



# **McKinley School of the Arts Student/Family Handbook 2022-2023**

**325 S. Oak Knoll Ave**

**626.396.5630**

[pusd.us](http://pusd.us)

[mckinleyarts.com](http://mckinleyarts.com)

## **School Hours**

**Monday: 8:45 A.M. – 1:30 P.M. Elementary**

**8:15 A.M. – 1:20 P.M. Middle**

**Tuesday-Friday: 8:45 A.M. – 3:10 P.M. Elementary**

**Tuesday-Friday: 8:15 A.M. – 3:00 P.M. Middle**

## **Office Hours**

**8:00 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.**



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## **Our Vision and Mission**

### **OUR VISION**

Working with our students, we will create an Exemplary Model TK-8th School which will equip our students with the knowledge and skills to be ready for high school. We will continue to win the Title I Achievement Award and will become a California Distinguished School.

### **OUR MISSION**

Our Mission is to provide a collaborative learning environment which enables all students to reach their academic and artistic potential. We will accomplish this Mission by providing a rigorous curriculum and instruction of the highest quality utilizing the resources of the school, home, and community. We will maintain high expectations, foster a positive and orderly school environment, and frequently monitor and respond to student needs and progress. Our firm belief is that the integration of academic and artistic training will strengthen students' character, judgment, and sensitivity.



## Arts Integration

### Art as Curriculum

If a school has a music, art, or choir teacher, their approach is most likely and primarily Arts as Curriculum. Students develop knowledge and skills in a particular art form. Often referred to as “arts learning” or “art for art’s sake,” the programs are guided by national, state, or local standards for each of the art forms. For example, in visual arts, students learn the content, processes, and techniques for two- or three-dimensional work. They learn how the visual arts developed and changed throughout history, and engage in creating and analyzing works created in a variety of media.

### Arts-Enhanced Curriculum

When the arts are used as a device or strategy to support other curriculum areas, but no objectives in the art form are explicit, then the approach is called Arts-Enhanced Curriculum. For example, students sing the ABCs as a means to other ends—remembering the letters and sequence of the alphabet. However, students are not usually expected to learn about melody, song structure, or develop specific singing skills. Arts-Enhanced Curriculum acts as a “hook” to engage students in learning content. Additionally, teachers need little or no training in the art form. Arts-Enhanced Curriculum is often mistaken for Arts-Integrated Curriculum or a distinction is not made between the two.

### Arts-Integrated Curriculum

In Arts-Integrated Curriculum, the arts become the approach to teaching and the vehicle for learning. Students meet dual learning objectives when they engage in the creative process to explore connections between an art form and another subject area to gain greater understanding in both. For example, students meet objectives in theater (characterization, stage composition, action, expression) and in social studies. The experience is mutually reinforcing—creating a dramatization provides an authentic context for students to learn more about the social studies content and as students delve deeper into the social studies content their growing understandings impact their dramatizations. For Arts-Integrated Curriculum to result in deep student understanding in both the art form and the other curriculum area, it requires that teachers engage in professional development to learn about arts standards and how to connect the arts to the curriculum they teach.

## Faculty Directory

Principal:	Dr. Merian Stewart	Office Manager:	Ms. Patricia Venegas
Assistant Principal:	Mr. Ivan Harris	Registrar:	Ms. Michelle Edwards
Instructional Coach:	Ms. Tamyke Edwards	Attendance Clerk:	Ms. Erica Guzman
Instructional Coach:	Ms. Billie Johnson	Front Desk:	Ms. Natalie Ibarra
Instructional Coach:	Ms. Linda Ortega	Community Liaison:	Ms. Laura Aguilar
MS Counselor:	Ms. Nicole Chan	Nurse:	Ms. Adrienne Floriano
Psychologist:	Ms. Giselle Jimenez	Nurse Clerk:	Mrs. Debbie Carter

Special Education/RSP Team	TK/Kindergarten Team	1st Grade Team	2nd Grade Team
Deanna Gillman - Speech	Beth Strehl (TK)	Ana Robles	Brenda Sandoval



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Briseyda Rivera - TK-3 <sup>rd</sup> Chelse May – 4 <sup>th</sup> -6 <sup>th</sup> Jasmine Callum – 7 <sup>th</sup> -8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lucy Yanez - MS SDC	Tina Bell - K Ana Robles – K-1 <sup>st</sup> Combo	Cynthia Macias Laura Wood	Emily Brink Katherine Goethel
<b>3rd Grade Team</b>	<b>4th Grade Team</b>	<b>5th Grade Team</b>	
Dawna Tully Diana Morrison Genevieve Miller	Cynthia Beale John Lira	Topaz Frazer-Lake Patricia Gwinn	
<b>6th Grade</b>	<b>7th Grade</b>	<b>8th Grade</b>	
Anthony Bonoli Solange DeSouza Keli Hancock Rukaiya Virji	Anabella Reyes Anja Sergeeva Norma Bracamonte Kyle Morton	Christopher Brannon Michael Medina Quiana Turner	
<b>PE</b>	<b>Electives</b>	<b>Therapeutic</b>	
Daniel Banks Michael Parisi	Candace Lacy- Choir Iryna Orlova - Band Rosina Gelormino - Dance	Nicholas Bruno 4 <sup>th</sup> and 5 <sup>th</sup> Grade Lucy Yanez 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup>	



