

FOLSOM-CORDOVA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

MATHER YOUTH ACADEMY

**Mather Youth Academy
Middle and High School**



**PARENT/GUARDIAN/STUDENT
2015-2016 HANDBOOK**

A Message from the Principal.....

Live out of your imagination, not your history.

Stephen Covey

The State of California and the *Folsom Cordova Unified School District* have specified in law and policy the need for schools to accommodate student with both discipline and emotional issues. Therefore, they have established the Mather Youth Academy School Site which accommodates Mather Youth Academy, a district-operated community day school, for students who are in need of a more structured environment.

Mather Youth Academy is a unique blend of academic courses and classroom instruction offered within the structure and discipline of a small school setting. The school contains a formal Middle School and High School serving 7th through 12th grades. Students attend a daily six-hour instructional program. A mandatory Summer Program (4 weeks) is run for those students enrolled at the end of the Spring Semester.

The PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) behavior management system is utilized by the Mather Youth Academy School Site and emphasizes a non-confrontational approach, encouraging positive behaviors and student strengths rather than penalizing negative behaviors.

Along those same lines of structure are Mather Youth Academy's school mascots, the powerful rhino adorned with a steel helmet exemplifying power. The rhino mascot signifies that, although it appears to be hard-nosed, sometimes nearsighted, thick-skinned, and scary to look at, it is an endangered species with a big heart that is fiercely loyal to family. Along with the Rhino is the Phoenix a mythical creature that continues to be reborn no matter what obstacles it faces. Beautiful and vibrant with each re-birth.

As a family unit, the relationships built between students, staff, and community are the backbone of our program allowing students to stay connected even if they no longer attend. We are working on establishing "mini-reviews" at the home schools to provide support for students still attending within the district. These connections will allow the students reviewing out to be successful in school.

Mather Youth Academy serves numerous students throughout the school year. The enrollment may fluctuate as issues arise but the staff and structure that has been established will continue. Tradition at Mather Youth Academy is strong with the belief that our students will come here wanting to change, work with the staff on changing, and leave here with the belief that they can continue on their own and ACHIEVE good Attendance, good Behavior, and solid Classwork. (ABC).

Some of the services and programs that we offer include:

Gardening Projects- community support and behavior modification for young adults; Counseling/Career Center- counseling room for academics, one to one counseling, career presentations, group presentations, MSAP, SST, PBIS etc...; Counseling Services- Another Choice Another Chance, Diogenes, Sacramento County Mental Health, etc...;

We are proud of our students who attend Mather Youth Academy and await the opportunity to work with them in the days to come. Our jobs are difficult at times but we strive each and every day to make the lives of these young people better. Thank you to our parents, students, community partners and staff for a job well done. I look forward to a successful end of the year and a productive extended year program.

Sincerely,

Rolando Rosas, Principal – Mather Youth Academy School Site

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“Charge On”

****For current info please access our school website at www.fcusd.org under alternative schools;
Mather Youth Academy or Mather Youth Academy

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Mather Youth Academy is a unique blend of academic courses and classroom instruction offered within the structure and discipline of a small school setting. The school contains a formal Middle School and High School, serving 7th through 12th grades. The program is organized as a Community Day School and, under law, could operate 12 months a year. We currently provide a 196 day school year as opposed to the 177 days found in most schools. We operate a four week Extended Year Program (similar to a summer school) which usually begins the second week in June after school is out.

The average student is assigned to Mather Youth Academy for the year, though the intent is to have the student return to their home school. Students may leave Mather Youth Academy returning to the school from which they came when their Attendance, Behavior, and Class-work (ABC) meet or exceed program standards. Student progress is monitored by staff during the semester and officially “reviewed” during the end of the semester.

The desired outcomes for students attending Mather Youth Academy include: developing better decision making skills, learning the value of collaborative skills, recovering missing academic credit, learning more constructive ways to deal with adversity, becoming more self reliant and responsible.

We have established several clear rules for the behavior we expect in all areas of our school. We have taught those expectations to the students and reward them frequently with tickets and prizes for appropriate behavior, with the goal being to bridge from extrinsic motivation to intrinsic. Our school rules specifically address behaviors that support success at school, provide for a safer school environment and with the ultimate goal of assisting students with “Making Review”, so they can successfully transition back to their home schools. Students receive daily feedback about their behavior regarding their level on our level system. Students are able to earn 40 points each day through demonstrating appropriate behaviors. Students are able to earn six points per class period by behaving in ways that are related to the school themes. For example:

Be Responsible- Students are expected to come to class prepared with a pencil, and complete their work while in class.

