

BUSCH MIDDLE SCHOOL OF CHARACTER

5910 S. CLIFTON AVE.

SAINT LOUIS, MO 63109

(314) 352-1043

STUDENT & FAMILY HANDBOOK

2022-2023



Table of Contents

- 1) Welcome to Busch MSOC letter
- 2) Staff and Teaching Teams
- 3) Vision, mission, and core values
- 4) Character education
 - a) 11 Principles
 - b) Character Connection advisories
- 5) Important dates
- 6) Bell times and schedule
- 7) Dress Code
- 8) Bullying
- 9) Cell Phone Policy
- 10) School Supplies
- 11) Visiting Busch MSOC
 - a) Visitor procedures
 - b) Parking
 - c) Birthdays
- 12) Communication with Families
 - a) Family Community Specialist
 - b) Technology and Social Media
 - c) Translation services
- 13) Instruction
 - a) Missouri Learning Standards
 - b) Curriculum
 - c) Student placement and scheduling
 - d) Student assessment
 - e) Notetaking and Text Annotation
- 14) Classroom expectations
 - a) Classroom Plan
 - b) Routines & procedures
 - c) Responding to misbehavior
 - d) Lunch Intervention Program
- 15) School Routines and Services
 - a) Arrival and dismissal duties
 - b) Student lockers
 - c) Technology
- 16) School Events
 - a) 6th grade and new student orientation
 - b) Back to school night
 - c) PTO meetings
 - d) Parent Teacher Conferences
 - e) Incentive Activity days
 - f) Field trips
 - g) Black History Month activities
 - h) MAP Dog celebration

- i) Whole School field trip
- j) 8th grade promotion

STAFF AND TEACHING TEAMS

Principal, Mr. Robert Lescher
 Assistant Principal, Abigail Cook
 Secretary, Ms. Sonia Nazar Pour
 Family Community Specialist, Mrs. Laurie Warren
 Counselor, Mr. Todd Vierling
 Social Worker, Ms. Andrea Hunzeker
 Academic Instructional Coach, Dr. Svetlana Nikic
 Reflection and Recovery Room Manager, Mr. Chike Maduekwe
 Custodians, Mr. Greg Umphries & Mr. Dan Renshaw
 Network Superintendent, Dr. Derrick Mitchell

Teaching Teams	
<u>6th Grade Team</u> ELA: Ms. Williams & Ms. Henricks Math: Ms. Johnson Science: Ms. Hall* Social Studies: Mr. Trice	<u>7th Grade Team</u> ELA: Mr. Smith & Ms. Ducey Math: Mr. Stuhlmann Science: Mr. Overton Social Studies: Mr. Stausing*
<u>8th Grade Team</u> ELA: Mr. Benner Math: Mr. Harkless Science: Mr. Trejo Social Studies: Mr. Hoertel*	<u>Related Arts</u> Music: Ms. McDonald Art: Ms. Waeltermann PE: Mr. Franklin* PE/Health: Ms. Diehl
<u>ESOL Specialists</u> Ms. Hartwig Ms. Treadway Ms. Zambito	<u>Special Education</u> Mr. Decker Mr. Dooley Mr. Kahn Ms. Potthoff Ms. Riley*

*denotes Team Leader

VISION, MISSION, AND CORE VALUES

Vision statement

We aspire to supply a world-class education for all students by providing a safe and challenging environment where learners can achieve their fullest potential.

Mission statement

Our mission at Busch Middle School of Character is to inspire our students to value academic and personal growth through character education and to empower them to become contributing members of our global society.

Busch core values

The students, staff, and parents voted for the values below. Many more worthy values are in our everyday vocabulary, but these are the special ones that are most important to us. Students and staff collaborated to create shared definitions for our core values. We post them in every classroom and use them to guide thoughts, words, and actions in all school spaces daily.

RESPECT- showing courtesy and kindness to yourself and everyone else and treating others as you would like to be treated.

RESPONSIBILITY- doing what is expected of you, including when no one is looking.

SELF CONTROL- managing your own actions under pressure.

DETERMINATION- to strive for something, to believe in yourself, to work hard and never give up.

HONESTY- telling the whole truth and being trustworthy and fair; acting with integrity and not deceiving people.

