



Douglas MacArthur High School

North East Independent School District

2923 MacArthur View, San Antonio, Texas 78217
(210) 356-7600 Fax (210) 650-1195

May 3rd, 2021

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Students:

IMPORTANT REMINDER – As the flu season is upon us, we want students who are not feeling well and who are showing COVID symptoms to stay home and get well.

Here is all the news for the week:

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE SPRING EOC STATE ASSESSMENTS –

Information for the EOC Spring 2021 state assessment is now available in English or Spanish. Please see the attached letters.

MAC COUNSELORS' CORNER –

Counselors are available for students and parents through phone, email, zoom and in-person Monday-Friday 8:00 am -4:30 pm. Please reach out to your student's counselor or Cristina Esparza, our STAN counselor, if there is anything we can do to assist or support you and your student. Counselors are assigned alphabetically by student's last name. You can find your counselor's name and contact information in the "Counselors Corner" of the MAC website under "Find my counselor." <https://www.neisd.net/Page/21254>

Course Selection for 2021-2022: Course selection for next year has closed in Skyward. If students would like to make any changes to their selections, they will need to submit the request in writing with parent permission to their counselor by **May 28 at 4:00 pm**. Requests are not guaranteed.

Upcoming STAAR Dates:

May 4: US History

May 5: Alg. I

May 6: Biology

SEMESTER EXAM EXEMPTIONS -

The window for students to submit their semester exam exemptions will open on Wednesday, May 12th at 7:00am and the window will close on Friday, May 14th at 4:30pm. Students will submit exam exemptions through their Student Access portal. Deadline extensions will not be granted. Please see attachments for more information on exam exemptions including directions on how students can submit their exemptions.

GRADUATION -

Our graduation will be held at the Alamodome on **Monday, May 31st, at 9:00am.**

We will have our graduation rehearsal at MacArthur HS on **May 26th, from 8:30-11:00am, at the band parking lot.** There will also be a graduation rehearsal at the Alamodome on **May 27th from 2:30-4:00pm.,** there is no charge for parking for the rehearsal. Each graduating senior will be provided up to six tickets for family and friends. Further information on tickets, to include method and date of disbursement will be coming in future communications. The Alamodome will require temperature checks and appropriate spacing upon and groups of seats will be spread across the Alamodome. Parking will be limited. We encourage our graduates to ride with their families if feasible, as parking at the Alamodome for graduation will cost \$20 per vehicle. Parking lots B and C have been reserved for graduates and their families.

SENIOR STAMPEDE –

The PTSA Senior Stampede is scheduled for May 30th at 6:00pm. Please see the attached flyer for more information.

CLASS OF 2021 MASKS -

Represent the Class of 2021 at graduation! Masks will be required for graduates and guests at the Alamodome. The senior class will be providing each graduate with a face mask. We have extra masks to sell to family members for \$7 each. Please contact one of the Senior Class sponsors to order your masks today. Contact Spencer Cox (scox5@neisd.net) or April Moyer (amoyer@neisd.net) to order. They will make arrangements for payment and pick up when you place your order.

FROM OUR CCMR SPECIALIST –

AP Exam Testing begins this week!

Administration 1 Paper/In-person exams May 3rd through May 17th

Administration 2 Digital Exams May 18th, 19th, 20th, and May 26th, 27th, 28th.

Paper/In-person exams May 21st, 24th, and 25th.

Administration 3 Digital June 1st-11th.

***AP Digital Exam Requirement.** Students must download the AP digital exam app.

Students must complete 4 steps to prepare for digital exams. See link below.

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap-2021/updates/four-steps-before-digital-test>

-Students using a district computer will download the AP college board exam software from the district software center.

-Students using a district chrome book can click on the link below for a video tutorial explaining how to download the digital app.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xqGh_o1I3ic00QAh2zu1L8xa2E_XhUt1/view?ts=608ae0a9

-Students using personal computers will download the app from the college board website.