Be Respectful- Students are expected to use appropriate language while at school, and respect each other’s personal space.

Achieve- Students are expected to be active learners producing quality work.

There are three levels for MYA’s level system-

- Sabrehawk (the highest level)
- Firehawk (the middle level)
- Greyhawk- (the lowest level)

Students may have the opportunity to purchase items with their earned points on designated days at the student store. Students on higher levels also enjoy more school privileges than the students who are on other levels. We believe that by encouraging students to practice positive behaviors, we will promote student success at school.

MATHER YOUTH ACADEMY SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

The primary focus of the Mather Youth Academy program is to provide a safe and comprehensive day program that enhances personal responsibility and educational growth. Our job is to accept all appropriately placed students, identify and correct those behaviors which caused or contributed to them becoming unsuccessful in a traditional school setting, and return them to a comprehensive program, postured for success, at the earliest opportunity.

MATHER YOUTH ACADEMY SCHOOL GOALS

- Increase student's personal responsibility for his or her attendance, behavior, and education
- Improve student's learning skills and academic performance
- Improve student's ability to weigh options and make better decisions
- Increase student's educational time
- Reduce truancy rates
- Maximize the opportunity for students to return to a more traditional district program or complete their GED or California High School Proficiency Examination
- Staff and students will treat each other with courtesy and respect.
- Staff will provide counseling and guidance for individual students.
- Teachers and students will work together to plan each student's course work to accommodate his/her ability and learning style.
- The environment will encourage students to develop understanding of ethnic and cultural diversity and promote positive interaction.
- The instructional program will provide assessment, prescription, and evaluation based on individual student need and interest.
- Varied opportunities will enable students to learn how family, social, and environmental living relates to citizenship and civic responsibility.
- Staff will encourage students to earn a high school diploma as preparation for entering college, pursuing occupational training, or seeking employment.
- The curriculum will provide instruction leading toward vocational skills and/or economic independence.
- The curriculum will emphasize basic skills in all subject areas.

PARENT/GUARDIAN INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Attend New Student Entrance Orientation Meeting – Introduction and expectations of Mather Youth Academy program and family partnership (required). *****Current IEPs are completed prior to this meeting.**
- Make sure that the student has checked out of former school and all accounts have been cleared. *****Please bring a copy of check out grades to the orientation.** These are your child's grades and they need to be posted.
- Go over Progress Reports and Report Cards (end of each trimester or semester) – Help school staff remind your student the goal is to make review. Please be aware and review with students their grades, their behavior and ensure they are attending school.
- Attend Parent/Teacher Conferences – Reevaluation of expectations and goals; can be parent/guardian, teacher, or student cadet initiated; please make appointments, in advance, through the school office.
- **Parents / Guardians are responsible for clearing absences within 10 days of the absence.**

STUDENT INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Classroom Involvement – participate in class discussions and activities; complete all class work; copy daily agendas; practice reasonable, respectful, and responsible behavior
- Homework Involvement –complete homework assignments and turn them in on time; obtain assistance when needed, either at home, or at school
- Weekly Progress Reports–some students are required to turn in a Weekly Progress Report with parent/guardian and instructor signatures; this is an important way for teachers/parents/guardians/cadets to monitor progress in classes on a consistent basis
- Lunchtime Involvement – practice reasonable, respectful, and responsible behavior
- Remediation – Attend remediation when in need of extra help.
- Fun Friday – Earn the opportunity to be involved in extracurricular activities on Fridays.

MATHER YOUTH ACADEMY DRESS CODE REQUIREMENTS

Mather Youth Academy dress standards are based on a desire to keep students safe and focus on academics. Any deviation is for the sole purpose of saving money for parent/guardians. A list of the basic standards is provided below.

Uniform: Clothing must be clean and presentable
Blue or Black denim Jeans
Mather Youth Academy Issued T-Shirt (See Note 1)
Tennis Shoes/sneakers only (no boots or sandals/flip flops/slippers)
NO RED or BLUE showing on any article of clothing including belts and shoelaces
Grey, brown, or black belt (No ornate buckles allowed)
Unacceptable colors may be confiscated.