DIVERSITY and INCLUSION

Busch's school community is diverse in race, religion, language, country of origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and more. We value our rich diversity as an asset; it strengthens our community. Middle school is a time for learning and growth, and we are committed to educating ourselves and our students about our own identities and those of others.

CHARACTER EDUCATION

11 Principles from Character.org

1. Core values are defined, implemented, and embedded into school culture
2. The school defines “character” comprehensively to include thinking, feeling, and doing
3. The school uses a comprehensive, intentional, and proactive approach to develop character
4. The school creates a caring community
5. The school provides students with opportunities for moral action
6. The school offers a meaningful and challenging academic curriculum that respects all learners, develops their character, and helps them succeed.
7. The school fosters students’ self-motivation
8. All staff share the responsibility for developing, implementing, and modeling ethical character.
9. The school’s character initiative has shared leadership and long-range support for continuous improvement.
10. The School engages families and community as partners in the character initiative
11. The school assesses its implementation of character education, its culture and climate, and the character growth of students on a regular basis.

Character Connection Advisories

Character Connection groups are made up of mixed grade-level students and led by a staff member. We meet Monday-Thursday mornings for 20 minutes. Activities include character lessons, team building, social-emotional skills practice, study habits, and service learning.

Parent Teacher Organization

Meets monthly after school with Family Community Specialist and parents and guardians to share ideas, problem solve, and fundraise.

BELL TIMES AND DAILY SCHEDULE

School Day: 7:10 a.m. - 2:07 p.m.

Students may enter the building starting at 6:40 a.m.

Breakfast will be offered until 7:10 a.m.

Daily Student Schedule

6 th Grade	7 th Grade	8 th Grade
Morning Session 7:10-7:28		
Character Connection 7:30-7:50		
Period 1 7:52-8:47		
Period 2 8:49-9:44		
Period 3 9:46-10:41		
1 st Lunch 10:43-11:13	Period 4 10:43-11:38	
Period 4 11:15-12:10	2 nd Lunch 11:40-12:10	Period 5 11:40-12:35
Period 5 12:12-1:07		3 rd Lunch 12:37-1:07
Period 6 1:09-2:04		

STUDENT DRESS CODE

****We are asking for parents' support to ensure the dress code is followed daily.***

Daily Dress Code

BOTTOMS: Pants, shorts, skirts, or dresses that are **khaki** or **navy blue**.

- Shorts, skirts, and jumper lengths must be to the students' fingertips when standing straight and arms are fully extended at sides. Leggings may be worn under skirts, shorts, or dresses in wintry weather, but not on their own.
- **NO blue denim jeans or athletic shorts**

TOPS: Shirts with collars, any color or pattern (solids, stripes, plaids) or a Busch t-shirt.

- **NO t-shirts or collarless shirts**

SHOES: Closed-toed shoes such as tennis shoes, boots, or dress shoes

- **NO slides, flip flops or house shoes at any time**
- Crocs are not recommended. If they are worn, they must be in "sports mode" (the strap should be behind the heel).

**Special Notes**

- Belts are strongly encouraged for students.
- **BUSCH SHIRTS:** Any school spirit apparel is allowed daily. (This does not include student generated Busch shirts)
- Students may wear non-hooded sweaters or jackets in the classroom during wintry weather months
- Accessorizing is to be kept to a minimum. Students should not wear anything that distracts the learning environment, such as large belt buckles, buttons with slogans, ties, bandanas, ski masks, and hats. Students will be asked to remove any item of clothing or accessory that may cause distraction.

NOT ALLOWED:

- Traditional bandanas of any color may not be worn on any part of the body
- Violent or sexualized language or images
- Images or language depicting drugs or alcohol (or any illegal item or activity)
- Hate speech, profanity, pornography
- Images or language that creates a hostile or intimidating environment based on any protected class.
- Visible underwear. Visible waistbands or straps on undergarments worn under other clothing are not a violation.
- Bathing suits.
- Helmets or headwear that obscures the face, including ski masks (except as a religious observance).

Dollar Dress-Down Days

Typically held on a Friday, these days help the school raise funds for field trips and incentives. Students are expected to remember that they are still dressing for a workplace when selecting clothing for Dress-Down Days. Students may wear:

- Dresses, skirts, shorts, pants, joggers, or jeans of choice
- Non-collared shirts such as t-shirts.