<https://apcentral.collegeboard.org/about-ap-2021/updates/four-steps-before-digital-test>

If you have any questions about AP exams contact CCMR Lisa Garcia at 210-356-7607 or via email at lgarci41@neisd.net

COLLEGE & CAREER ADVISING –

A presentation on “College Affordability”, will be held on May 4th, 6:00pm-7:00pm. This presentation is open to junior & senior parents and students. This presentation is available in both English and Spanish. We will do a deep dive into the FAFSA and TASFA applications, scholarships, financial aid award letters, and loans. Questions are always welcome throughout the presentation! Zoom link to the session in English: <https://trinity.zoom.us/j/91858630862>
Zoom link to the session in Spanish: <https://trinity.zoom.us/j/93444748487>

UPCOMING ATHLETIC PHYSICALS-

Athletic Physicals will be Saturday, May 15th – MacArthur’s allotted time is from 9:00-9:45
***Athletes will leave MacArthur @ 8:15 Athletes MUST ride the buses; they cannot drive themselves nor have parents dropping them off. \$20.00, PRE-PAY ONLY (**deadline is Friday, May 7th**) Cash, Check (payable to MacArthur HS), or Online. Mass physicals are conducted to assess if student-athletes are physically able to participate in athletics. What is covered: Medical History, Basic Musculoskeletal/Medical/Cardio Screening and EKGs; for any flagged Medical Histories or EKGs, an ECHO Screening will be administered (See AugustHeart Info/Release). Athletes will be screened for BOTH a Medical Physical AND an AugustHeart Screening. What is not covered: Vision & Hearing testing. Athletes must pre-pay, have all paperwork completed and turned in to the Athletic Trainer before being allowed on the bus. Physical packets will be distributed through athletic classes or available in Athletic Trainers office. For more information, please contact Coach Sutherland (csuthe1@neisd.net) at 210-356- 7660.

SATURDAY SCHOOL: For students who may need to make up time due to absences, Saturday School is held at MacArthur from 8am – 12pm(noon).

Our next Saturday School will be Saturday, May 8th, to sign up, go to the MacArthur webpage Link below

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSczVhJW1cML8sSyfDawnWpRiKjJyOXWK3yHpWD18Et8rpOGdg/viewform>

Students MUST register by 4:30 pm the Friday before the date they will attend. Cost is \$8. Students who complete the 4 hours will earn credit towards absences.

FROM OUR LIBRARY –

- **Library Newsletter:** Check out our monthly Library Newsletter to see how the library is supporting success: <https://www.smore.com/ctbrd>
- **Library Closures for STAAR Testing:** Due to STAAR and make up testing, the library will be closed Tuesday May 4th- Friday, May 7th. Best of luck to all of our students that will be testing this month. On these days, we will have a station set up outside of the library doors before school for book returns and pick-ups.
- **Children’s Book Week:** Children’s Book Week, established in 1919, is not only a celebration of books, but of connection. It is a vehicle to unite kids and adults with books, authors, and illustrators in order to foster a love of reading. Stop by the library to check out our display of picture books and pick up one of three available Children's Book Week *Reading is My Superpower* activities. Students can also visit our [Children's Book Week 2021 Choice Board](#) to explore their real world superpower.
- **Star Wars Day:** May the 4th be with you! Star Wars Day is May 4th so check out our [Advice for Becoming a Jedi of Star Wars Books](#) linked to our Sora Collection.
- **Courtyard Story Walk®:** We recently installed a Story Walk® in the library courtyard windows that incorporates elements of social-emotional learning. The story is a whimsical wordless picture book titled *Flotsam* by David Wiesner. As readers explore the images, there are 6 mindfulness strategies integrated into the story to help with stress and anxiety. The Story Walk will remain on display through the remainder of the school year so be sure to check it out.
- **Library Overdue Notices and Returns:** The final due date for library materials will be May 14th. We will not be checking out print materials to students beyond that date. **Please encourage your student to check their student email account as we have emailed out library overdue notices.** If your student still has a book from a previous

campus, such as their middle school, those books can be returned to the MacArthur Library and we will gladly take care of returning the book to its home campus.

