be administered by school personnel. Medicine must be in the original container. Other medications, such as Tylenol and aspirin, cannot be administered by school staff without the above documentation. Each student will be given a form detailing medication policies at the beginning of the year.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

MPMS is assigned a full-time resource officer through the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department. Our officer's first priority is the safety and security of students, teachers, and visitors to our campus. In working with the administration to establish and maintain a safe environment, she/he assists with investigations, patrols the campus grounds, makes contacts with students and parents, teaches classes, and advises students.

TELEPHONE USE / CELL PHONE POLICY

During the instructional day, the school telephone is for office use only. Students may not use the school phones during this time unless there has been an unexpected change of a scheduled school function. Students shall not use or display cellular phones or personal music devices after arriving at school. All personal cell phones should be placed in the students locker during the school day. Cell phones should not be carried during the school day or found with the student during the academic school day unless directly permitted by a teacher for a particular class. Devices used or displayed between arrival at school and before exiting the building at the end of the day will be confiscated and held for parent pick up. Repeated violations may result in further administrative action.

ELECTRONIC READERS

The use of e-Reader devices (Kindle, Nook, etc.) is permitted for instructional purposes if a student has completed the e-Reader User Agreement and has a signed copy in their possession, as well as, on file in the media center. This document is available in the media center. These devices are permitted for use only as indicated in the e-Reader User Agreement. Inappropriate use of e-Readers is subject to disciplinary consequences as indicated in the cell phone/electronic devices discipline policy.

MESSAGE BOARD

Parents may call the office when it is necessary to leave a short message for their child. An announcement at the end of the day will notify students that they need to check the office message board before leaving school. We also have a message board in the cafeteria during lunch. We ask that you make arrangements before school to reduce the number of incoming calls with our limited office staff. To protect the integrity of our instructional time, messages and/or items will not be delivered during the instructional day.

LOST AND FOUND

Students who find lost articles are asked to turn them in at the office. Lost articles not claimed within a reasonable time will be given to charitable organizations. The lost and found items are stored at the nurse's waiting area.

STUDENT DRESS

Appropriate hair and dress styles are essential to maintain a proper atmosphere for the educational process and will be required of all students in Cabarrus County Schools. Extreme hairstyles and modes of dress deemed by the school principal to be clearly inappropriate, which tend to disrupt or detract from the normal school atmosphere, will not be permitted within school. The school dress code will be changed as needed to remain in compliance with school board guidelines. Students found out of compliance will be asked to call a parent for a change of clothing. Repeated violations will result in disciplinary consequences.

What to Wear...

- ✓ Skirts and Shorts: No more than three inches above the knee (regardless of undergarments, such as leggings)
- ✓ Shirts and Blouses: Must cover the student's midriff – no plunging necklines or exposed cleavage. Straps must be the width of the student's ID card [two inches or greater].
- ✓ Pants: Fitted at the waist
- ✓ Shoes: Shoes or sandals

What NOT to Wear...

- * Tank tops, muscle, mesh, or see-through shirts/blouses
- * Clothing advocating drug, alcohol, or tobacco use
- * Clothing with inappropriate or suggestive language
- * Clothing that discriminates against particular groups
- * Symbols that may be used to intimidate, create a hostile environment, or to discriminate
- * Excessively tight or baggy clothing
- * Clothing with holes or slashes above the knee
- * Spandex or yoga pants
- * Bedroom slippers or pajamas
- * Excessively long or oversized shirts, coats or jackets
- * Sunglasses, hats, caps, stocking caps, bandannas, headbands or any other headgear while on campus
- * Any apparel or accessories that promote or depict gang affiliation
- * Face painting

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED AT SCHOOL

Articles that interfere in any way with school procedures, disrupt instruction, or become hazards to the safety of others are not allowed. Personal music devices may not be used once students arrive at school. Prohibited items include toys, laser pointers, electronic devices, balls, skateboards, fireworks, any spraying device, White Out, glass containers, permanent markers, and any other items deemed inappropriate for school. Students are discouraged from bringing personal digital devices, large amounts of cash, or other valuables to school. Staff members are under no obligation to try to recover these items if lost or stolen.