Infractions of the dress code will be addressed by the school staff. Administrators and staff may issue alternative clothing for students to wear or issue discipline consequences. Issued clothing must be returned at the end of the school day or the following day. Repeated occurrences will result in further consequences.

Student Conduct

Please refer to the SLPS Student Code of Conduct for the district's discipline policies.

Below are a few key highlights.

NON-DISCRIMINATION

Busch does not tolerate identity-based discriminatory comments or behavior. This includes, but is not limited to: "jokes," insults, slurs, exclusion, or other discriminatory behavior based on a person's identity. Identity includes race, religion, language, country of origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, and more. Such comments or behavior may qualify as a 12-1 Type 1 conduct, or 23-2 Type 2 conduct, depending on the severity. Such behavior will result in discipline and parental involvement, in addition to restitution, peace circles, and educating the students responsible where appropriate. Please see the SLPS Student Code of Conduct for more information.

BULLYING

Bullying and Cyber-bullying are very serious, and we follow the SLPS Student Code of Conduct Handbook when addressing these issues. Bullying includes physical actions, gestures, intimidation, verbal or written communication or any threat of retaliation for reporting such acts. **Cyber-bullying** includes posting negative comments about people or unauthorized pictures of others on social media platforms. Bullying and cyber-bullying are prohibited in the school building, at any school event, or on the school bus.

HARASSMENT

"A student may not repeatedly nor flagrantly commit serious acts of harassment against anyone. Serious harassment includes but is not limited to sexual, verbal, physical, emotional or electronic intimidation. Bullying in any form is a type of harassment, and continued bullying will be elevated as a Type 1 infraction. A student may not make threats of serious violence against others. A student may not touch another person's sexual organs or any other body part in a sexual way without consent, regardless of whether or not the touching occurs through clothing." Please see SLPS Student Code of Conduct for more information.

CELL PHONE/PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY POLICY

Busch MSOC understands the importance of communication between students and families, especially during before and after school hours. We recommend that students do not bring cell phones or any other valuable property to school. However, we understand parents' decisions to provide their children with cell phones. **Students must keep phones**

secure and out of sight during classes and hallway transitions. Staff may confiscate phones if they become a distraction to the learning environment, per the district handbook.

Personal technology such as laptops, iPads, gaming systems, are not allowed.

SOCIAL MEDIA/MESSAGING USAGE: Families, please speak with your child about appropriate and safe use of social media and messaging platforms. What students are posting and messaging outside of school often spills into the school day. Please help us to educate and monitor students in appropriate and respectful usage of technology. This helps us mitigate student conflict and focus on building a positive school culture.

FIGHTING/VIOLENCE: Fighting can cause major disruptions in the school environment. Discipline issued for fighting may range from In School Suspension, Out of School Suspension, or in some cases, even removal from the school. Our goal is to keep the school as safe as possible so that all students can be comfortable in the learning environment. In addition to fighting, playfighting, instigating a fight, threatening to fight, or filming a fight can result in disciplinary action.

Please also refer to the SLPS Student Code of Conduct for policies on drug possession or usage, weapons, and other infractions.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

All SLPS students will receive a backpack with required school supplies for the 22-23 school year. Students are not required to purchase additional supplies this year.

VISITING BUSCH MSOC

**All policies and procedures are subject to change according to district guidelines.*

Visitor Procedures

Our priority is to create and maintain a safe environment for learning. Upon entry into the school building, all visitors will participate in safety officer's protocol and check-in at the office.

1. **Families:** Parents and guardians must enter the front door, sign-in and pass through the safety officer's protocol, and check-in at the office. The secretary or FCS will help find records or students for early pick-up. To meet with teachers, families must have an appointment. ***Families may not visit classrooms without an appointment.*** Administrators will be called to escort any parent/guardian to meet with a teacher or the teacher will be called to the office to meet with the parent/guardian. Children or other family members who are not guardians and not students of Busch, may not attend meetings with Busch staff.
2. **Volunteers:** Must be screened and vetted through district process. Application form can be obtained from Principal or Assistant Principal. Volunteer will be notified by district when approved.