- **AP Test Prep Guide:** AP testing is just around the corner. To help our students prepare for AP exams, we've created an AP Test Prep Guide at bit.ly/apthink5. The guide includes the following information links:
 - Information from College Board about testing this year (linked in center square)
 - Information about each AP test by course
 - YouTube AP Review Sessions
 - Practice Tests in Learning Express (available via Library Resources in Launchpad)
 - AP Test Prep eBooks available in Sora
- **College, Career, and Military Readiness:** Check out [Learning Express and PrepSTEP](#), a fantastic college, career, and military readiness resource that is available in the Library Resources Folder in Launchpad. Students can create their own free account to save their progress on online practice tests, career prep resources, and college and scholarship searches.
- **Library Services Moving Forward:**
 - **Library Open Before/After School:**
 - The library will be open before school 9:00-9:50 AM and after school 3:25-4:00 PM
 - Before school, students will enter and exit the library using the Library Courtyard doors. After school, students can enter through our main library doors nearest the A-wing.
 - Students can use the library to:
 - Pick up library books (our Online Hold and Pickup System or Grab and Go Book Displays)
 - Work on homework on a computer (computer stations are assigned for contact tracing purposes)
 - Work at a table with no more than two seated at table (tables are assigned for contact tracing purposes)
 - **Library Book Check Out:**
 - We are still using Online Hold and In-Person Pick-up System for **on campus** students to check out library books.
 - Please see these [instructions for how students can place books on hold for checkout](#)
 - Mac Library is pleased to offer Grab and Go Book Displays for quick checkouts that don't require an online hold request. Stop by and see our new arrivals!

City-wide Junior Duel Personal Finance Challenge -

Congratulations to GT Interdisciplinary I class members for placing 4th in the city-wide Junior Duel competition that concluded this Saturday, May 1st. Class members worked as teams to complete Round 1 of the competition that consisted of 2 case studies that challenged students to create a financial plan for paying for college and a separate plan for creating a 3-year financial independence plan for a young adult just beginning her career. Round 2 was held virtually, as a 50-question championship challenge that tested students' financial literacy. Freshmen Trenton Howell and Isabella Tindall competed against the top teams from the city in round

2. Congratulations to both Trenton and Isabella for finishing strong among teams mainly made up of upperclassmen accounting students. Go Brahmas!!

ASL -

Seven MacArthur ASL Angels Taught Sign Language for KIN program at 17 elementary and middle schools in NEISD. Lauren Daniels, Jocelyn DeLeon, Teagan Lambert, Doryann Mueller, Nicole Nixon, Samantha Snider and Avery Weaver. This Spring, the 7 MacArthur ASL students taught kids in the after school KIN program Sign Language for 7 weeks zooming to 2-5 schools per per teacher 1-2 days per week. These 7 Students will be getting the Superintendent's Award in May. In other ASL News, ASL Has Talent had it's 5th annual show recently filmed in the auditorium without an audience. Links are below.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HzmUQhU_WgA

10 minute Highlights:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Pc5FmLI36_9oL0S-XzVF6DZ7LstsfqMA/view?usp=sharing

Full Program Video:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1NZ97z84FLinjTbtYfx003bsJbKmSAM61/view?usp=sharing>

ACTIVITIES –

SOFTBALL –

In a play-off games last week, on Thursday, the Brahmas fell 9-1 to East Central. Bryley Westfahl went 2-for-3 at the plate to lead Brahmas in hits.

On Friday, the Brahmas grabbed an early lead on a 5-2 victory over East Central. The Brahmas scored on a double by Brooke Westfahl in the second inning. The Brahmas pulled away for good with three runs in the second inning. Madison Collins was credited with the victory for the Brahmas. The Brahmas smacked one home run on the day; Gabby Sosa went deep in the third inning.

On Saturday, the Brahmas fell 11-4 to East Central. The Brahmas opened up scoring in the first inning. Madison Collins hit into a fielder's choice, scoring one run. Then Gabby Sosa hit a 2 run RBI to make it 3-0. It started to rain and the ball was slick and we were not able to control it well enough. East Central pulled away for good with seven runs in the third inning. The Brahmas socked two home runs on the day; Collins had a long ball in the sixth inning. Gabby Sosa had a homer in the first inning.

BASEBALL -

Varsity baseball played hard game against Johnson and fell 10-3.

TICKET SALES - North East Athletics is moving to online ticket sales as of January 1, 2021 at all middle school and high school games. There will be no cash sales at the gate.

FROM OUR MAC CLINIC – Please remember that students must have current immunizations, even for online learning. This is a legal requirement. Please make sure that your child's immunizations are up to date.

If your child is sick, please do not send them to school. It is important that parents check their students daily for any of the following:

- Cough or sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Loss of taste or smell
- Chills
- Diarrhea
- Repeated shaking with chills

- Feeling feverish or temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
- Muscle pain
- Headache
- Known close contact in the last 14 days with a person who has COVID-19

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Health Services at 210-356-9244.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT-

MAC ORCHESTRA BOOSTERS – If your child is a part of Mac Orchestra, you need to be a part of this great group of parents. All are welcome. Go Brahma MOPA!