CHECK POLICY

Mt. Pleasant Middle School will gladly accept checks. When a check is used as payment, the check writer authorizes us either to use information from the check to make a one-time electronic fund transfer from the check writer's account or to process the payment as a check transaction. The check writer authorizes us to collect a fee through an electronic fund transfer from the check writer's account if the payment is returned unpaid. If a second check is returned within the same school year, we will no longer be able to accept personal checks from that student. We can only accept checks that have both the address and phone number printed on them.

PAYPAL

Mt. Pleasant Middle School is able to accept payment for the instructional supply fee through PayPal. The instructional supply fee is the only fee for which PayPal is an acceptable payment option.

HOMEWORK

Homework is an important part of a student's academic achievement. Doing one's homework in a timely fashion reflects responsibility, self-discipline, and maturity. Failing to complete homework assignments will result in the lowering of one's grades. The amount of homework may vary somewhat from night to night. Longer assignments may require several evenings' work. A conscientious student will not put off his/her work until the last minute. By setting aside a certain time each evening to go over your work for the day and do your homework, you will probably find that your grades are higher and that your understanding of the subject is greater. The student planner should be used for recording assignments each day.

BUS PROCEDURES

Buses are provided so students can be transported safely to and from school; **riding the bus is a privilege, not a right.** Misbehavior on the bus endangers the lives of all who ride and will not be tolerated. Students who do not cooperate with bus drivers or who violate bus conduct rules will be subject to disciplinary action and/or reimbursement of any damages. Misbehavior on the bus may result in a temporary removal from the bus as well as a permanent removal of bus privileges for the year for recurrent or extreme behavior which disrupts or distracts the driver or endangers the well-being of students on the bus. Students should keep in mind that the bus and the bus stop are an extension of the school campus...therefore, all Cabarrus County School and Mt. Pleasant Middle School policies are in effect.

BUS RULES

Be **Safe** at all times.

1. Remain seated, facing forward in your assigned seat. Keep legs out of aisles. Do not move out of your seat while bus is in motion.
2. No eating or drinking.

3. Keep your body and all other objects to yourself and inside the bus.
4. Use appropriate noise levels.

Be **Respectful** at all times.

5. Follow the School Bus Driver and/or Monitor’s directions the first time given.
6. Be respectful with words and actions.

Be **Responsible** at all times.

7. Ride only on your assigned bus; get on and off at your assigned stop.
8. Maintain cleanliness and appearance of the bus. Do not damage the bus in any way.
9. Middle and High School Students – May use personal electronic devices responsibly. However, if bus driver determines that electronic devices are becoming a distraction on the bus the bus driver can request that these devices be put away.

Violations of the state, county, or school bus policies or procedures may result in a referral to the bus supervisor. Consequences could include suspension of riding privileges and/or school consequences (after-school detention, ISS, OSS, level reviews).

Insurance and county policies require that students only ride their assigned bus and are only allowed to get on or off the bus at the assigned bus stop. Parents are reminded to contact the bus supervisor at school or the county transportation office with any concerns or questions. State law prohibits parents from entering a school bus or delaying the scheduled route.

CAFETERIA

The school cafeteria is maintained as a vital part of the health program at our school. To encourage good nutrition, a well balanced breakfast and lunch are offered at a reasonable price. The cafeteria staff appreciates your cooperation in the following:

1. Deposit all litter in the proper trash can and return all trays/dishes to the proper area.
2. Leave the table and floor around you clean.
3. Take no food or drinks from the cafeteria without teacher permission.
4. Keep noise to a minimum, and do not break in line.
5. Purchase all food in one trip through the serving line; all items must be selected from the same serving bar.
6. Have money and ID card ready when approaching the cashier.
7. Lunches should not be charged. *
8. Glass containers and/or sodas may not be brought into the cafeteria.
9. Students are to remain seated until dismissed by their supervising teacher.
10. Once seated, students should remain seated and not move about in the cafeteria. Students should face forward in their seats and refrain from talking to students at other tables. Students should talk to others seated at the same table and should use a conversational tone and volume when talking with others. No yelling is permitted.
11. Parents wishing to join their student for lunch should check-in at the main office to receive a visitor’s pass. Friends and other relatives are not permitted.

