

**Main Street Intermediate
Taylor ISD
Student & Parent Handbook
2018-2019**



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Taylor ISD Motto

“Relentless in the Pursuit of Educational Excellence”

MSI Student Motto

“Main Street Intermediate DUCKS will. . .

Make it to school

Succeed with reading and practice

Improve beyond our dreams.”

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Table of Contents

Topic	Page Number
Daily Schedule	2
Awards and Recognitions	2
Breakfast	2
Class Changes	2
Communication from School	2
Deliveries to Students	3
Discipline	3
Dress Code	3
Homework	4
Library	4
MSI Academic Planner	4
Parental Involvement	5
Parties	5
Reading Counts	5
Student Motto	6
Traffic	6
Transportation Changes	6
Valuables	6
MSI Parent Involvement Guidelines	7
MSI School-Parent Compact	8

Welcome to Main Street Intermediate for the 2018-2019 school year!

This is going to be an exciting year for your child and you. We have a great team of educators that are committed to doing their best everyday to ensure that every student is learning and making progress. Below are a few outlines and reminders to help your child and you have a great school year.

DAILY SCHEDULE:

7:15am	School Doors Open and Supervision Begins
7:35am	Students Dismissed to Classrooms and Breakfast Begins
7:50am	Tardy Bell / Breakfast Ends & Announcements Begin
7:55am	Duck Math Quizzes Begin
3:20pm	Students Dismissed

AWARDS and RECOGNITIONS:

MSI will hold an awards ceremony at the end of each nine-week grading period for each grade level. Family members are invited to attend. Dates and times will be communicated through campus newsletters. Students will be recognized for: Perfect attendance, A Honor roll, A/B Honor roll (More As than Bs), meeting a Duck Math goal and meeting a Reading Counts goal.

**A student may not receive a perfect attendance award or be eligible for attendance incentives if she/he is tardy and/or has left school early more than 3 times combined in a nine week period, or has an excused or unexcused absence*

BREAKFAST:

All students will have the opportunity to eat free breakfast every day in their classrooms from 7:35am until 7:50am.

CLASS CHANGES:

All student class changes are done at the discretion of the campus principal. The principal will collaborate with the teachers, students and parents to ensure the student is set up in the best possible learning environment. Class changes are done on a limited basis when all other options have been attempted for the student to be successful.

COMMUNICATION FROM SCHOOL:

There are many ways to stay in contact with the school and updated on school information.

- Sign up for notifications through your phone using the SchoolWay app.

- Ensure your phone number and email address are correct at the school so you can receive automated calls and messages from the school.
- Check the school website at: msi.taylorisd.org
- Twitter messages from administration @msiprincipal
- Check your child's MSI Academic Planner daily for handwritten notes and newsletters.
- Stay in touch with the teacher through phone calls, emails, and the planner.
- Ask your child about his/her day and information the teacher shared at school.

DELIVERIES TO STUDENTS:

Deliveries to students are discouraged. Due to the negative impact of interruptions during instruction, all deliveries of balloons, flowers, invitations and other gift items to students at school will be held in the office until the end of the school day. Please remember that it is very difficult for students riding district transportation to carry such items. Parents are allowed to send treats such as cookies or cupcakes for their child's birthday; however, these will be served after the last lunch is over and at the teacher's discretion.

DISCIPLINE:

MSI Staff utilizes Positive Behavior Supports throughout the school including:

- Ensuring students know the school expectations
 - Be Safe, Be Respectful and Be Responsible
- Setting and teaching clear expectations throughout the entire school
- Instituting a school wide reward and recognition system
- Finding the positive things students are succeeding at and building on those strengths.

When students follow the expectations and make good choices they have an opportunity to earn Duck Bucks. After earning 10 duck bucks students will receive a token to get a prize from the treasure tower. We also have an end of 9 weeks recognition for all students who earn their duck buck goal. Each classroom will have its own rewards and recognitions that will be determined by the classroom teacher.

When students make choices that are in need of a consequence every effort will be made to resolve the concern and return the student to class as quickly as possible so learning is interrupted as little as possible. Classroom teachers will handle most discipline concerns so questions regarding discipline should start by speaking with the teacher. In the event the student misbehavior is repeated or severe an administrator will be involved. It is imperative parents work with the school for students to be successful throughout this process.

DRESS CODE:

The district's dress code is established to teach grooming and hygiene, prevent disruptions, and minimize safety hazards. Students and parents may determine a student's personal dress and grooming standards, provided that they comply with the following:

-Clothing of any type that is lewd, offensive, vulgar, or obscene, or that advertises or depicts tobacco products, alcoholic beverages, drugs or any other substance prohibited under the FNCF

(L) and prohibits any clothing or grooming that in the principal's judgment may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of or interference with normal school operations.