MAC CHOIR BOOSTERS – If your child is in choir then you need to come out and join this great group of parents and support MAC Choir. Go Brahma Choir Boosters!

MAC BAND BOOSTERS –

Join the Band Boosters - If your child is a member of our awesome Brahma Band, then you need to come out and be a part of these awesome parents.

Please remember, for the latest updates and information as well as current news, information, and schedules, join us on Facebook (Mac Band Parents), Twitter (@MacBandParents), and Instagram (@MacBandParents), or log in to your Charms account. Go Brahma Band Boosters!

MAC ATHLETIC BOOSTERS –

MAC Student/Athlete Parents and Guardians,

On behalf of the MAC Booster Club Board of Directors, I hope this email finds you well! As we wind down a year like no other in high school athletics, it's time to look forward to the good things that lie ahead. In preparation for next year, it's time to establish a new board of directors for the Booster Club. All positions are available as all standing board members have completed their max tenure in their current position. Of special need is someone to step into the President and Treasurer positions. The Booster Club works throughout the year to raise funds for the student athletes of MAC. Some of the primary ways in which this is accomplished is through membership, ad sales and production of the sports programs, merchandise design, production and sale as well as the scholarship golf tournament. Without the Booster Club Board, the things above don't happen. If you have been on the sideline, but ready to get in the game and battle for YOUR student/athletes, email brahmabooster@gmail.com to see how you can become involved.

Board Positions Include:

President
 1st Vice President
 2nd Vice President
 3rd Vice President
 Treasurer
 Secretary
 Parliamentarian

Join the Boosters - There is still time to join our Athletic Boosters. If your child is a Brahma Athlete or you are just looking for a way to be involved, you need to come out and be a part of these great parents. If you want to keep up with our Boosters, check out the Brahma Booster Club Facebook page link: <https://www.facebook.com/brahma.booster.90>

Go Brahma Athletic Boosters!

Join PTSA!: It is never too late to join PTSA and get involved at MAC. PTSA can also still take your donations (Brahma Bucks) which go right back into the school. The MacArthur PTSA is a vital link in connecting with our parents and families and a great way for every parent to be involved. The beginning of a new school year means it is time to show your support for our students, our school, and our community. We invite all students, parents, and teachers to join! The PTSA is here to advocate and positively influence the lives of all children and families. Make a difference and get involved! To join PTSA, please go to the following link:

<https://www.joinpta.org/>

We want to remind the Mac Family and community to please remember to check out the PTSA website and blog for important information on what is happening at MacArthur.

COMMUNITY-

COMMUNITY EDUCATION – We are excited to offer our NEISD 2021 Kids’ Summer Camp. Please see the attached flyers, which includes a flyer on frequently asked questions.

MAC FOOD PANTRY - The food pantry has been at MAC for 4 years. The MacTEACH food pantry, or the MacTEACH Mini-Mall, came about because of the program’s belief that all students matter, & the emotional & social well-being of each student must never be ignored. The food pantry benefits students & families at MAC & any family w/in our cluster that reaches out to us.

If someone wants to donate, how can they?

There are a couple different ways people can donate. They can drop off any nonperishable food items at the front office and let the ladies know it is for the Food Pantry. Another way is to contact us and we would be happy to pick up any monetary donations or nonperishable items. If you have any questions please contact: Elizabeth Jaramillo Molina, Family Specialist – ejaram@nesid.net; 210-356-7709 or Ms. Esparza, STAN counselor cespar1@neisd.net; 210-356-7934

HEALTH and WELLNESS - Our North East ISD community is facing more obstacles than ever in and out of the classroom. This is always a challenge; teachers, staff, students, & parents are now navigating the unknowns of the COVID-19 pandemic. While mental health and Social Emotional Learning (SEL) have always been important to NEISD, the added pressures brought on by COVID-19 prompted the District to focus our support systems, so help is more accessible to our community.

NEISD wants its employees and families to put their own mental health, and overall wellness needs first. The District's Student Leadership & Well-Being team launched a [new website](#) focused on offering adult wellness resources, from mental health hotlines to virtual fitness classes, professional counseling, and more. This one-stop webpage houses the many programs available to NEISD staff and families.

Mental health education and Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) remain a priority for NEISD. To help empower & train staff and parents, the District has partnered with health centers like Laurel Ridge, Clarity Child Guidance Center and Communities in Schools.

Visit adultwellness.neisd.net to learn more about the programs & resources that are available.