* Each student is expected to have money in his/her account or to have money in hand for each meal. All checks for cafeteria accounts should be made out to C.N.P. Please put student’s name or student ID number on checks for accurate accounting. **Lunch charges will be capped at \$5.00.** Students must clear outstanding charges to attend field trips and to remain on gold level.

Food options and prices are as follows:

Breakfast (Paid)	\$1.30
Breakfast (Reduced)	No Charge
Regular Lunch (Paid)	\$2.65
Regular Lunch (Reduced)	\$0.40
Fast Food Lunch	\$3.30
Ice Cream and Other Extras	\$0.50 - \$1.50

STUDENT SERVICES

The purpose of the Student Service department is to help each individual student achieve his/her highest growth mentally, emotionally and socially.

Counselors try to achieve this goal through:

- Individual conferences
- Small groups
- Classroom lessons
- Assisting parents, teachers, and students to help each student succeed

Students who wish to see a counselor must have a written referral from the classroom teacher. Should a counselor not be available, the student should place a referral in the counselor's box and return to class immediately. The counselor will make arrangements to see the student as soon as possible.

LIBRARY/ MEDIA CENTER POLICIES

1. The library is open to students from 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday. Students who wish to use the media center before or after these hours should make arrangements with the librarian at least one day in advance.
2. Students are required to show their ID cards in order to checkout materials. Students may **not** check out materials for friends.
3. If a student does not have his/her ID card, or if all copies of a book are checked out, students may place a hold on the title. Holds are kept for up to ten school days.
4. Students are allowed to check out two books at a time, with the exception of the following groups, which are allowed three checkouts:
 - ESL students
 - Battle of the Books team members.
5. Most books may be checked out for two weeks at a time. Students may renew books one time, unless there is a hold pending.
6. Audio books (books on tape) may be checked out for two weeks but may not be renewed. Students may only check out one audio book at a time.
7. Reference materials and magazines may be checked out overnight.
8. Students who lose or damage books will be expected to pay fines, up to the replacement cost of the book. Students with fines will not be able to check out material until such fines are paid.
9. Students must have written permission to come to the Media Center except when coming with a teacher.
10. The classroom teacher must check out AV materials and equipment.

FIELD TRIPS

School field trips are scheduled as educational opportunities. Eligibility for field trips is defined in the section describing the student management program. All school rules apply while on school sponsored field trips. Students must have cleared all outstanding fees to participate in field trips.

ATHLETICS

Athletic teams are available for 7th and 8th-grade students. The MPMS athletic handbook can be found on our school webpage. A physical is required for all students trying out for and participating in any sport. The sports include basketball, cheerleading, football, baseball, girls' volleyball, girls' softball, track, and wrestling. To be eligible to participate in any sport, all of the following requirements must be met:

1. Grades: A student must have passed a minimum of 3 out of 4 core courses during the previous semester. All rising seventh graders are eligible for the fall semester.
2. Age: A student may not participate if he/she becomes 15 on or before October 16 of the school year.
3. Attendance: A player must have been in attendance at least 85% of the previous semester.
4. Physical: A student must receive a complete physical each year.
5. Insurance: A student must have proper insurance coverage.
6. Conduct: Students on Red (see page 10) will be excluded from extracurricular activities (including participation in athletic events). After being moved to red, the student will miss subsequent practices leading up to and including the next game. Should the student be moved to red on a game day, the student will miss the game and one additional practice.
7. It is the coach's responsibility to make decisions in regards to player selection, playing time, and enforcement of team rules.

8. **Domicile** - Each student must have a Certificate of Domicile for the current school year on file in the Athletic Department to be eligible. Any student changing domiciles during the school year must immediately notify the Enrollment Liaison and Athletic Director and complete a new Certificate of Domicile to reflect their address change.

CLUBS/STUDENT COUNCIL

Faculty members sponsor various clubs based on students' interests. Individual faculty advisors establish membership requirements. Examples of clubs currently operating are Garden Club, Drama Club, Student Council, MathCounts, Battle of the Books Club, Odyssey of the Mind, and Beta Club.

DANCES

The Student Council Sponsors several school dances during the school year. Tickets for these dances may be purchased the day of the dance during designated times. Most dances will begin after school and last to 6:00 P.M. The music for these dances is selected from only age appropriate material. All dances are chaperoned by staff and teachers at all times.