## Academic Calendar

McKinley's Key Calendar Dates for the 2022-2023 school year are listed below. MKS is an active school with many events, so there is a live calendar on our website. Please be sure to check it weekly for updates. [www.mckinleyarts.com](http://www.mckinleyarts.com) **The dates below are subject to change.**

### August

- August 4 Office Opens
- August 9 Back to School Meet and Greet
- August 11 First Day of School
- August 31 Picture Day (MS)
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### September

- September 5 Labor Day, No School
- September 15 Early Dismissal/Back to School Night
- September 15 Beginning of Latino Heritage Month
- September 23 Staff Development-Pupil Free Day

### October

- October 14 Parent Conference Day, Pupil Free Day

### November

- November 11 Veteran's Day Observed, No School
- November 21-25 Thanksgiving Recess

### December

- December 22 Minimum Day Dismissal
- December 23-January 6 Winter Recess

### January

- January 9 First Day of the Second Semester
- January 16 Martin L. King, Jr. Day, No School

### February

- February 13 Lincoln's Birthday, No School
- February 20 Presidents' Day, No School

### March

- March 24 Staff Development-Pupil Free Day

- March TBA Spring Picture Day
- March TBA 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Panoramic Picture
- March 31 Cesar Chavez Day, No School

April

- April 3-7 Spring Break, No School

May

- 
- May 4 Early Dismissal/Open House
- May 29 Memorial Day, No School

June

- June 1 Last Day of School Minimum Day Dismissal

## School Information

### **School Uniform/ Dress Code**

The MKS community supports the uniform dress code policy. The dress code encourages all elementary and middle school students to dress in white, black, or red tops with black or khaki bottoms on Friday.

The acceptable “tops” for elementary students are:

- Polo-type shirts
- Full cut standard shirts with white collars
- Turtlenecks
- McKinley wear
- All of the above must be red, black, navy, or white
- Tops should not have logos other than a McKinley logo. (plain shirts)

The acceptable “bottoms” for elementary students are:

- Pants, shorts, skirts, or jumpers
- Blue jeans

Please note, students must wear closed-toe shoes (no flip flops or slides).

**Middle School** students do not have a specific uniform, but must wear clothing that has appropriate coverage and does not exhibit any inappropriate logos or themes. **Please note that clothing needs to be an appropriate length and spaghetti straps and halter tops are not allowed. No torn or ripped bottoms.**

### **PasadenaLEARNS**

Pasadena LEARNs is an after-school program hosted on campus. Students take enrichment classes. LEARNs is accepting applications for 2022-2023 including applications for their new Extended Program. Applications are available at [pasadenalearns@pusd.us](mailto:pasadenalearns@pusd.us) or call 626.396.3614

### **Communications**

All families will receive a weekly Sunday email (SMORE) from MKS Administration. You should consider signing up to follow the school and our key parent groups on Facebook. We also announce key information through our school web site, Peach Jar, and the district app. It is important that choose forms of communication that work best for you.

### **Facebook**

Our official Facebook page is maintained by Administration and Office Staff. It has photos and reminders that help families stay connected to MKS.

### **Peach Jar**

On our website you can sign up to receive digital flyers through the “Peach Jar” link. Electronic versions of flyers are posted under the “Peach Jar” tab on the website.

### **Website**

[www.mckinleyarts.com](http://www.mckinleyarts.com)

Our website contains a variety of information about the school and its policies as well as a calendar of events.

### **Lunch, Snacks, and Water (Including Prohibited Items)**

You should expect your students to get used to that lunch time and they may ask for lunch at that time on the weekends too!

Water bottles are encouraged for all grade levels.

### **Back to School Night**

This year’s **Back to School Night is September 15<sup>th</sup>**. This is an evening for parents only and is an opportunity for you to learn about the academic program for the year from your child’s teacher, what teacher expectations are.

## School Rules and Policies

**Attendance-** Absence from class, regardless of the reason, limits your child's educational opportunities, and can negatively affect his/ her grades and academic achievement.

**Notification of Absences-** Excused absences include: illness, quarantine, doctor's appointment, attending a funeral, religious holiday exercises, and others per EC 46014 and 48205. Per EC 48260, EC 48261, & EC.

**Rewards-** for appropriate behavior may include being recognized as a role model for other students; earning positions of responsibility and leadership; receiving a positive referral or call home.

**Consequences** for misbehavior may include a verbal warning, loss of special class privileges, a student/ parent/teacher conference.

## Special Programs

**Chromebooks-** Students use Chromebooks daily. All Students receive a take-home Chromebooks. Students will use technology to research, write, publish, and present using google docs and slideshows. Students collaborate using google docs and they create their own class quizzes using clever new web interfaces.