VOTER REGISTRATION – By law, every high school principal is a deputy voter registrar. As such, I make sure that we have voter registration cards available here at MAC in the principal office. However, you choose to register, if you are able to vote, then please make sure to do so. Voting is a precious right, and it is your right to exercise and let your voice be counted. I encourage all of you to register and participate in our civic duty. “We do not have government by the majority. We have government by the majority who participate.” - *Thomas Jefferson*

<https://www.votetexas.gov/register/index.html>

Go Brahma Voters!

BRAHMA FANS –

The following protocols are to be followed at all NEISD venues:

- The clear bag policy is in effect for all NEISD Facilities. You can access the policy at the following link:
 - <https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/139/Clear-Bag-Policy-main.pdf>
- Everyone should self-screen prior to coming to an event and we ask that you do not attend if you or someone in are household are experiencing any of the following:
 - Cough or sore throat
 - Shortness of breath
 - Loss of taste or smell
 - Chills
 - Diarrhea
 - Repeated shaking with chills
 - Feeling feverish or temperature greater than or equal to 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit
 - Muscle pain
 - Headache
 - Known close contact in the last 14 days with a person who has COVID-19
- All spectators including all adults and students must have a face covering to enter an event and must adhere to social distancing and wearing of face coverings at all times.
- There will be no parent spirit lines on the field.
- Spectators, including band parents, will not be allowed to cross the field except for after game shows in order to manage equipment.
- **Seating is marked so that rows with blue X's are rows where you cannot sit.**
- **There are green dots in the general seating areas indicating 6 foot spacing.**
- **There are decals in the student section where we ask for a maximum of 2 students between each decal. Please see the photo below.**
- **Please note that due to spacing requirements, the student section has moved to the area closest to the ticket booth. Please see the photo below.**
- Members of the same household, and those who arrived in the same vehicle are allowed to sit together.
- While waiting to enter the event and at the concession stands, we ask that you observe distancing and wearing of face coverings.

Please know that we want everyone to enjoy the event and support our teams. However, we must all do our part to ensure the safety and wellbeing of everyone.

We want to remind all of our parents, students, and guests who attend games or any event at home or away, that we need your assistance to ensure that we observe appropriate spectator behavior. This includes observing COVID safety requirements. Spectators are required to wear a mask or face covering at all times while in the stadium. Please observe social distancing with persons who did not travel to the game with you or are not members of your immediate family or your household.

Also, it is okay to disagree with a call and to be a little loud when supporting our Brahmas. It is not okay to be disruptive or engage in personal attacks or confrontations with Coaches, referees, or students. Cursing, making profane comments or threats will not be allowed. Anyone causing a disturbance or verbally abusing the officials, coaches, or students will be removed from the game and may face removal from all athletic events. Please let the coaches take care of the coaching and dealing with the officials. It is extremely important for us to model appropriate behavior at any function. Your cooperation and support are greatly appreciated. Go Brahmas!



IMPORTANT REMINDERS - Since students and employees began returning to school, we have been able to put many safety processes into place. These measures have proven to successfully mitigate the spread of COVID-19 within NEISD. As with any new situation, it is necessary to occasionally evaluate these processes and look for areas which may be improved. The communication, cooperation, and support from employees, parents, guardians, and the community has been so helpful in allowing us to respond to different COVID-19 situations appropriately.

Face coverings help reduce the spread of COVID-19 by reducing droplets **if the face covering is worn securely over the nose and mouth.** According to the CDC, cloth face coverings offer some protection to you and are also meant to protect those around you in case you are infected with the virus that causes COVID-19 and don't have any symptoms. Certain types of face coverings are more effective than others. **Beginning November 30, 2020, masks with valves are not permitted for students or employees. Gaiters and bandanas are only permitted for outdoor use.** We will have extra masks for those that do not have them. Below are some diagrams that outline the safe use of face coverings. Remember that we are all in this together, and we are only successful if we all follow the necessary precautions.


✓ PERMITTED


Face coverings **should**—

- Completely cover nose and mouth
- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face
- Be secured with ties or ear loops
- Include multiple layers of fabric
- Allow for breathing without restriction
- Be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape
- Be pulled so that the bottom part of the mask is below the chin.



A face shield can be worn over a mask to provide additional eye protection.







Neck sleeves/gaiters, bandanas or scarves are permitted for **outdoor use only**.


✗ NOT PERMITTED




Face coverings **should not** be worn under the nose, around the neck or forehead.