Note 1: Mather Youth Academy Issued T-Shirt is acquired from the Admin office at Mather Youth Academy.

STUDENT DRESS STANDARDS

Uniform:

Blue or Black jeans, tennis shoes/sneakers (no red or blue of any kind) and Mather Youth Academy Issued T shirt is the correct uniform. (all jeans must be worn with a belt at waist level with no under garment showing). Uniforms must be clean and presentable. This policy may be enforced with suspension or alternative consequences. ******No additional clothing allowed under the uniform other than appropriate undergarments**

All Gang Related Apparel/Activity Prohibited: No reds or blues **ALLOWED**. This includes shoe laces, hair bands, scarves, or **belts**, etc. No Exceptions! Any item of clothing or apparel, including belt buckles, which displays gang, drug, or hate group symbology is prohibited. This includes but is not limited too, reds, blues, S, N, HHH, 888, 4:20, Scrap, Blood, Cuz, 13, 14, North, South, any area codes. Cold weather garments are scrutinized in that some may be deemed inappropriate for school use.

Cold Weather Attire: Coats, Jackets and Sweatshirts are authorized during periods of poor/cold weather. However, they must comply with the standards outlined elsewhere. For example, jackets with covered faces (skulls, etc...) reds, blues, hoods, trench coats, etc are not allowed. **NO HOODS ARE ALLOWED.**

Jewelry: Necklaces and bracelets are prohibited. This includes promise bands, rubber bands, etc..All Students may wear one watch and one ring.

Hair: Hair must be groomed and maintained. Long hair, male and female, must be worn back (**OUT OF THE FACE**). Hair must be of a natural color but need not be "your" natural color. Unnatural colors, reds, blues, purple, pinks, green, etc, are not allowed. *******VIOLATIONS OF THIS POLICY MAY RESULT IN YOUR CHILD BEING SUSPENDED UNTIL IN COMPLIANCE.**

Headgear: No hats or headgear of any kind are allowed at school or bus stops including bandanas, do rags, baseball caps, beanies, etc..

Clothing Under Uniform: Clothing of any type, other than regular under garments *****THIS INCLUDES A SHIRTS/Tank tops, ATHLETIC SHORTS, PAJAMMAS ETC..**, may **NOT** be worn under the uniform. Students may be required to change and remove unauthorized under garments.

*****Violations of the dress standards may result in: In-House suspension and or Home suspension, other consequences, and or enforcement of original expulsion order.**

***These rules apply from the time that a student leaves home and is on their way to school. Violation of these rules may jeopardize your child's opportunity to be successful.

CAMPUS RULES

Contraband: Contraband includes items prohibited by school rules but does not include items which violate state or local laws. These items include, but are not limited to, hats, beanies, CD, MP3 players, and tape players, cell phones, pagers, IPOD's, any electronic devices, make-up and colored lip gloss, playing cards, dice, cameras (without prior approval), sun flower seeds, gum, and inappropriate photos. Contraband will be confiscated and returned that day, and in some cases only returned to parent/guardian. Exceptions include gum, sunflower seeds, gang related / themed items, and gambling devices which are discarded; and offensive materials which may be returned only to parent/guardians.

***These rules apply from the time that a student leaves home and is on their way to school. Violation of these rules may jeopardize your child's opportunity to make review.

Items/Materials which Violate State Law: Items which violate state/local laws include, but are not limited to, drugs, weapons, alcohol, explosive devices including fireworks and lighters, sexually explicit materials (notes, letters, photos, magazines, etc), controlled substances including undocumented medications, over the counter medications, tobacco products and dangerous objects. Materials which violate state or local laws may result in disciplinary actions up to and including expulsion.

Social Rules: Mather Youth Academy teaches and enforces commonly accepted social behaviors. Actions such as using profanity, spitting, primping outside restroom areas and acts of rudeness including gestures, are but some of the behaviors which will invite a staff intervention. ***Parents keep in mind that the "Rules" applying to Mather Youth Academy also apply to the bus rides going to and from school. Failure to follow these rules may result in suspension from bus and or school.

Private Vehicles: Private (student) vehicles are not allowed at Mather Youth Academy or to be parked outside in the neighborhood. Students may arrive and depart via bus (transportation is free) or driven by parent guardian or someone clearly identified on the Emergency Card. Parents wishing to allow students to depart with a third party must send a written request for exception identifying to whom the student may be released. The student will not be released without written authorization from the parent/guardian.

