



ALEXANDRIA MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENT HANDBOOK
2020-2021

Welcome to the 2020-2021 School Year

Dear AMS Students,

As we prepare for this unique year, we are going to do as much as we can to engage you. This may look very different but the teachers and staff will work hard to provide you with a meaningful experience which will help make this year a success.

What I believe is really important for you to understand is that Alexandria Middle School is just as much your building as it is the teachers'. To this end, it takes an effort by all of us to continue to make school a positive learning and social experience for everyone. Attached to this note is the student code of conduct. Though there are several pages to this document, there is nothing written here which is hard to follow. As I said, it is all of our responsibility to look out for one another and treat each other with respect.

This year has started off like no other but as time goes on, I look forward to meeting all of you, holding conversations with you and observing you demonstrating what makes Alexandria Middle School a great learning community.

Respectfully,

Mr. McPeck
AMS Principal

What is the Code of Conduct?

The Alexandria Township School District expects students to treat others with respect and demonstrate positive examples of behavior.

PRINCIPLES:

- Every person (students, staff) deserves to be respected
- Every person deserves to be safe, feel safe, and be free from danger
- Students attend school to learn academics, behavioral skills, social skills and this learning is enhanced in a physically and emotionally safe environment
- Learning is enhanced by the establishment of academic and behavioral expectations

The Code of Conduct is enforced:

- On school property prior to, during, and following regular school hours. This includes activities before or after school.
- While you are on the bus
- At school-sponsored events and other events in our building or away from school grounds including field trips and sporting events

SCHOOL-WIDE EXPECTATIONS

- Resolve disputes without verbal or physical confrontation (ASK FOR HELP from an adult).
- Respect and value differences in race, religion, and ethnic background.
- Avoid any form of unwanted physical contact while in school or at school events.
- Settle disputes without resorting to the use of profanity, obscenity, insults, put downs, or threats.
- Treat school property with respect and leave property which does not belong to you alone. Return all found items to the main office.
- Refrain from all forms of bullying or harassment.

Do the job that your school and your parents/guardians expect of you.

- Attend school daily.
- Be on time for school and class. Avoid loitering in the hallways, bathrooms etc.
- Be prepared with materials you will need for class.
- Make the best use of all educational time.
- Cooperate with all staff members and your peers at all times.

- Turn in all work within the allotted time frame.

Dress and act appropriately during school and school functions.

- The students dress and appearance must not distract from or disturb the educational process in any manner.
- Students are expected to leave all outerwear in their lockers.
- Clothing with references to alcohol, drugs, cigarettes and violence are not considered appropriate for school.
- Students are expected to avoid wearing sleeveless t-shirts, spaghetti-strapped shirts, bare midriffs, excessively short shorts or skirts, exposed underwear or pajama bottoms.
- Footwear must be securely fastened to the ankle. No flip-flops.
- Students are expected to avoid wearing revealing, ripped and torn clothing. Excessively tight clothing is not acceptable for school.
- Hats and sunglasses are not permitted inside school.

Contribute to the Safety of all members of the School community

- Walking is the expected pace students should adhere to when in the school building.
- Students are expected to show self-control and patience when walking in the halls. Pushing, shoving, horseplay and tripping can be dangerous.
- Students are expected to treat all emergency and fire drills as serious events and behave accordingly.
- Students are expected to treat their bus driver as they would treat their teacher.

Follow school policy regarding the following items which ARE NOT permitted in school

- It is expected that cell phones will be kept in lockers at all times and not used at any time inside the building.
- Students are expected to leave their personal electronics and other non-academic items at home including cards, dice, toys, drones, and video games.
- Students are expected to demonstrate integrity in academic work; cheating and plagiarizing will not be tolerated.
- Students should leave excessive amounts of money and valuable items at home. The school accepts no responsibility for items brought to school in opposition to these restrictions.

Respect yourself, respect others, respect your school.

Students shall respect themselves and everyone in the school community in the following ways:

- Follow classroom rules set by teachers.
- Be polite.
- Use appropriate language with no profanity.
- Follow the Dress Code.
- Treat others as they want to be treated.
- Keep AMS bully-free, including reporting all incidents of bullying.

Students shall respect school property by demonstrating the following behaviors:

- Keep desks, walls, and lockers clean
- Take care of books, iPADS, and all other school materials.
- Respect hallway and classroom bulletin boards and displays.
- Use ALL school facilities as intended, including bathrooms and locker rooms.

GENERAL BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS

****FOLLOW ALL SCHOOL RULES****

In the school building and classroom:

- Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
- Follow the fire and safety rules.

In the hallway:

- Walk quietly and orderly in the hallway.
- Use an inside voice (absolutely no screaming).
- Walk to the right.
- Respect other people's space. Keep your hands and feet to yourself.
- Respect the learning that is going on in the classes that you pass by being quiet.
- Hold the doors for others.
- Absolutely NO RUNNING or horseplay.

In the cafeteria:

- Follow directions and cooperate with the staff on duty.
- Do not throw food or objects.
- Use good manners and appropriate voice level.
- Remain seated unless purchasing lunch, snack, or throwing out your trash.
- Place cans and trash in the proper bins.
- No one is permitted to wander around from table to table.

- Students who cut the lunch line will go to the back of the line and may be restricted from attending recess that day.
- Each table will be held responsible for keeping their table and the area under the table free of debris. Students may be assigned to eat at other locations by the staff if an area cannot be kept clean and orderly.
- Walk up to the trash cans to dispose of waste; DO NOT throw it from a distance.
- Leave table and surrounding area clean and free from food or trash. (Broom is available for use if needed).
- Do not take any food from others unless you have permission.
- Do not leave the cafeteria without permission from a teacher on lunch duty.

On the playground:

- Line up and wait for instructions from the teachers before going outside.
- Follow all teacher directions and cooperate with them.
- Stay within the designated areas.
- Use equipment appropriately and responsibly. (ex: one person allowed on swing)
- Demonstrate good sportsmanship to ensure the safety and fairness for everyone.
- When the teacher blows the whistle, gather all equipment and line up at the doors immediately.

During indoor recess:

- Wait to be dismissed from the cafeteria.
- Walk quietly and orderly in the hallway. Stay to the right.
- Report to the designated area and wait for instructions.

New Gym:

- Sit on the bleachers and wait for the teachers instructions.
- Listen to the options that will be provided to play.
- If you do not like the options, you may sit quietly on the bleachers (Converse, play cards, etc.)

Old Gym:

- Sit on the bleachers and wait for the teachers instructions.
- Listen to the options that will be provided to play.
- If you do not like the options, you may sit quietly on the bleachers (Converse, play cards, etc.)