Neck sleeves/gaiters, bandanas or scarves are **not permitted for indoor use** as studies have shown them as less effective than other types of face masks.



Face coverings **should not** have an exhalation valve; although the valve allows you to exhale, it expels germs into the air and doesn't protect others.



Face coverings **should not** be made of mesh material; mesh does not cover the mouth and nose.



A face shield without a mask **does not** provide adequate protection.

SCHOOL HOURS:

School begins promptly at 10:00 am. Administrators and faculty will be posted around campus to direct students to their classes. Students will attend their classes as scheduled.

Students who arrive before 10 am will be required to wait in designated areas unless they are at a practice for one of the extra-curriculars.

ARRIVAL & TRANSPORTATION:

As much as possible, we highly recommend that parents transport their children to and from school as they return. Students should arrive no earlier than between 8: 30 and 9:00 am.

If your child needs to ride a bus to and from school, you can check the bus number and pick-up times at the following link:

<http://www.infofinderi.com/ifi/?cid=NEI05464638120>

Buses will begin arriving at MacArthur starting at about 9:15 am. Students will be directed to the cafeteria or designated areas until 9:50 am.

Classes will end at 3:25 pm. If you are transporting your child, you may pick them up at the front of the school after 3:25 pm. Buses will arrive between 3:55 and 4:15pm. Students who must wait for a bus will wait in designated areas until buses arrive unless they are participating in an extra-curricular practice. Students will have the opportunity to engage in Blended learning online from 3:30 to 4:30 pm.

STUDENT DROP-OFF – Please do not drop off or pick up your child on the street. This creates traffic issues, and it is not safe. The same is true at pick up time. In the past I have even seen parents picking up kids in the middle of the street. This is VERY dangerous, and you can be ticketed. Please keep your child’s safety in mind. The few minutes you believe you save can never compensate if something bad happens. Thank you.

TRAFFIC AND PARKING:

The front circle is open for drop-off only in the morning. It will be locked at 9:30 am and is not re-opened until approximately 4:40 pm. There are Student Parking Tags available. All parking tags are sold on a first come first served basis. The cost for a parking tag is \$30. Students must have a visible parking tag in order to park on campus. This is in effect on the first day of school.

Student vehicles without tags will be ticketed and can possibly be towed. If your child does not have a parking permit, please remind them that they may not park on campus.

- **There is no parking allowed on the Band Practice field.** Student pick up after activities will be in the front circle area.
- **Traffic Flow - The front parking lot has a one-way entrance and exit.** It is very important that we observe the traffic flow to allow easier and safer access to and from the front lot. Failure to follow posted traffic flow can cause dangerous situations and, for students, it can result in the loss of the parking tag. The entrance is in the area closest to CVS. The exit is in the area right by the front circle. We also ask that parents picking up their students to please park in the available parking spaces to wait for and pick up your child.

SCHOOL SAFETY:

As you know, all NEISD schools have additional security measures that were put in place last year with additional Safety measures required due to COVID 19. Below are some important considerations:

- **FACE MASKS** – Students must have a face mask, and they will be worn at all times except when eating lunch.
- **WATER BOTTLES & SANITIZERS** – Students should bring a water bottle with them. Water fountains are available only to refill water bottles. Every classroom will have approved hand sanitizers. Students may bring a small personal bottle of hand sanitizer, but it may not be shared with anyone.
- **HALLWAYS** – All Hallways and Stairwells are 2 ways. **However, for safety, all students should walk on the right side of the hallway at all times.**
- **ELECTRONIC DEVICES** – While students will be in face-to-face instruction, **all students should bring their electronic devices, power cords and earbuds/headphones, so that can work as needed during their classes.**
- **BREAKFAST AND LUNCH** – Thanks to available federal support, Breakfast and Lunch are free of charge. The only charge will be for A La Carte items, and if a student gets a second tray. Students may bring a lunch from home.
Due to COVID restrictions, we cannot accept food deliveries and we cannot let students out to get food from you. That may change as we move forward with the transitions, but we MUST adhere to this expectation. In addition, MacArthur is a closed campus, and students may not leave campus for lunch.
- **CLEAR BACKPACKS** - All students must have a clear backpack. This applies to any bag the student may use to carry their books and/or school items such as messenger bags, briefcases, etc. It does not apply to small purses, gym bags, band cases, dance/cheer equipment bags. **Remember, Clear Backpack or No Backpack!**
- **CAMPUS ACCESS** - All exterior doors will remain locked. The gate at the bus circle going into the courtyard, and the gates at the front circle will be closed at 10:00 am. Anyone arriving after 10:00 am will have to buzz in for entrance.
- **STUDENT ID'S** – Students should have their student ID with them. If your student needs an ID please have them see an administrator in the cafeteria during their lunch.

