



Dan La inde P inci al [ddlavinder@gaston.k12.nc.us](mailto:ddlavinder@gaston.k12.nc.us)

Dear Parents and Students,

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McAdenville Elementary School  
to be working with you this year and are committed to helping your child

Teachers and staff are excited  
for her full potential!

To ensure an optimal school environment where students excel academically and behaviorally, we will be  
helping students develop strategies to foster their success individually and in teams. Clear  
expectations and consistent practice at school will help our children achieve at high levels.

Part of our commitment to having a great school year requires an understanding and support of some basic  
information, rules, and procedures. The cooperation of students, parents, and staff will ensure the  
effectiveness of these guidelines and provide a safe environment for students.

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Only service animals are allowed inside our school building. If you or your child have a service animal, please see the principal so a plan can be made to ensure all needs are met. Pets are not allowed inside our school building. People in the building might be allergic or afraid of animals so we ask that you not bring your pet inside. If you bring your pet to the parking lot, they must be leashed and under your control and supervision at all times.

The school day is from 7:35 a.m. - 2:05 p.m.

We encourage students to arrive by 7:25 a.m. so that they may have time to eat their breakfast, get to class on time, unpack, and be ready for the day.

Upon arrival:

- Students in grades K-2 and those wishing to eat breakfast will enter the school door.
- Students in grades 3-5 who do not wish to eat breakfast will go up the front stairs to the second floor door.
- Students not eating breakfast will wait in the hallway until the bell rings.

Going to school is a student's job. We feel that a day missed in school is comparable to a parent missing a day

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- Refrain from eating and drinking on the bus.
- Always follow the directions of the driver.
- Talk quietly on the bus.
- Stay off of the roadway while waiting for the bus.

The maximum amount of food a student can select is one entrée, one milk, two vegetables, and two fruits.

If a student does not select a complete school lunch, as outlined above, they will have to pay individually for the items they choose.

#### Meal Prices

##### Breakfast:

- Paid students (all grade levels) \$1.40
- Reduced price students (all grade levels) \$0.00
- Adults (staff and visitors) \$2.00

##### Lunch:

- Paid students (grades K – 5) \$2.90
- Reduced price students (all grade levels) \$0.00
- Adults (staff and visitors) \$4.00

#### Charged Meals

Students who do not have money may charge a meal if their account has not exceeded \$21.50. Elementary school students who do not have money and who have exceeded the charge limit may receive a complimentary alternate meal upon request.

Students who apply for free and reduced price meal benefits are responsible for all charges incurred before their Free and Reduced Meal Applications are received by the School Nutrition Department.

Students who have exceeded the charged meal limit may not purchase a la carte items with the exception of milk, fruit juice, or water.

#### Student Accounts

Checks, Cash, or Money Orders can be accepted in the school cafeterias.

Parents/Guardians may utilize Family Portal Link <https://family.titank12.com> to pay with their credit or debit card.

Parents requesting a refund must contact the School Nutrition Free and Reduced Specialist at 704 836-9110 ext. 1.

Positive balances remaining at the end of the school year will remain on students' accounts for the following school year unless a refund is requested.

#### Free and Reduced Meal Application

Paper applications are available at the school office, the school cafeteria, and at the School Nutrition Center in Lowell.

Online applications are available on the Gaston County Schools website. Links can be found on the School Nutrition department tab.

Only \_\_\_\_\_ is required \_\_\_\_\_.

Paper applications should be returned to the r ol \_\_\_\_\_.

## Special Nutrition Needs

All Students with unique meal time needs are required to have a Diet Order form.

Diet Order forms may be obtained from the Cafeteria Manager, the School Nurse, the School Nutrition Center in Lowell, or on School Nutrition page on Gaston County School website ([www.gaston.k12.nc.us](http://www.gaston.k12.nc.us))

The Diet Order form must be signed by a recognized medical authority and returned to the school nurse to submit electronically to the School Nutrition Dietitian [mhcameron@gaston.k12.nc.us](mailto:mhcameron@gaston.k12.nc.us).

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If you wish to send in a small birthday treat, it MUST BE ARRANGED with the teacher AHEAD of time. Birthday treats may be eaten at the end of the day or sent home with students in the class if time does not allow. Any treat brought to school to be shared with other students needs to be store bought and be accompanied by an ingredient list.

Birthday invitations should not be passed out at school. Please find another way to distribute birthday party invitations.