**English Language Learners-** English Learners are assessed using the CELDT annually to measure language acquisition. English Learners are instructed during designated ELD time and language supports using language objectives to support language demands during content area instruction.

### Library

The Library is full of rich nonfiction texts to support research and inquiry. There are also wonderful fiction titles to nurture the love of stories. With over 15,000 texts we have an expanded program including the ability to borrow library books from the Pasadena public library. *Current librarian vacancy.*

### Special Education

The Pasadena Unified School District provides Special Education Services to children identified as having special needs as young as two years old. The extent of participation in services is dependent on individual needs and may range from weekly speech therapy to sessions to on-going Resource Specialist Program (RSP) services to placement in a Special Education Classroom. Parents or guardians who feel that their child might need Special Education services



should communicate first to their child’s teacher or with school administrators so that a referral can be made.

**GATE-** 2<sup>nd</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> grade students may be designated as GATE learners. They will receive differentiation and extension through a structured, purposeful inquiry that engages students in their own learning.

### **Homework Policy**

Pasadena Unified School District has developed homework policy and guidelines based on evidenced-based research, the purpose of homework is:

- To practice skills or reinforce knowledge that has been learned in the class in order to help students master a specific skill
- To reflect on what was learned in the class
- To be used as a way for students to prepare for future class activities
- To transfer knowledge and extend skills learned in one context or subject area to another situation

<b>Grade Level</b>	<b>Homework Guidelines</b>
Kindergarten	10 minutes + 15 minutes of reading
1st and 2nd Grades	20 minutes + 15 minutes of reading
3rd Grade	30 minutes + 20 minutes of reading
4th-5th Grades	40 minutes + 20 minutes of reading
Middle School	Up to 60 minutes as needed + independent reading assignments

### **Getting Involved**

**Parent Teacher Association-** Parental involvement has proven to be such an important part of a child’s education. While we encourage you to attend PTA meetings and get involved with our wide range of committees, we understand that everyone’s schedule allows for a different level of participation.

### **Statutory Councils**

**SSC-** The council is a school governance body that strives to improve student achievement through review and approval of the SPSA, oversight of funding for specially funded accounts, dissemination of information about school events, and planning of current and future programs.

**ELAC-** Parents participate in the English Learner Advisory Committee to address issues specifically related to English Learners. The committee typically reviews EL data and programs and advises the principal, school staff, and SSC on programs and services for English Learners to assure the needs of ELL students are being met.

**Annual Fund-(MKSAF)** Annual Fund is an organization designed for the sole purpose of raising money for the elementary and middle schools to offset budget deficits and provide enrichment.

**Arts Council-** The Arts Council is a co-committee of faculty and parents who work to shape the curriculum and enrichment opportunities related to arts instruction and performances at MKS.

**AAPC-** is a coalition of collaborative parents, students, school, and communities. The AAPC respects and embraces the diverse cultures of our communities

### **Family Compact**

At McKinley School (MKS) Roaring Tigers have four responsibilities, known as the Roaring Tiger Pledge:

***We take care of our school, our teachers, our peers, and most importantly ourselves.***

The Exemplar of a McKinley Tiger **Administrator**:

- Creative Visionary
- Dedicated Professional
- Engaged Community Leader
- Inspiring Catalyst
- Champion for the School's Needs

As a **Leader** of the MKS community, I will...

- Cultivate a shared vision with all school community members
- Provide a safe, challenging, and positive learning environment for all faculty, staff, and students
- Engage parent, community, and district leaders in promoting the ***Mission*** of the school and maximizing resources for all students

- Work collaboratively with the MKS team for each child's academic and social success
- Communicate clearly what is expected of each member of the MKS community
- Consistently and fairly enforce school and district policies
- Uphold California Education Code
- Ensure instructional integrity and maximize opportunities for student learning

The Exemplar of a McKinley Tiger **Teacher**:

- Instructional Strategist
- Creator of a Student-Centered Learning Environment
- Positive Role Model
- Team Player
- Continuous Learner

As a **STUDENT** of McKinley TK-8 School, I will...

- Ask for help when I do not understand something or need help
- Make my learning a priority
- Come to school each day on time, appropriately dressed, with my Tiger Folder (TK-5) and planner (grades 6-8)
- Be in class on time, with the supplies I need to do my work, and ready to work
- Make my best effort to complete my class assignments and homework to the best of my ability
- Treat others with respect and work cooperatively; accept others' differences
- Take pride in my school and respect the property of others
- Respect all adults in the school community regardless of position or title

As the **Parent/Guardian** of an MKS student, I will...

- Have high expectations for my student's learning and behavior
- See that my student arrives at school each day on time, appropriately dressed, with needed supplies
- Provide my student with a quiet time and space to read and do homework
- Ensure that the school has my current contact information and listen to/read all communications from the school and the District
- Communicate daily with my student about his or her school experiences
- Communicate regularly with my child's teachers and administrators as needed
- Volunteer my time and skills as I am able
- Respond to communication requests in a timely manner