3. **Guests:** Must enter through the front door, sign-in and pass through the safety officer's protocol, and check-in at the office. Guest will be supplied a name tag sticker which must be visible throughout visit. Guest will be escorted by an administrator or hosting teacher.

Parking

Locations

Back lot: perpendicular parking facing school building. One row only to accommodate bus traffic. Multiple rows may be used during after school hours.

Neighborhood streets: On opposite sides of Finkman and Holly Hills, on both sides of Clifton. Please be mindful to not block neighbors' driveways.

Street Cleaning days & times - On the 3rd Monday and 3rd Tuesday from 12:00 noon - 3:30 p.m. See city map of street cleaning [here](#).

Birthdays

Everyone has a birthday, and most people enjoy them. We understand that celebrating a birthday is a healthy way for a person to feel special. It is fun for one to be recognized for the day they were put on this earth. We do have a few guidelines when it comes to birthdays.

We ask that parents not send cakes, cupcakes or treats. There are two reasons for this: First, this creates jealousy or unfairness if it is in the cafeteria. Simply put, not everyone is going to be able to have a piece. Second, it can also put the birthday celebrant in an awkward position, where they must choose who receives the cake. Distributing cake or treats in class results in an unnecessary loss of instructional time.

The other tradition we have noticed is that students wear a ribbon with a button recognizing their birthday. This is acceptable, but the practice of pinning cash on to the clothing is not allowed.

Finally, per district handbook guidelines, birthday "licks" are not allowed and striking someone (even playfully) on their birthday will result in a consequence.

Other than that, we hope everyone's birthday is special and they can enjoy it with their friends, family and loved ones.

COMMUNICATION WITH FAMILIES

Family and Community Specialist

Our Family and Community Specialist (FCS) will post monthly online newsletters on our website with important dates, tips for parents, and event information. The FCS also makes phone calls to parents about student progress and behavior, including discipline events.

SIS Parent Portal

Families should sign-up for the Parent Portal on SIS. This allows the parent to: view student schedules, grades on assignments, quarterly progress reports and report cards, attendance history, as well as make updates to contact information, and more. Please follow the link below or call our front office for assistance.

<https://sis.slps.org/SLPS360x3/login>

Website, Social Media, and Calendar

School staff will communicate with families regularly through announcements and postings on our website, our Facebook page, and our Instagram account. Emails and phone calls will be sent out with reminders of upcoming dates. Please bookmark or download the 2022-2023 SLPS calendar at [SLPS.org/calendar](https://www.slps.org/calendar). Here you will find dates for: holidays, conferences, report cards, and more. The district regularly communicates through its website and Facebook page.



Busch Facebook: @buschmiddleschool



Busch Instagram: @buschbobcats


Busch Website: www.slps.org/busch

District Calendar: www.slps.org/calendar

District Website: www.slps.org

Translation services and access


Staff and Families are encouraged to use translation services for contacting one another. Links are on the [ESOL Bilingual Migrant Program Office](#) page.





BACK

ST. LOUIS PUBLIC SCHOOLS LANGUAGE ACCESS TEAM

ESOL BILINGUAL MIGRANT PROGRAM (314) 664-1066







ARABIC		FRENCH		VIETNAMESE	
Fatima Rhodes		Fatima Rhodes		Tuyet Nguyen	
Ext. 32109	Cell: 314-349-6537	Ext. 32109	Cell: 314-349-6537	Ext. 32106	Cell: 314-349-5230
Fatima.Rhodes@slps.org		Fatima.Rhodes@slps.org		Tuyet.Nguyen@slps.org	

SPANISH		SPANISH		SPANISH	
Luz Giraldo		Diana Marin		Ana Rosa Penton	
Ext. 32107	Cell: 314-349-4793	Ext. 32116	Cell: 314-349-8974	Ext. 32118	Cell: 314-366-0776
Luz.Giraldo@slps.org		Diana.Marin@slps.org		Rosa.Penton-Maldonado@slps.org	

SOMALI		SWAHILI		NEPALI	
Asha Hamud-Socoro		Millicent Bazdresch		TBD	
Ext. 32104	Cell: 314-309-7964	Ext. 32103	Cell: 314-337-5609		
Asha.Hamud-Socoro@slps.org		Millicent.Bazdresch@slps.org			

INSTRUCTION

Missouri Learning Standards

All teachers plan or revise units and lessons based on the Missouri Learning Standards. Curriculum provided by the district is sometimes based on comparable standards through national content-based organizations or other states.