DRESS CODE – As always, dress code is in effect the first day of school. We need your help in ensuring that your children are properly dressed for school.

- Girl’s skirts, dresses, and shorts must be of an appropriate length.
- Boys must wear their pants at their waist and should have a belt to secure their pants.
- No halter-tops, bare midriffs, or muscle shirts allowed.
- No translucent or see-through clothing.
- No hats of any type for boys or girls.
 - **Students should not bring hats or caps to school because they will not be allowed to wear them at any time.**
 - This includes hanging them on their belts, backpacks or anywhere else. They are subject to confiscation.
- Hair should be a neatly groomed and not distracting.
- No piercings anywhere other than the ears. Students will be required to remove any facial or other visible piercings and they are subject to confiscation.
- Please help us with this issue. Remember that students who are out of dress code are subject to disciplinary measures.

STUDENT BEHAVIOR:

TOBACCO/VAPE PRODUCTS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY – The following is directly from the NEISD Student Code of Conduct, which can be found at:

<https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/205/2019-2020%20District%20Student%20Code%20of%20Conduct.pdf>

North East ISD prohibits the following in accordance with Texas Education Code Section 38.006 and Texas Health and Safety Code Section 161.081:

1. Any adult and/or student from smoking cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, **electronic, vapor, smokeless or any other substitute form of cigarettes, tobacco, or tobacco-like products**, as well as the use of any devices which are used for the purpose of ingesting or transmitting any type of tobacco or tobacco-like products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property.
2. Students from possessing or using cigarettes, tobacco, tobacco products, electronic, vapor, smokeless or any other substitute form of cigarettes, tobacco, or tobacco-like products, as well as the use of any devices which are used for the purpose of ingesting or transmitting any type of tobacco, or tobacco-like products at a school-related or school-sanctioned activity on or off school property.

North East ISD will ensure that school personnel will enforce the tobacco/vapor rules. State law prohibits the possession, purchase, consumption or acceptance of an electronic cigarette, cigarette or tobacco product by an individual who is younger than 18 years of age. An offense under state law is punishable by a fine. Additionally, **students will face disciplinary consequences which could include a DAEP placement or an expulsion for a THC or CBD related violation.**

Vaping has become epidemic with our teens. It is something we address on almost a daily basis. In addition to our concern over the health risks this behavior poses, we have seen a number of students expelled for the possession or use of THC (tetrahydrocannabinol, the principal psychoactive ingredient in marijuana). **We want to reiterate that possession or use of THC on**

campus will result in a recommendation for disciplinary placement up to and including expulsion for students who are found to be vaping THC or have THC in their possession. This strong stand is imperative not only to remain compliant with state law and the NEISD Student Code of Conduct, but also to deter a behavior that is endangering our students.

Regardless of personal opinions on this issue, possession and use of e-cigarettes/vaping devices remains illegal under state law for persons under 18. All devices, oils, and other paraphernalia are explicitly prohibited by the North East ISD Student Code of Conduct for students of all ages. Confiscated devices, cartridges and oils will be subject to immediate on-campus chemical testing. Students who are in possession of any item which tests positively for THC will be recommended for DAEP placement or expulsion as such possession is a state jail felony. Note that possessing or being under the influence of any controlled substance as detailed above can also result in separate criminal penalties as determined by law enforcement.

For the safety of our children, please help us to reinforce the serious safety and disciplinary consequences, which can result from vaping. You can access <https://www.neisd.net/escapethevape> for additional resources, which may help you to initiate this conversation with your child. Thank you for your continued collaboration as we strive to ensure the safest possible educational environment for all students.

BULLYING, THREATS, HARRASSMENT:

Any threat to engage in any type of violent act against another student, a staff member, or the school itself, will not be tolerated. This includes any threat made via social media.

Consequences will include disciplinary action and could result in criminal prosecution.

