

OFFICE OF QUALITY PROFESSIONALS & SPECIAL SCHOOLS
Summary of State Board of Education Agenda Items
April 18-19, 2013

MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

H. Approval of the Mississippi School of the Arts 2013-2014 Student Handbook

Executive Summary

The document contains handbook for students attending the Mississippi School of the Arts (MSA). It details the policies and procedures regarding general information, academic expectations, student services, health services, visitors on campus, school safety and transportation, technology, and discipline.

This document has the following changes from the previous year publication:

- Additional fees for increased costs for the visual art classes
- Replaced outdated graduation requirements for the state, MS Scholars, and IHL
- Modified some words for readability and overall tone
- Added a statement regarding processing of payments to MSA through one check and its designation on the memo line by the parent
- Added a statement regarding the nurse disposing of over the counter (OTC) medications following the end of the year if they are not taken at the close of school
- Inserted the new required Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) language
- Clarified the quality points given to a student from their transferring school for their grades
- Added parents responsibility for taking their children for routine doctor's visits at home and to refrain from bringing sick children to school
- Added parents responsibility for maintaining doctor's orders on medication
- Added that caffeine pills are not allowed for student consumption
- Added parents responsibility for providing mental health information to the school administration
- Clarified language regarding self harm and response required by the parents in order to maintain enrollment at MSA
- Revised discipline ladder to separate the academic and residential infractions as well as keep tardies as a stand alone offense for more appropriate consequences as well as a clearer understanding

mississippi**school**of the**arts**

i m a g i n e c r e a t e **REALIZE**



Student Handbook

2013-2014

MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

2013-2014 School Year Calendar (subject to change)

Fall Semester

August 2013		
August 1-2, 5-6	Teacher Development Work Days	8am-5pm
August 2	Senior Move In Day	8am-5pm
August 2	Room and Board Payments Due – 1 st Term	
August 3	Junior Move In Day for Residential/Check In for Commuters	8am-5pm
August 4-5	Orientation for all students	8am-5pm
August 6	Discipline Meetings, student conferences, scheduling	8am-5pm
August 7	School Begins for BHS and MSA	7:45am
August 16	Students go home, Teacher Development	Early Release Schedule
August 18	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
August 30	Students go home	Regular Release Schedule
September 2013		
September 2	Students Return to Campus, Labor Day Holiday	5-7pm
September 13	Progress Reports Mailed Home	
September 16-23	Subject Area Testing Program – Retesters and First Time	
September 13	Students go home	Regular Release Schedule
September 15	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
September 27	Students go home	Regular Release Schedule
September 29	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
October 2013		
October 5	Ole Brook Festival	
October 10	Students go home, End of Term 1	Regular Release Schedule
October 10	Room and Board Payments Due – 2 nd Term	
October 11, 14	Students Holiday – FALL BREAK (Weather Day 1&2)	
October 11, 14	Teacher Work Days	
October 14	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
October 16	PSAT	
October 18	Report Cards Mailed Home	
October 25	Students go home, Teacher Development	Early Release Schedule
October 27	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
November 2013		
November 2	Open House - Regular School Day	7:45am-5pm
November	Subject Area Tests – English II Writing Assessment	See Testing Schedule
November 15	Progress Reports Mailed Home	
November 8	Students go home	Regular Release Schedule
November 10	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
November 22	Students go home, Teacher Development	Early Release Schedule
November 25-29	THANKSGIVING BREAK	
December 2013		
December 1	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
December 8-9	Subject Area Testing program	See Testing Calendar
December 20	Students go home, Teacher Development, End of Term 2	Early Release Schedule
December 23-January 6	WINTER BREAK	

MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

2013-2014 School Year Calendar – Spring Semester

January 2014		
January 6	Teacher Development Work Day, Students Return to Campus	
January 6	Room and Board Payments Due – 3 rd Term	
January 7	Classes Resume, Second Semester Begins	7:45am
January 15	Report Cards Mailed Home	
January 17	Students go home, Teacher Development	Early Release Schedule
January 20	Students Return to Campus, MLK, JR. HOLIDAY	5-7pm
January 31	Students go home	Regular Release Schedule
February 2014		
February 2	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
February 7	Progress Reports Mailed Home	
February 14	Students go home, Teacher Development	Early Release Schedule
February 17	Teacher Work Day	
February 17	Students Return to Campus, HOLIDAY (Weather Day 3)	5-7pm
March 2014		
February 28-March 1	Auditions – Arts Ambassadors on campus only	12:00pm Dismissal
March 7	Students go home, Teacher Development, End of Term 3	Early Release Schedule
March 7	Room and Board Payments Due – 4 th Term	
March 10-14	SPRING BREAK	
March 16	Students Return to Campus,	5-7pm
March 17-21	Subject Area Testing Program, Writing and ReTest for Seniors	See Testing Calendar
March 21	Report Cards Mailed Home	
March 28	Students go home, Teacher Development	Early Release Schedule
April 2014		
April 5	PROM (students must be present 60% of the day before to attend)	
April 17	Awards Day	2pm Program time
April 17	Students go home	After Awards Day
April 17	Progress Reports Mailed Home	
April 18	HOLIDAY (students and teachers) (Weather Day 4)	
April 20	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
April 26	New Student Day – Regular School Day	7:45am-5pm
May 2014		
May 5-12	Subject Area Testing Program	See Testing Calendar
May 2	Students go home, Teacher Development	Early Release Schedule
May 4	Students Return to Campus	5-7pm
May 22	Students Last Day of School, End of Term 4	
May 23	GRADUATION	2pm

To Be Added upon release by other agencies:

- Date changes throughout to reflect the current year
- 2013-2014 PSAT and ACT/SAT dates
- Blank calendar – to be determined by the end of March on separate board agenda

Recommendation: Approval

Back-up Material: Attached