YEARBOOK

A yearbook is published each year. Orders are taken by the publishing company through a mailing sent directly to the students. Students who order by the designated deadline are guaranteed a yearbook.

HONOR CODE

Students who cheat risk a great deal as far as grades, learning, and integrity are concerned. This behavior will result in the notification of the student's parent/guardian, in-school suspension, and completion of an alternative assignment. It is not acceptable for any Mount Pleasant Middle School student to be dishonest. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Copying another student's work
- Copying any printed material from a book, magazine, or computer (Internet) and presenting it as your own
- Allowing another student to copy school assignments
- Forging another person's signature
- Stealing another person's property or that of the school
- Lying or misrepresenting the truth
- Cheating, or intent to do so
- Falsification of information

SAFETY DRILLS

Your teachers will discuss with you very thoroughly the directions you must follow during fire drills and other safety-related drills. For your own safety, and that of your fellow students, follow all instructions carefully. Obey the following simple rules during all drills:

1. Do not talk from the time the alarm is sounded until you have returned to your room or place of instruction.
2. Listen for instructions from your teacher, and follow them explicitly.
3. Cell phone use during safety situations is a violation of Cabarrus County School policy and can lead to long-term suspension.

POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTION SUPPORT (PBIS)

Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a proactive approach to establishing the behavioral supports and a social culture needed for all students in a school to achieve social, emotional and academic success. Here at Mount Pleasant Middle School we create opportunities for students to be recognized and rewarded for proper behavior. The foundation for our discipline begins with a behavior level system which provides reinforcement for students maintaining gold level behavior. Students have the opportunity to attend dances as well as athletic events at no cost while maintaining gold level behavior in the classroom. Videos created by our students and staff are also presented during Venture time in which a focus on certain behaviors is presented. During this time teachers are encouraged to write up positive behavior referrals focusing on this behavior. Students may be rewarded not only with a positive call home but a quarterly reward for those receiving positive behavior referrals. Academic achievement is also reinforced by honor roll lunches and assemblies given for each academic quarter. Posters are visible in the hallways, bathrooms, classroom, cafeteria, media center, and gym reinforcing the behavior that is expected throughout the school.

PBIS Tiger Matrix

Students at all levels are expected to abide by all Cabarrus County School policies.

Expectations	Location							
	Classroom	Media Center Technology	Transitions	Restrooms Locker Room	Cafeteria	Buses	Gymnasium Auditorium	Community
PUT SAFETY FIRST	Remain in your area Move appropriately throughout the room	Always have permission when visiting the library Stay on school approved websites Report inappropriate content to an adult	Always Walk Stay on the sidewalks Keep hands and other items to yourself Set lock on locker after each visit	Keep hands and other items to yourself Refrain from horseplay Use assigned restroom Refrain from using electronic devices	Keep two hands on the tray Thoroughly wipe tables and sweep floor if assigned Quickly wipe up all spills	Remain seated and facing forward Keep body and other objects to self and inside the bus Use appropriate noise levels	Maintain personal space Enter and exit orderly	Follow directions of adult in charge
ACT RESPONSIBLE	Have all materials needed for class Use calm voice and appropriate body language Raise your hand before speaking	Return library books on time Always bring ID card for check out Understand anything put on digital media is permanent	Walk directly to class Stay SILENT before, during and after evacuation drills Retrieve all needed materials from locker between classes	Take care of needs and return to class Flush the toilet Dispose of trash properly Keep water and soap in the sink	Always bring ID card Keep food on the plate or in mouth Dispose of trash properly Take only what you will eat Keep hands off others trays	No eating or drinking Ride assigned bus Get on and off bus at assigned stop Use personal electronic devices appropriately	Sit appropriately and maintain appropriate voice level Support your Tiger athletes or performers appropriately	Be a positive representative of Mount Pleasant Middle School Keep your Community clean Be honest
WORK FOR SUCCESS	Attend school daily and be on time Do your best Be on time to school and to classes	Check out books appropriate to your reading ability Return furniture and computer equipment to appropriate setting	Plan accordingly for all classes Arrive to class on time Memorize your locker combination and keep it private Keep locker clean and organized	Report problems to adults Dress quickly and be prepared Wash hands with soap and water Use agenda as hall pass	Be prepared to order Gather all necessities during first trip Put silverware, plates and tray away correctly	Properly line up in the afternoon Be at your bus stop on time each morning Get on and off the bus carefully using driver's signals	Demonstrate good sportsmanship Be respectful, attentive, and supportive of assemblies	Take pride in being a Tiger Be an active community member Leave the area better than you found it
SHOW RESPECT	Speak calmly Use appropriate body language Ask good questions Be polite to teachers and peers Follow directions Always be honest	Remain Quiet Return books to appropriate spot or to shelving cart Communicate through technology as you would face to face	Stay quiet in common learning areas Follow directions of all staff Return items left in the hallway to an adult	Allow for the privacy of others Keep voice at appropriate level in the locker rooms Be mindful of other's feelings and belongings	Be polite to staff and peers Exit quietly and return to class promptly	Follow the directions of the bus driver the first time Prevent and stop vandalism	Participate appropriately	Treat members of the community the way you wish to be treated Appreciate diversity

