



McAlister Intermediate School

260 MOUNTAIN ROAD
SUFFIELD, CONNECTICUT 06078
Phone (860) 668-3830

Karen Carpenter-Snow, Principal

Jack Ferraro, Assistant Principal

September 6, 2016

Dear McAlister Parents,

In our summer family letter we included brief information relative to our new flexible Library Media Center schedule as well as our Rotating Specials Schedule. Both of these are new this year and we would like to share additional information that will be helpful to all families.

This year all art, music, and physical education classes will follow a four-day rotating schedule similar to the schedule followed by our friends at Spaulding and Suffield Middle School. In accordance with this schedule, students will participate in art, music, and two physical education classes (fifth grade will also take a health class in lieu of *one* of their physical education classes for half the year) during a four-day rotation.

We will follow a four-day rotational schedule--A Day, B Day, C Day, and D Day. Everyday, we will announce on the morning announcements what day it is (whether it is A, B, C or D) and we will provide a reminder for the students during the afternoon announcements relative to the upcoming day. We are also enclosing a copy of the *year-long* calendar of the rotating schedule and the specific classroom teacher schedules for your reference.

Library media instruction will not be part of the rotating schedule and instead will be scheduled flexibly by classroom teachers in collaboration with Library Media Specialist, Mrs. Pakula. The instruction will be based on grade-level curricular needs. Together, classroom teachers and Mrs. Pakula will collaborate to facilitate the meaningful integration and application of skills such as: technology, inquiry, research, etc. which supports grade-level curriculum and instruction. Until routines are solidified, students will also have a weekly time to check out books in the Library Media Center. Mrs. Pakula will be sending out additional information to all our families on the Library Media Center in the upcoming week.

If you have any questions relative to the rotating schedule, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classroom teacher, Mr. Ferraro, or myself. And finally, as another reminder, we look forward to seeing all our parents and guardians at our Fall Open House Curriculum Night--on Tuesday, September 13, 2016!

- Grades 3 and 4--5:30 P.M. to 6:30 P.M.
- Grade 5--6:45 to 7:45 P.M.

Sincerely,

Karen E. Carpenter-Snow