[Click Here to Visit the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education \(DESE\)](#)

Curriculum

- English Language Arts: Savvas and supplemental resources
- Mathematics: Big Ideas Math and supplemental resources
- Science: Houghton Mifflin Harcourt online, based on Next Generation Science Standards and OpenSciEd
- Social Studies: Missouri GLE's
- Art & Music: Create, Perform, Respond, and Connect
- Physical Education and Health: Missouri GLE's

- Reading Intervention: Readers Workshop model

Student assessment

The district schedules multiple assessments throughout the school year to assess student learning and growth.

- STAR Renaissance measures reading and mathematics comprehension
- Missouri Assessment Program (MAP) is given yearly to determine student learning and growth and compare with other state and national school data.
- Quarterly formative and summative curriculum assessments in English Language Arts, mathematics, science, and social studies (CFAs and CSAs).
- Additional formative and summative assessments. Formative assessment includes observational data and frequent checks for understanding. Summative assessments are created and administered by teachers on an as needed basis. Teachers may create daily exit tickets, weekly quizzes, chapter or end-of-unit tests, for example.

Report Cards/Progress Reports and Parent-Teacher Conferences

- Progress Reports and Report Cards are hand delivered to students and emailed directly to parents (please sign-up for SIS Parent Portal and ensure your email address is updated)
- Progress Reports show a student's progress halfway through a quarter of instruction. This is an opportunity for conversation with your child about their progress and opportunities for improvement.
- Find specific dates here: [SLPS 22-23 Calendar](#)

EXPECTATIONS AND DISCIPLINE

Classroom Rules

Our teachers use the Core Values and Busch Bobcats Matrix to inform their classroom expectations and procedures. Our goal is to build positive classroom communities with high expectations. When learning is disrupted by misbehavior, teachers use a variety of strategies.

Responding to misbehavior

Discipline plan

The purpose of a discipline plan is to guide staff in using proactive strategies that align with our vision and mission, character education, trauma-informed and restorative practices. Our main goal is to provide a safe and orderly environment for learning. It is unacceptable for a student to keep teachers from teaching or other students from learning. We use the core values to guide teacher modeling of professional and socially appropriate

behaviors and conversations. We are intentional about helping students use the core values to guide their actions and conversations.

Discipline goals

- To help students develop self-respect, respect for others, property, and environment
- To help students understand the benefits of self-discipline
- To help students repair harm done to objects, people, and relationships
- To provide students with tools to self-monitor behavior and self-regulate emotions
- To guide students towards choices that lead to improved behavior

Classroom Management Strategies

- **Reflection sheet, aka “Golden Rule Sheet”** - an opportunity for students to reflect quietly in writing, fix the problem, and keep the situation from escalation.
- **Classroom Lunch Detention** - During the first 5-10 minutes of student lunch, students will report to the classroom as an opportunity for reflection, discussion, and planning for improved behavior
- **Buddy Rooms** - Completing work in a different classroom
- **Parent Contact** - Teachers may ask for support regarding students’ strengths and any concerns. Families know your children the best and we benefit from your insight. We will work with you to ensure students are successful in school.

Office referrals

When a student repeatedly struggles to follow classroom expectations and teachers have employed in-class strategies without improvement, a written office referral will be made. At the time of the infraction, if considered necessary for learning to continue, the student may be directed to the office bench. At the office, the student is expected to complete the check-in reflection sheet and will talk with the Assistant Principal about what happened and how to improve the situation.