MPMS INCENTIVE PROGRAM

This system will assign students to one of four (4) behavior levels. It is a positive program based on the belief that it is appropriate to expect students to pass all courses and maintain behavior in all subjects. The levels will be referred to by colors; the upper level will be **gold**, the next lower level will be **blue**, then **green**, and **red** for the lowest level. All students will begin the year at the highest level (Gold). Students who do not maintain appropriate behavior will be reviewed on a regular basis by their team teachers and will be moved to a lower level. When students are moved to a lower level, they will be limited to the restricted privileges of that level. Out-of-school suspensions and in-school suspensions will result in an immediate move to the lowest level (Red).

When a student is moved to a lower level, he/she will be notified by his/her team (parents should check their child's agenda for this information). The teacher will specify the behavior changes that must take place for the individual student to return to a higher level. This teacher will also specify the time frame in which these changes are expected. If the student meets the expectations, he/she will move back to the next higher level and regain the privileges of that level. Reviews for level changes are typically conducted on a weekly basis.

Using this system, students should always know what their level is and whether or not they are eligible for upcoming activities. We expect that the majority of our students will remain in the highest level (gold) throughout the year. Students at lower levels should clearly understand what they need to do in order to return to higher levels and to regain lost privileges. The chart below gives a description of each level and lists the general privileges. Eligibility requirements for activities that are not listed here will be established as those activities are planned during the school year. This will be made known to students well in advance, so that they have an opportunity to move to a level that makes them eligible.

Incentive Levels and Privileges

Gold	Blue	Green	Red
Description	Description	Description	Description
Consistently well behaved and responsible, require little or no teacher intervention, Passing all classes and owing no fees	Inconsistent behavior, require some teacher intervention & correction, Not passing all classes	Chronic misbehavior, has been sent repeatedly to Recovery Room. Increasing negative behaviors.	Students assigned to ISS or OSS
PRIVILEGES	PRIVILEGES	PRIVILEGES	PRIVILEGES
All privileges: early dismissal, dances, admission to home athletic events (free with Gold card), team privileges, sports, clubs, assemblies	Athletics participation, admission to home athletic events (\$2.00 admission to home games)	Limited after school activities and privileges.	Day of ISS: No afterschool participation in athletics or activities; OSS: Dismissed from Team/ Cannot participate in any school activity.

STUDENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

“Being a student at MPMS means having respect for yourself and others at all times.”

All class rules should reflect our school rule. We intend to help students develop a sense of responsibility and change inappropriate behavior. Our approach is intended to demonstrate to students that they must always consider the consequences of their behavior. Students showing responsible behavior will be rewarded with additional freedoms and privileges through our incentive program.

SILENT LUNCH / CLOSED LUNCH

Teachers may assign students to silent lunch. Students assigned to silent lunch will be notified of the date for silent lunch and the reason for the assignment. Students who violate rules in silent lunch will be assigned additional days of silent lunch.

AFTER SCHOOL DETENTION

After school detention is held on Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 4:05 to 5:00pm. Students are to report directly to room 104 and bring something to work on while they are in detention. Any student missing on the assigned Tuesday is expected to stay Wednesday afternoon. Failure to report to either session will result in ISS.