Personal Contact: Touching is not permitted between students (boy-girl, girl-girl, or boy-boy). This includes pushing, shoving, horse play, holding hands, kissing, or any other form of personal contact.

Boyfriend/girlfriend combinations may receive a 10 foot exclusionary zone if they cannot comply with the "no touching" rule. This rule also applies to bus rides going to and from school.

Lunches: Mather Youth Academy lunches are provided in the same manner as other sites in the District. Students pay full fare, reduced, or receive a free lunch. In rare cases, some students attempt to sell their lunch. In example, "I get mine free. If you give me \$1.50, you can have mine. You save a dollar and I make a \$1.50." This act may result in formal disciplinary action. Parents please note that if your child needs to pay; monies must be on account or present for your child to eat. *****Students are NOT allowed to bring candy, energy drinks, gum, sunflower seeds, etc....**

Tobacco Policy: It is the intent of the Folsom-Cordova Unified School District Board of Education to comply with State Law AB816. Therefore, Students shall not possess, smoke or use tobacco, or any product containing tobacco or nicotine, while on campus, while attending school-sponsored activities, or while under the supervision and control of district employees. Prohibited products include, but are not limited to, cigarettes, cigars, miniature cigars, clove cigarettes, smokeless tobacco, snuff, chew packets, and betel. (Education Code [48900](#), [48901](#)) Students' possession or use of electronic cigarettes, electronic hookahs, and other vapor-emitting devices, with or without nicotine content, that mimic the use of tobacco products is also prohibited. The use of tobacco products is prohibited at all times on district property and in district vehicles. This prohibition applies to all students, employees, visitors, and other persons. Smoking within 1,000 feet of campus or bus stops is strictly prohibited. Smoking to or from school is prohibited. Students are prohibited from bringing any items associated with tobacco products. Such items will be confiscated and will result in suspension.

Personal Property: The Folsom-Cordova Unified School District and its employees are not responsible for the loss of personal property. Please do not bring unnecessary money (over 10.00 – unless prior arrangements to purchase uniform items has been made) or expensive items to school. Your personal property is **YOUR** responsibility. The School District does not carry insurance for the loss of personal property for staff or student cadets. *****Note any items of a non-food item will be returned at the end of the day along with a 1 day suspension from school. We will not keep items unless the item is deemed dangerous by state or federal law.**

Safety Searches: Mather Youth Academy conducts safety searches of Students. Our primary interest is to deter Students from bringing inappropriate/dangerous items. Searches may also be conducted at the bus stop; and to or from school. *****Note any items confiscated (which are not against the law) will be returned at the end of the day.**

*******IMPORTANT:**

Backpacks are NOT allowed to be brought to school: Campus safety is our highest priority and, because backpacks and other such carry devices could contain drugs, weapons or dangerous objects, they are not allowed on campus. Boxes are provided and all jackets and outerwear will be secured daily. Do not send a child with clothing because they are going elsewhere after school. They will be sent on the bus they arrived

on. *******NO pens, markers or highlighters are allowed on campus.** Students are to come to school prepared to learn. We recommend they bring at least one sharpened pencil. (# 2 pencil or mechanical pencil—NO BLUES OR REDS)

Cell Phones: Cell phones are allowed on other campuses in the district. Mather Youth Academy is an exception by District policy. Cell phones brought to school or bus stop, regardless of ownership, will be confiscated in accordance with other items outlined under contraband. ****They will only be returned to the student at the end of the day.**

Closed Campus: Mather Youth Academy is a **closed campus** with the following guidelines:

- Students may not leave campus without permission.

- Students may not visit or be upon any other campus' prior, during, or after regular school hours without prior administrative approval.
- Students may not attend any other school function or event, on or off campus, without written permission from the Principal.
- Students will **NOT** be allowed to leave in another form of transportation without verbal confirmation with office staff, **PRIOR** to the day in question.

Sexual Harassment: Sexual harassment includes, but is not limited to, any un-welcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, or other unsolicited verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature. Sexual harassment, in any form, will result in disciplinary action. Continued harassment may result in suspension and or expulsion. *****Note: Continued harassment whether it is sexual or otherwise may result in civil prosecution.**

Items in Classrooms: Students are not permitted to take any food item or beverage into any classroom; or any other place on campus except the cafeteria. Items brought to school for lunch, must be placed in Admin Office until lunch time. Lunches should be brought in a closed container. Rules covering types and colors still apply. Students violating this rule may have items confiscated and discarded.