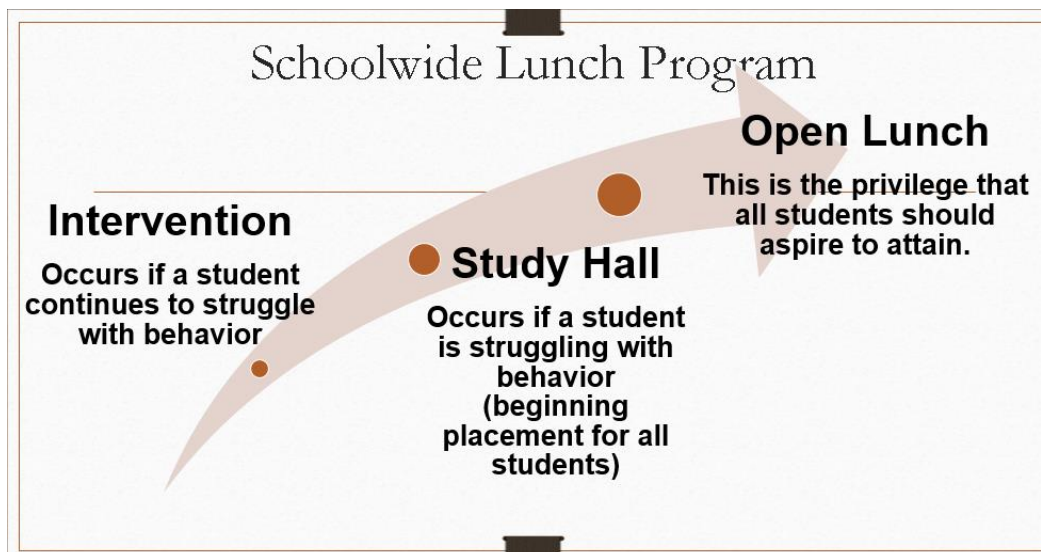
Discipline protocol

The following protocol is applied for routine classroom disruption. Routine incidents include any disruption that interferes with learning or school activities. For more egregious offenses, see the district's [Student Code of Conduct](#).

Lunch Intervention Program

Busch MSOC has a lunch time intervention program that helps keep the school orderly and safe. These programs are meant to provide students with opportunities to reflect on their character development and actions at school and allow them to go back to classrooms and Open Lunch with more confidence and insight on how to deal with conflict and improve behavior.

If your child is assigned to one of these programs, but NOT the Reflection Recovery Room, you may not receive a call from the school.



Study Hall

Study Hall takes place during lunch, so students do not miss class instruction. Students are supervised by staff and expected to be silently reading or studying during the first half of lunch time. Students will eat lunch during the remaining half. Students are assigned Study Hall if they...

- ❖ have received a written referral for various infractions (constant talking, toxic language, sleeping, refusing to work, having to be removed from class for disruption, etc.), or
- ❖ if they are removed from Open Lunch for inappropriate behavior, or
- ❖ when they have completed the Intervention program, they earn their way back into Study Hall and can work towards earning Open Lunch next

Intervention

Intervention takes place during lunch, so students do not miss class instruction. Students are supervised by the Counselor, and engage in conversations to reflect and plan for improvement. Students will eat lunch during the remaining half of lunchtime. Students are placed in the Intervention program rather than Open Lunch if they...

- ❖ have recently exited the Reflection & Recovery Room, or
- ❖ have two or more written referrals in a week, or
- ❖ are placed by administrators for extreme situations or disruption

How to Exit Study Hall and Intervention

- Students must attend the program every day for a week. If they are absent more than one day without documentation (doctor or dentist note, funeral, or some other

documented appointment), they will have to repeat the program the following week.

- Students are expected to be on time, read or listen quietly, and follow directions. Both programs work on a three-strike basis. If a student breaks the rules three times or more, they will be assigned another full week.

SCHOOL ROUTINES AND SERVICES

Arrival and dismissal

Parent Drop-Off & Pick-Up

To keep traffic flowing for entering and exiting buses, parents are asked to drop-off and pick-up students on Finkman or Holly Hills at the back of the building, on the same side as the school. Students enter school through the North hallway and exit through both the North and South doors.

Walkers

The safest entry will be to walk from the South side of the school, on Finkman street and enter school through the North hallway.

Bus Riders

Riders will be dropped off near the North hallway.

Greeting

Staff will be asked at the beginning of the year to volunteer for one day per week to arrive early and greet students as they enter the building. We do this to ensure a positive start to the day and to build strong relationships. Please encourage your child to return the greeting they receive in the morning with a smile.