CHOICES ROOM

Recovery, ISS, and OSS

Placing a student in the Recovery Room or ISS are all situations where students are removed from class. Teachers have the option to send any student out of class when that student's behavior is preventing them from conducting their class in a normal manner. In these cases students are sent to the Recovery Room inside of the Choices Room for the remainder of the period during which their behavior was a problem; we refer to this as a period Recovery Room Referral. Students sent to the Recovery Room will meet with the Choices Room Coordinator to discuss the behavior and identify ways they could have better handled the situation that resulted in the referral. Teachers can also write classroom referrals that will go directly to administrators. Administrators may assign a consequence ranging from a verbal warning, after school detention, or for more serious or repeated infractions, In School Suspension (ISS). For even more serious, flagrant, or repeated violations students will be given Out of School Suspensions (OSS) for one to ten days. Also, students with even more serious, flagrant and/or repeated violations may be referred to the Opportunity School at the Glenn Center. The Opportunity School is an alternative learning program that provides an option for a student with behavior management needs and/or academic performance needs which cannot be met in a regular education setting.

WEAPONS

General Statute 14-269.2 states that it is a Class I felony to possess or carry a firearm or explosive on educational property or to aid a minor to possess or carry a firearm or explosive on educational property, it is a misdemeanor to aid a minor to possess any other type of weapon on educational property, it is a misdemeanor to fail to store firearms in a reasonable manner for the protection of minors and to fail to warn a person of this law upon the sale or transfer of a firearm. The law also makes it a misdemeanor for any person to possess or carry, whether openly or concealed, any BB gun, air rifle, air pistol, bowie knife, blackjack, dirk, dagger, slingshot, leaded cane, switchblade supplies, altered nail files and clips. Tools used solely for preparation of food, instruction and maintenance on educational property are permissible.

Students who violate this law shall be suspended from school for a period up to 10 days or possibly for the remainder of the year depending on individual circumstances. Also, in compliance with the law, the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Department will be notified and a deputy will come to investigate and file a report with juvenile authorities.

HARASSMENT AND DISCRIMINATION

Mount Pleasant Middle School does not tolerate any harassment on the school premises, buses, or at school functions. If a student feels that he/she is being harassed by another student or school employee, school officials should be notified immediately and descriptions of said offenses should be specific. Some examples of harassment include and are not limited to any:

- "unwelcome" contact with one's body.
- suggestive or inappropriate comments, propositions, or gestures.

- sexually provocative commentaries about the body.
- "unwelcome" suggestive writings, artworks, or notes.
- "unwelcome" slurs or innuendos.

Bullying is a form of harassment. Bullying is the intimidation of others by the real or threatened infliction of physical, verbal, written, electronically transmitted or emotional abuse including attacks on the property of a person or peer group. Bullying may include, but is not limited to, verbal taunts, name-calling and put-downs, extortion of money or possessions, implied or stated threats, and exclusion from peer groups.

When such harassment is reported, Mount Pleasant Middle School will make a good faith effort to investigate all such reports in close consultation with the Cabarrus County Board of Education. Disciplinary action in such cases depends upon the said offense, findings of the investigation, and recommendation of the school administration and/or appropriate central office personnel.

The NC General Assembly recently adopted the School Violence Prevention Act which includes specific stipulations about Internet use. The Board respects the right of students to use social networking sites (e.g., Instagram, Facebook), personal Web sites, Weblogs, Wikis and other web tools (collectively "Internet Postings") as a medium of self-expression. However, inappropriate Internet Postings by students can cause substantial disruptions to the school environment. Accordingly, the Board requires that students observe specific guidelines when posting to social networking sites. Example: Students shall not use profane, pornographic, obscene, indecent, lewd, vulgar or sexually offensive language, pictures or graphics in Internet Postings that could cause a substantial disruption to the school environment. Links to additional information about this topic and harassment/bullying in general can be found on the MPMS website.

The Cabarrus County Board of Education has adopted a policy dealing with sexual harassment as it applies in the workplace and among students. This policy reflects the law. Some examples that could involve students are 1) making telephone calls and sending notes, letters, or materials of a sexual nature or content; 2) touching and initiating physical closeness of a sexual nature; 3) making obscene or sexually suggestive looks, gestures, sounds, advances or propositions; 4) making sexually provocative or graphic comments about another person's body; 5) pressuring for dates or sexual activity; 6) engaging in sexual banter or teasing; making jokes or remarks or asking questions of a sexual nature; 7) displaying sexually suggestive pictures, cartoons, or other related items. A student may report any such incident to his or her advisor, principal, or teacher. All reports will be reported to the superintendent of schools or his/her designee within 24 hours.

ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

8TH Grade Football Schedule

Practice begins on August 19 at 6:00 pm
Game start at 4:45 pm

Date	Home/Away	Vs.
September 1	Home	Scrimmage Irwin
September 7	Away	C.C. Griffin
September 14	Home	Kannapolis
September 21	Home	Northwest
September 28	Away	Harris Road
October 5	Away	Concord
October 12	Away	Winkler
October 19	Home	Hickory Ridge

Head Coach: Brad Willis (Bradley.willis@cabarrus.k12.nc.us)
Assistants: Gregg Giddings, Jimmy Orrock, Brian Barbour

7th Grade Football Schedule

Practice begins on August 19 at 6:00 pm
Games start at 4:45 pm

Date	Home/Away	Vs.
September 1	Home	Scrimmage Irwin
September 14	Away	Kannapolis
September 21	Away	Northwest
September 28	Home	Harris Road
October 5	Away	Concord
October 12	Home	Winkler
October 19	Away	Hickory Ridge

Head Coach: Joey LeMasters (joey.lemasters@cabarrus.k12.nc.us)
Assistant Coach: Tim Mauldin

Softball Schedule

Practice begins on August 19 at 5:00 pm
Games start at 4:30 pm

Date	Home/Away	Vs.
September 7	Home	Concord
September 12	Home	Hickory Ridge
September 14	Away	C.C. Griffin
September 19	Home	Harris Road
September 21	Away	Kannapolis
September 26	Away	Northwest Cabarrus
September 28	Home	Winkler
October 3	Home	C.C. Griffin
October 5	Away	Hickory Ridge
October 10	Away	Concord

Head Coach: Taylor Miller (taylor.miller@cabarrus.k12.nc.us)
Assistant Coach: Kelly Cox

8th Grade Basketball Schedule

Practice Begins October 20
Games start at 4:30

Date	Home/Away	Vs.
November 7	Away	Concord
November 10	Away	Hickory Ridge
November 15	Home	C.C. Griffin
November 16	Away	Harris Road
November 21	Home	Kannapolis
November 29	Home	Northwest Cabarrus
December 1	Away	Winkler
December 6	Home	C.C. Griffin
December 8	Home	Hickory Ridge
December 13	Home	Concord

Girls' Head Coach: Robby Barringer (Robert.barringer@cabarrus.k12.nc.us)

Boys' Head Coach: Joey LeMasters

Wrestling Schedule

Practice Begins October 20
Match Time: 4:30 pm

Date	Home/Away	Vs.
November 7	Away	Concord
November 10	Away	Hickory Ridge
November 15	Home	C.C. Griffin
November 16	Home	Harris Road
November 21	Away	Kannapolis
November 29	Home	Northwest Cabarrus
December 1	Home	Winkler
December 6	Away	C.C. Griffin
December 8	Away	Hickory Ridge
December 13	Home	Concord

Head Coach: Keith Honeycutt (keithhoneycutt3@gmail.com)

7th Grade Basketball Schedule

Practice Begins January 3
Games start at 4:30 pm

Date	Home/Away	Vs.
January 24	Away	Concord
January 26	Away	Hickory Ridge
January 31	Home	C.C. Griffin
February 2	Away	Harris Road
February 7	Home	Kannapolis
February 9	Home	Northwest Cabarrus
February 14	Away	Winkler
February 16	Away	C.C. Griffin
February 21	Home	Hickory Ridge
February 23	Home	Concord

Girls' Head Coach: Taylor Miller (taylor.miller@cabarrus.k12.nc.us)
Assistant Coach: Kelly Cox

Boys Head Coach: TBD

**Mount Pleasant Middle School
2016-17 Student Handbook Signature Form**

Student Name (please print)

Grade

Venture Teacher

We the undersigned have read and understand the Mount Pleasant Middle School 2016-17 Student Handbook.

Student Signature Date

Parent/Guardian Signature Date

**Please tear out this completed sheet and return it to your Homeroom/ Venture teacher by
September 9th**