- Clothing that depicts death (skull and crossbones) or violence is not allowed.
- Clothing, jewelry or grooming that is evidence of unauthorized group affiliation colors will not be permitted. This includes colored shoe strings when worn with the same color clothing, handkerchiefs, etc.
- Shoes are to be worn on campus and in any school vehicle. Footwear must be appropriate for daily school activities.
- Hats may be worn outside only.
- Sagging or extremely loose pants are not allowed.
- Shirttails worn on the outside or tee shirts should not be oversized. (Appropriate length may be achieved when the hemline reaches the student's arm wrists while in a standing position.)
- Belts must be appropriate length and worn in a proper manner.
- The hem on shorts, skirts and skorts must be as far down as the fingertips when the student stands normally with his/her arms at the side.
- Tank tops, spaghetti straps, halter-tops, and midriffs are not permissible.
- Fake tattoos are not permitted at school. Children will be sent to the nurse and asked to wash them off.
- Jewelry will be allowed in pierced ears only.
- Necklaces cannot be longer than 18 inches. Any medallion attached to a necklace cannot be more than one and a half inches long.
- Excessive makeup or hair of an unnatural shade that could be deemed a distraction to the educational environment will not be allowed under any circumstances.
- No mums can be worn during homecoming.

HOMEWORK:

Homework is an important component of student academic success. Homework is an opportunity for students to practice the skills that will make them successful in the classroom. Students will be expected to complete homework every night of the week, Monday thru Friday. The homework will be the same format each time and will be at the student's level. It will take parent support and parent involvement in completing the homework to be effective. To ensure school to home communication, parents will sign acknowledging the students have completed his/her homework each night. The homework will consist of 3 parts:

- Numerical fluency math practice (Duck Math)
- High frequency word fluency and spelling practice
- Reading a book that is on the student's reading level

LIBRARY:

The library is a learning place with books, computers, magazines and other materials available for classroom assignments, projects, listening or reading. Students may check out two books at a time. They are due in two weeks from the checkout date and may be renewed two times. All students are responsible for returning library materials by the due date. Lost or damaged materials should be reported to the librarian as soon as the damage is noticed. A damage fine

will be assessed at this time. If a book is lost or totally destroyed, students will be responsible for the full price of that book.

MSI ACADEMIC PLANNER:

Each student will be required to have an MSI Academic Planner. The academic planner will contain school information, instructional information to support student learning, homework practice, a parent/teacher communication log and a daily calendar. An academic planner will be provided to each student free of charge. If a student loses or damages it beyond repair a new academic planner will have to be purchased at the expense of the student at a cost of \$10. On Thursday of each week, school information and graded papers will be sent home for parent review.

PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT:

Communication:

To ensure student success at school it is imperative MSI and parents work together. If at any time you have questions or concerns please contact your child's teacher. You may call on the phone, set up a conference or send an email. Teachers have been asked to return all parent messages within 24 hours of receiving them.

Conferences:

We have a designated parent conference week during the 2nd 9 weeks grading period. Please set a time to visit with your child's teacher early to ensure you and the teacher collaborate on your child's successes and needs.

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO):

MSI has a wonderful PTO that is supportive of our students and teachers. The success of our PTO depends on the involvement of the parents with the school. The more parents we have involved the more success we have together and the more work can be shared. MSI has a parent involvement committee made up of staff members that is committed to helping parents stay involved in the school. Please contact the school for more information.

PARTIES:

MSI has three school wide designated party days throughout the year: Winter, Spring, and an End of The Year. The dates will be communicated in our regular newsletters home.

READING COUNTS:

Reading Counts is an independent reading program for Grades K–12 from Scholastic that combines reading practice and a software-based reading assessment. It is instructionally flexible, mastery focused, and professionally written. Reading Counts will help develop reading skills and motivate students to achieve reading success.

Students will have a Reading Counts goal set at the beginning of each 9 weeks. Students will read throughout the 9 weeks keeping track of their reading progress on a spreadsheet that is

provided for them in their planner. Teachers will regularly check on the student progress towards meeting the Reading Counts goal. Students will experience more success if parents are involved in the student's progress by regularly checking the reading log, ensuring students are reading each night at home and discussing what students are reading. Students who meet their reading goal will be recognized and rewarded for their efforts and progress. Classes will also be monitored for reading progress to encourage them to help their classmates meet their reading goal as well.

STUDENT MOTTO:

Main Street Intermediate LEADERS will. . .

Make it to school

Succeed with reading and practice

Improve beyond our dreams

TRAFFIC:

Please follow all posted signs for speed, parking, drop off/pick up and traffic flow. These signs are designed to keep students, visitors, and other cars safe.

Car Riders:

Car rider students should be dropped off and picked up in the car rider line on the North side of the MSI building. Cars should utilize the car rider entrance off TH Johnson Drive and will exit towards the front of the school on Highway 95 or Mallard Dr. Students will not be allowed to be dropped off or picked up in the bus lane for safety reasons. Please do not drop students off and have them walk across a traffic lane for safety reasons.