Right to Privacy: At Mather Youth Academy we try to work with Parent/Guardians. We reserve the right to search, read notes, diaries, and materials (brought to school or written at school) and share the contents with the Students parents or guardians. We routinely mail items to parents so they may remain informed and initiate the actions they deem appropriate.

BULLYING POLICY

Please visit the district website for the most up to date information regarding Bullying.

<http://www.fcusd.org/Page/22100>

Bullying is defined as an aggressive behavior done with the intent to control or harm, involves a real or perceived imbalance of power. It is not considered bullying if two students of equal power joke around or fight. Bullying can be direct or indirect. It can take many forms including:

- Physical (hitting, kicking, biting, throwing things. Etc.)
- Verbal (name calling, teasing, taunting, insulting, etc.)
- Relational (gossip, exclusion or leaving people out, telling people not to be your friends, etc.)
- Cyber bullying (mean text messaging or internet activity)
- Discrimination, harassment, intimidation, or bullying of students or staff, including sexual harassment, hate-motivated behavior, cyber bullying, hazing or initiation activity, extortion, or any other verbal, written, or physical conduct that causes or threatens to cause violence, bodily harm or substantial disruption (cf.5131.2 – Bullying)

DISCIPLINARY ACTION WILL OCCUR FOR STUDENTS THAT ENGAGE IN BULLYING.

HEALTH CONCERNS

Medication:

Prescription medication—In order to give a student medication at school, we are required to have a completed school medication form signed by both the parent and doctor. The form needs to specify the student's name, name of medication, the time and the dose of the medication, as well as the Physician's name and contact number, and the Parent and an Emergency Contact phone number. A separate medication authorization form is required for each medication. BP#5140

Over-the-counter medication—To receive “over-the-counter” medication at school, a completed “Parent Release for Non-Prescriptive Over-the-Counter Medication in School” form must be completed and signed by the parent. The medication must be brought to the School Office.

All medication must be brought to the school office in a labeled container with (1) the student’s name, (2) name of medication, (3) medication dose, and (4) time for medication. Medication will not be accepted in Ziploc bags, envelopes, or unmarked/incorrectly labeled bottles.

Medication forms may be obtained from the school office or downloaded from the Folsom Cordova Unified School District website at <http://www.fcusd.org> Click on DEPARTMENTS, then Support Services, then Health Programs, then Forms, then Parent/Physician Medical Release Form.

Vision screening—Students in grades 6 and 8 receive state mandated vision screening. You may request a vision screening for your student during the school year by contacting the school office and leaving a message for the School Nurse.

Hearing screening—Hearing screening is state mandated testing and is done for all 8th grade students. Please notify the School Nurse or school office if you would like to request a hearing screening for your child.

Scoliosis screening—All 7th grade girls and all 8th grade boys are mandated by the state to be assessed for scoliosis. If you choose not to have your child screened, please notify the School Nurse in writing.

Health concerns—If your child has any health needs, such as allergies, asthma, diabetes, orthopedic, or a diagnosed condition requiring a Doctor’s following, please note the information on the *Confidential Health Form* when registering your child. Please contact your School Nurse or School Office so a care plan can be put in place for your student.

Immunizations— If your student immunization status is incomplete, you will be notified about what immunizations are needed to meet District and State requirements.

Insurance—If you need assistance with insurance or finding a doctor for your child, please leave a message for the School Nurse, who will contact you regarding current resources.

DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS

Non Traditional Consequences: Mather Youth Academy, whenever possible, prefers to use non traditional consequences in lieu of off-site suspension within the realm of PBIS. Positive Behavior Supports include student reflections, mediation between students, and restorative justice conferences. On-site suspensions are also a possibility depending on student infraction.

Traditional Consequences: Mather Youth Academy is a public school and required to follow formal disciplinary procedures when more serious violations occur. Any act which involves violence, threats of violence, drugs, weapons, dangerous objects and/or violates state or local laws or threatens a safe school environment will result in Formal Discipline. Formal Discipline will result in off-site suspensions and could cause a recommendation for expulsion. Formal Discipline becomes the only option for students who **REFUSE** to accept a lesser, non traditional, consequence.