Breakfast

After being cleared for entry through the security process, students will eat breakfast in the cafeteria, then proceed to Morning Session in the gyms for reading and announcements.

Character Connection

After Morning Session, students attend Character Connection. These are small mixed-grade groups with a focus on building community, character education, social emotional learning, and service learning.

Student lockers

During the first weeks of school, students may receive a locker by completing an application from their first period teacher. Students need to remember their assigned

locker and lock combination. Lockers will be cleaned out at the end of the year and combination locks returned to staff.

Locker Times
After Character Connection, on the way to 1 st Period class
After the class that precedes Lunch, on the way to Lunch (6 th grade-after 3 rd pd, 7 th grade-after 4 th pd, 8 th grade-after 5 th pd)
After the final class of the day, on the way home

Technology

Email

All students are assigned an SLPS email. The email address is First.Last@slps.org

The login format is your first initial with last name and last four/five digits of your student ID number followed by @slps.org. Example: gsmith1234@slps.org Teachers will provide students with email address login information.

Online Platforms for Learning

Microsoft Teams Students may access Microsoft Teams through Outlook by going to portal.office.com using the Chrome browser. Links are provided in emails from teachers. **Nearpod, Classkick, IXL, Padlet, HyperDocs, Grammarly, CommonLit, Newsela, Flipgrid, Blooket,** and other platforms are used by teachers. Teachers will provide students with login information.

Testing platforms

All benchmark, district, and state assessments are scheduled and coordinated by our Academic Instructional Coach (AIC), aka Testing Coordinator. Please consult the AIC with any questions, concerns, or needs. Platforms include: STAR Renaissance and Missouri Assessment Program (MAP), and Edulastic.

SCHOOL EVENTS

6th grade and new student orientation

Orientation is held the week before school starts. Parents and families are invited to attend with or without students. The presentation includes an overview of Busch MSOC, our general expectations, elements of scheduling, dress code, athletics, and introduces all teachers on staff.

Back to School Bash

Our annual Back to School night typically occurs in early September, welcoming students and families to tour the school and enjoy socializing with other Busch families and staff.

The night typically includes music, games, prizes, and snacks.

PTO meetings

Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meetings are coordinated by our Family Community Specialist and are held once a month after school. All teachers are welcome to attend any or all meetings.

Parent Teacher Conferences

Conferences present us with a wonderful opportunity to discuss students' strengths and progress with academic and behavioral expectations. Parents are invited to walk-in during after-school windows of time. Specific times will be communicated via phone, email, the Busch website, and social media.

- Fall 2022 – Week of October 17th – 21st
- Spring 2023 – Week of March 13th – 17th

Incentive Activity days

Throughout the year, we offer incentive activities to encourage student attendance, academic performance, and intentional character-based behavior. To qualify to attend incentive activities, students must meet the pre-determined attendance, GPA, and discipline criteria set at the beginning of the incentive period.

School dance

We supply a DJ to play music while students gather in the Big Gym for a dance. Often, concessions are sold in the front hallway by one of our teams or student groups as a fundraiser. Students can consume concessions in the hallway, but not in the gym. Students are monitored by staff in the hallway and in the gym.

Field day

The PE teachers supply materials for outdoor activities. Often, concessions are sold outside by the picnic tables by one of our teams or student groups as a fundraiser.

Movie day

All classroom teachers host a movie viewing in their rooms. Students will sign-up to attend a specific room. Students must remain with their original placement. Often, concessions are sold on a moving cart by one of our teams or student groups as a fundraiser.

Field trips

Most years, we take students on field trips to further enhance their educational experience, develop character, and expose them to community and culture. Suggestions are welcome!

MAP Dog celebration

To celebrate the completion of MAP testing, all staff and students take part in a field day with a school-provided hot dog lunch. We serve traditional and halal hot dogs, soda, and chips.

Whole school field trip

To incentivize students to continuously cooperate and be kind to one another, we offer an end of year field trip for all students that have not been referred for fighting, playfighting, instigating a fight, or threatening to fight.

8th grade promotion

To honor and celebrate our 8th grade class progressing to high school, we host a promotion ceremony. Families are invited to hear staff and student speeches, special presentations, and celebrate their child as they receive their certificate of promotion.