Walkers:

KB Home walkers will be asked to stay on the sidewalk up TH Johnson Drive and cross at the designated school-crossing zone where a crossing guard will be available. Students will then stay on the sidewalk all the way to the front of the school and enter through the main entrance. Mallard walkers will be asked to stay on the side walk up Mallard Drive and will enter the back of the school building into the cafeteria. Students should only cross Mallard Drive at the designated school-crossing zone where a crossing guard will be available.

TRANSPORTATION CHANGES:

Please notify the school in writing when there are any changes to how your child goes home from school. Transportation changes will not be made after 2:30pm. To make a transportation change you may send an email to: msitransportationchange@taylorisd.org

VALUABLES:

Please do not allow your child to bring valuable items, excessive amounts of money, electronic devices or toys to school. Students are responsible for all personal possessions. The school will not be liable for or spend time investigating any theft, loss or damage of valuables.

**Main Street Intermediate
Parent Involvement Guidelines
2018-2019**

Main Street Intermediate is committed to the district's motto of being relentless in the pursuit of educational excellence. In order to achieve this high standard we want to establish partnerships with parents and community. We believe that everyone succeeds if the school system, the community and the parents, work together to promote and expect high achievement for all our children.

Main Street Intermediate shall communicate and work in collaboration with parents by providing:

- Parent Involvement Meetings
- Title I, ESL and GT
- Student Success Initiative
- Publicize and disseminate MSI school report card and AYP results
- Assessment dates
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
 - Parent/Community Involvement Activities
- Meet the Teacher
- Star Student Celebrations
- Parent Information Night
- Parent/teacher conferences
- Student Mentor Program with Community
- Student Mentor Program with High School students
- Campus Education and Improvement Committee (CEIC)
 - Creating opportunities for parents to work as volunteers
 - Communication with Parents and Community
- Student/Parent handbook
- MSI marquee
- Taylor Press
- Mail outs and emails
- MSI website
- Online grade book
- Teacher websites and newsletters

MSI Parents are asked and encouraged to be involved in their child's learning and education by:

- Understanding and respecting the mission and values of MSI and Taylor ISD
- Respecting teachers and supporting school staff as partners in education
- Ensuring students are in attendance daily and monitoring classroom assignments, homework and student activities.
- Utilizing two way communication between parents, school staff and the district on the instruction, achievement and conduct of their children
- Valuing diversity and the need for equity in each child's learning
- Identifying and addressing barriers to parent involvement

MSI School-Parent Compact

The Main Street Intermediate school, and the parents of the students participating in activities, services, and programs funded by Title I, Part A of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), agree that this compact outlines how the parents, the entire school staff, and the students will share responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and parents will build and develop a partnership that will help children achieve the state's high standards.

This school-parent compact is in effect during the 2018-2019 school year.

School Responsibilities: Main Street Intermediate:

1. Provide high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the state's student academic achievement standards. The staff at MSI will work collaboratively to plan engaging lessons that address the state standards. Students will receive whole group and small group instruction at their ability level. All students will be held accountable for our Essential Standards and working with our Professional Learning Communities, all students will receive interventions and enrichments based on their academic needs.
2. Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement. Specifically, those conferences will be held on October 15, 2018. During this time parents and teachers will review the MSI School-Parent compact and the academic progress of each student.
3. Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress. Specifically, the school will provide progress reports during the 5th week of each grading period. The dates of the progress reports are; September 20, November 29, February 14, and April 18.
4. Provide parents reasonable access to staff. Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents via email, phone, or in person. Parents may call teachers during the conference periods or after school. All Taylor ISD staff have an email address that is listed on the website. Parents may contact the parents to set up an in person parent and teacher conference.
5. Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities throughout the school year. MSI will host a parent involvement activity once a month. Any parents wishing to visit the classrooms need to arrange a date and time with the teacher and administration of MSI.

Parent Responsibilities:

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance.
- Making sure that homework is completed.
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education.
- Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time.

- Staying informed about my child’s education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate.
- Serving to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title 1, Part A parent representative on the school’s School Improvement Team, the Title 1 Policy Advisory Committee, the District wide Policy Advisory Council, the State’s Committee of Practitioners, the School Support Team or other school advisory or policy groups.

Student Responsibilities:

We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the state’s high standards. Specifically, we will:

- Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to.
- Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time.
- Mastering my High Frequency Words.
- Give my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day.
- Practice and master my essential standards that include:
 - Using context clues in reading.
 - Making inferences based on text evidence.
 - Summarizing texts using important information.
 - Practicing my writing using proper punctuation, capitalization, and sentence structure.
 - Solving math problems involving all operations.
 - Identifying place value in whole numbers and decimals.
 - Identifying equivalent fractions and decimals using models when appropriate.
 - Classifying geometric shapes and figures.