REWARDING SUCCESS

Character Building: Students takes the time to recognize success. It is our intent to foster self-esteem, a strong sense of self-worth, and a renewed perception of individual capabilities. To this end, Students making good choices or exceeding standards are eligible for an array of rewards. Some of the more common are trips off campus, food items, student store, etc.

Field Trips: Public sponsors provide the support to recognize overall accomplishment two or three times per year. Field trips recognize excellence in Attendance, Behavior, Class-work and Citizenship. These trips provide a chance for pro-social behaviors. Dress standards apply to all school sponsored events.

MYA Level System *(See Handout/ Attachment)**

A "ROUTINE" DAY

Parents frequently ask, "What is a normal day like?" During a "normal" day the following events occur.

9:00 am	Students arrive
9:00am - 12:00pm	1st through 3rd periods
12:00 - 12:30pm	Lunch
12:45 - 3:45pm	4th through 6th periods
3:45 - 4:00 pm	buses depart

Note: three minute passing periods occur between every period.

Note: No task is complete until it is done correctly. Fluctuations may occur depending on Student turbulence. ***Extended Year is typically one (1) hour earlier. 9:00 am to 8:00 am, and so forth....

Assigned Areas

- Students are expected to be in assigned classrooms or other designated location. This includes appropriate place in the classroom. (Location: i.e.: Study hall, Computer area, Approved Break Area)
- Off Limits: Teacher and Assistant desk areas and cabinets
- Pass issued by staff needed to leave classroom

Office – Non Mather Youth Academy Program Areas

- Students are to have permission to go the office

Behavior Management System

- Students are expected to follow the directions of all staff members.
- Behavior is an important part of any person's success in life.
- It is important for each person to assume responsibility for one's own actions.

The PBIS (Positive Behavior Intervention Supports) behavior management system is utilized by the Mather Youth Academy School Site and emphasizes a non-confrontational approach.

BUS TRANSPORTATION & CONDUCT

The Folsom-Cordova Unified School District will transport Mather Youth Academy students from approved bus stops in Rancho Cordova and Folsom free of charge. A bus schedule is provided during the Intake process. Questions regarding bus schedules or transportation services may be directed to the Mather Youth Academy office. If a concern arises during non business hours for Mather Youth Academy, Transportation may be called at 631-0401.

The school bus and bus stops are extensions of the school, and are covered by school and district policies. Students who ride the bus should practice courteous behavior which promotes a safe and comfortable

environment. Dressing, undressing, and/or changing clothing on the bus is not permitted. It is important student:

- Arrive at the bus stop 10 minutes before the scheduled time
- Dressing, undressing, and/or changing clothing at the bus stop or on the bus is not permitted
- Remain at the bus stop for 30 minutes following scheduled arrival.
- Respect property owner rights by keeping a clean, litter free bus stop.
- Respect the rights and property of others on the bus and at the bus stop.
- Always enter and leave the bus through the entrance door except in emergencies.
- Remain seated with feet, legs, and other objects out of the aisle while the bus is in motion.
- Keep all parts of the body inside the bus.
- Throwing objects and or spitting out the window will result in disciplinary action.
- Help keep the bus safe and free from litter by not eating or drinking on the bus.
- Be courteous and respectful to the bus driver, other passengers, and passersby.
- Adhere to the requests of the bus driver.
- Keep Noise level down- No profanity is allowed
- Bus suspensions may occur for various days (1 day, 5 days, 10 days or semester length).

(Note: The bus tapes are reviewed frequently any violations will be dealt with.)

Student who display inappropriate behavior on the bus or at the bus stop are subject to disciplinary consequences. **When appropriate, students may be suspended and instructed to return home from the bus stop.** These consequences may be administered by site staff or the Transportation Department. The Transportation Department and or school administration reserves the right to suspended/revoke bus riding privileges. Students suspended from the bus are still required to attend school.