Additional information regarding threats is detailed on page 36 of the Student/Parent Handbook, which can be accessed via the following link:

<https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/205/2020-2021%20ENGLISH%20Secondary%20Handbook.pdf>

The Student Code of Conduct can be found at the following link:

<https://www.neisd.net/cms/lib/TX02215002/Centricity/Domain/205/2020-21%20English%20SCOC.pdf>

Students, parents, and guardians should immediately report any information concerning any apparent threat to student or staff safety to campus administration. Information may also be provided to the North East Police Department at 407-0911 or via NEISD's anonymous 24-hour tip line at 655-CARE (655-2273).

ATTENDANCE:

Student attendance is based on their being in school and in class on a daily basis.

- Students who are out can still retain their attendance by logging in to the Google classroom and completing the assignment for the day before 12 midnight.
- If you are picking your child up early for an appointment or any other reason, they must be signed out at the attendance office. They will be called to the front office. Thank you for your cooperation.

IMMUNIZATIONS:

Student immunizations must be current, or the student will not be allowed to attend classes. Immunizations will be checked for all students.

URGENT NOTICE! – Whenever we receive returned mail, we are required to get a new verification of residency. Please be aware that any student for whom we have received returned mail will not be allowed to attend school until we have a new verification of enrollment. In addition, any student attending MacArthur on a Power of Attorney (POA) or a Living With must have renewed the POA or Living With before the start of school. If your child (ren) fall within any of these categories, you will be contacted to provide the necessary documentation or pick up your child until the necessary documentation can be provided. We want your child (ren) in school, but these are legal requirements that must be fulfilled.

UPDATE ADDRESS AND EMAILS – **If you have moved recently, please make sure that we have a correct address and proof of residency.** Many of you may not have a current or correct email address in our system. You are missing out on important communication. Please make sure you take time to go into your Family Access account to update or ensure that you have a correct email entered so that we can adequately communicate with you

Here are the events going on in Brahmaland the Week of May 3rd:

I. Calendar

a. Monday 050321:

- i. AP Exams - All Day**
- ii. Dance Showcase Rehearsal @ Auditorium – All Day**
- iii. Staff Appreciation (Nutritional Employees, School Nurse, Principal)**

b. Tuesday 050421:

- i. AP Exams – All Day**
- ii. EOC STAAR (US History) – All Day**
- iii. Dance Showcase Performance Rehearsal - Auditorium**
- iv. Dance Team Practice – Auditorium**
- v. PTSA Board/General Meeting Virtual 5:30-7:30pm**

c. Wednesday 050521:

- i. AP Exams – All Day**
- ii. EOC STAAR (Algebra 1) – All Day**
- iii. Dance Showcase Performance Rehearsal - Auditorium**
- iv. Dance Team Practice – Auditorium**

d. Thursday 050621:

- i. AP Exams – All Day**
- ii. EOC STAAR (Biology) – All Day**
- iii. Dance Showcase Performance Rehearsal - Auditorium**
- iv. Dance Team Practice – Auditorium**
- v. ASL Honor Society Awards**
- vi. JROTC Rehearsal NEISD Parade and Award Ceremony**

e. Friday 050721:

- i. AP Exams – All Day**
- ii. EOC STAAR (US History, Algebra 1, Biology) – All Day**
- iii. Dance Showcase Performance - Auditorium**
- iv. PTSA Staff Appreciation Luncheon**
- v. Girls' Track & Field State Qualifiers @ UT Austin – All Day**
- vi. Girls' Soccer (7th Grade) Driscoll v. Garner @ MAC 4:15-6:00pm**
- vii. Girls' Soccer (8th Grade) Driscoll v. Garner @ MAC 6:00-7:45pm**

- viii. **Dance Spirit Spring Show and Awards – Auditorium 7:30-9:30pm**
- f. **Saturday 050821:**
 - i. **AP Exams – All Day**
 - ii. **SAT Testing – A Wing 2nd Floor 7:00-2:45pm**
 - iii. **Girls’ Track & Field State Qualifiers @ UT Austin – All Day**
 - iv. **Girls’ Soccer (7th Grade) Driscoll v. Garner @ MAC 10:00-11:15am**
 - v. **Girls’ Soccer (8th Grade) Driscoll v. Garner @ MAC 11:15-12:30pm**
 - vi. **Dance Spirit Spring Show and Awards – Auditorium 7:30-9:30pm**
 - vii. **JROTC Parade and Awards Ceremony @ Comalander Stadium – All Day**
- g. **Sunday 050921:**
 - i. **n/a**

Have a Great Week!

Melvin Echard, Acting Principal