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Students are discouraged from bringing cellphones to school. If parents allow students to bring cellphones to school, the cell phones must be turned off and put away in the student's book bag for the entire day. This includes arrival and dismissal time as well as time on the bus. If an emergency arises, students can use the school phone to contact parents and parents can contact the school to pass along any information. Not following this rule can result in consequences (please see the Discipline section below).

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. Please do not wait until the last minute to make these changes as your message may not be delivered. Thank you for understanding our need to maintain student safety.

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Your check is welcome (made payable to McAdenville Elementary School). Gaston County Schools recognizes that occasionally parents may inadvertently overdraw a checking account and a check (NSF) may be returned by their bank. To recover these funds in a professional manner, the school system has contracted with a company to handle these instances.

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- All students will have a chromebook assigned to them on the first day of school.
  - If students bring Chromebooks home, the Chromebooks should return fully \_\_\_\_\_ for the day.
  - Students are responsible for their chromebook while at school and at home.

- As part of the back to school packet, parents will be asked to complete the “Gaston County Schools Chromebook Agreement.” The agreement states that parents will be responsible for paying charges incurred

Balloons, flowers, and gifts should not be delivered to the school bus rather to your home. Such deliveries interrupt the instructional day and cannot be taken home on the bus.

Gaston County Schools has developed a *Student Code of Conduct* to ensure that our schools are safe learning environments. Students will be furnished with a copy of these rules and are expected to abide by them. Teachers will model and revisit rules frequently so that students understand our expectations.

Teachers will make every effort to provide positive interventions to help students learn desired school behavior. Ensuring that a classroom is optimal for student learning is the main goal of the teacher. Parents will be notified of student behavioral issues using telephone calls, emails, notes, and conferences.

- Horseplay- Tripping, non-aggressive poking, pinching, chasing, pushing, play fighting
- Disruptive Behavior- Intentional distractions: noise, pranks, yelling out answers, unnecessary talking, making noises (humming, tapping objects, whistling), throwing paper, unkind statements towards a peer
- Non-Compliance with Directions- Refusing to complete an assignment; refusing to follow the directions of a staff member
- Taking Things- Taking things without permission (pencils, materials, etc.)
- Falsification of Information- Falsifying information, being dishonest, using classmates' materials without permission
- Cell Phone Use- Cell phone not off and put away; use of cell phone during school hours

On the first day of school, teachers will need to know how your child will be getting home that day as well as for the rest of the year. If changes need to be made regarding how your child will be getting home from school, those changes need to be made in writing.

Students are expected to maintain an appearance that is neither distracting to other students nor disruptive to the educational environment or the safe and healthy climate of schools.

Students must wear \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in \_\_\_\_\_.

Students shall not wear -

- Flip-flops or sandals during physical education
- Hats, bandannas, or other types of headgear or sunglasses in the building
- Clothing with indecent language or pictures (sex, alcohol, drugs, tobacco, etc.)
- Clothing that exposes undergarments

Parents are urged to leave their children at school all day. When possible, please schedule appointments for your student after school hours or on Teacher Workdays. If a student needs to be dismissed early, please send a written note to the teacher including -

- Student name and date
- Reason and time for early dismissal
- Name of the person picking up the child

This note needs to be given to the teacher at the start of the day.

To sign out a student, Gaston County Schools' policy requires that the adult have a \_\_\_\_\_.

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Work done at home is an opportunity to practice and extend that which has been taught or introduced in school. The amount and kind is determined by grade levels. If your child is struggling with his/her homework, please reach out to the

Our school is participating in an importan

\_\_\_\_\_ months regarding student progress.  
\_\_\_\_\_ determination in promotion or retention.

As a means to measure your child's academic success and report progress as an individual, we provide interim reports quarterly. Each 4½ weeks interim reports show an individual's progress in each subject area. Interim reports also show measures cumulative grades and behavior each 9 weeks. Parents of students in grades K-2 should check the PowerSchool account weekly for their student's most up to date information. Parents of students in grades 3-5 should check the PowerSchool account weekly for their student's most up to date information.

Elementary schools across Gaston County will continue to use the same grading practices in all K-5 classrooms.





Dear Parents,

Please read and review the Student/Parent Handbook as well as the *Gaston County Code of Student Conduct* with your child and discuss it with him or her. All students, regardless of their age, should have some age appropriate knowledge of our school expectations after discussing the handbook content.

Please complete the following below and return it to your child's teacher tomorrow. Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

McAdenville Elementary Principal