*******Students are NOT allowed to switch bus stops. Students are also NOT allowed to ride home to a different bus stop, even with parent / guardian permission.**

GRADING POLICY

Class-work and Homework are due on the date assigned by the respective teacher. Teachers do not have to accept work beyond the due date. Work submitted beyond the due date may not receive full credit. The standard for Grades is:

A = Superior	4
B = Above Average	3
C = Average	2
D = Below Average	1
F = Failing	0
NC=No Credit	Insufficient work completed to award credit

HOMEWORK POLICY

*****If your child is NOT bringing homework home, contact the teacher and then the principal.**

Teacher: 363-5019 ask for teacher of record

Revised 8/6/2015, RR

Mather Youth Academy assigns Homework every Monday/Tuesday of the school year. Homework is integral to maintaining the skills necessary to return to a comprehensive site and remain successful. Assigned work is not excessive, requiring about 30 minutes per night. Homework is weighted at about 20%. Students failing to complete Homework may reduce their semester grade by one letter grade including a "D" becoming an "F". Interventions and remediation may be assigned for students failing to complete assignments.

MAKE UP WORK POLICY

Make up work can be requested if student is absent. Please contact the teacher or the front office. It will take at least 24 hours for staff to prepare the work for pick up. If a student's absence is excused under Education Code [48205](#), he/she shall be allowed to complete any missed assignment or test that can be reasonably given, as determined by the teacher of that class. The student shall be given full credit for the assignment or test if he/she satisfactorily completes the assignment or test within a reasonable period of time. (Education Code [48205](#))

PROGRESS REPORT/REPORT CARDS

Please visit Mather Youth Academy's website for important news and updates. <http://www.fcusd.org/khc> Parents and guardians can view student grades in PowerSchool. Students should communicate with staff to always know what their class grade is. Student progress reports are mailed home if students are in danger of failing. Report cards are mailed at the end of each semester.

MATHER YOUTH ACADEMY PLACEMENT

Mather Youth Academy is **NOT** a voluntary placement program. Parents/Guardians cannot place students at Mather Youth Academy nor can they remove student so as to attend another District program once assigned. Parents are consulted and frequently agree, but placement is a District option. Three different offices-committees have the authority to place students at Mather Youth Academy.

Attendance and Due Process (ADP) may place students with Mather Youth Academy as a product of an Expulsion, temporary placement pending an Expulsion, or Disciplinary Transfer in lieu of Expulsion.

The Alternative Education Committee, acting upon a referral from the student's current school, may also place students at Mather Youth Academy.

Finally, The School Attendance Review Board (SARB) may place students who are experiencing truancy or tardiness problems at Mather Youth Academy.

THE "REVIEW" PROCESS

Students referred to Mather Youth Academy become eligible to leave when they have completed the minimum period of time assigned by Attendance and Due Process (ADP). This period varies, but is often about one semester or one half of a school year. Mather Youth Academy is required to "review" each student's progress as they become eligible to depart and make a recommendation to the assigning authority.

The "review" considers three aspects of student success; attendance, behavior, and class-work. Per ADP **Attendance**: Your student is to maintain 95% positive attendance with no excessive truanancies, unexcused absences, or tardies . **Class-work/Academics**: Your Student must have a 2.0 GPA ("C" average) with NO "F's". **Behavior**: Your student must not be involved in incidents that violate any state; school; district laws, rules, or policies; or have any criminal code violations. Your student is to have no suspendable

Revised 8/6/2015, RR

offenses. Students will maintain their behavior level of Firehawk or above 85% percent of the time while attending Mather Youth Academy.

Students will be recommended for return to their school of origin or recommended for retention at Mather Youth Academy based solely on their progress in these three areas. There are clearly defined standards within each of these areas and students are provided classes on these standards multiple times annually.

The responsibility for earning a good (leaving) review or causing a bad (being retained) review rests solely on the student. Parents and Mather Youth Academy staff may support, counsel and assist, but the quality of the choices each student makes will determine the outcome.

******Note: If your child is receiving services through the Student Support Services an IEP is typically scheduled the day after reviews. If you have any questions please contact your case manager for your child.**

When a student receives a review, all relevant information within the three areas of measure (attendance, behavior and class-work) is placed on a Review Form. The process is anonymous. Student names are replaced with a number to insure a fair and impartial review. A panel of staff members conducts the review and when the process is complete, names are added. This allows the panel members to see, for the first time, who received a good or bad review.

Parents! The best person to ask about the projected outcome of a review is your student. They know! They are taught the expectations and they know, better than anyone else, what they have or have not done. The Mather Youth Academy staff is often reviewing 30-50 students at a time, and until a name is attached to the review form, we do not know.

Mather Youth Academy Staff

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