

# McHenry Community High School

## FRESHMAN FOCUS



Welcome WARRIORS  
Class of 2027!



# McHenry Community High School

## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### Welcome from the Principal

On behalf of everyone at MCHS, I would like to welcome all of you to the MCHS Freshman Campus. I am very excited to kick off another year with another outstanding class. As I begin my 25th year at MCHS, I am also very excited to begin my first year as the principal of the Freshman Campus. I am looking forward to serving the staff, students, and parents here at the FC.

The transition from middle school to high school can feel overwhelming at times to our students and families. As a District, we are dedicated to creating a smooth transition and ultimately helping all of our incoming freshmen succeed.

Over the course of the year, you will hear a lot about 9th grade 'on track', Be Distinguished, AVID, and other District initiatives to support freshman success. However, our first goal is to have all of our incoming freshmen feel prepared for their first day on August 16th. I hope the information contained here, along with our Freshman Rally on August 3rd, will help with that.

Thank you for all you do as a parent to support your student. Please feel free to reach out with any questions as we go through the school year.

Greg Eiserman  
Principal



### Contents

3. [Are you ready?](#)
4. [9th Grade On Track](#)
5. [Student Activities](#)
6. [Athletics](#)
7. [MCHS Tech](#)
8. [AIM and Seniors](#)
9. [Dates and Events](#)
10. [FAQs](#)
11. [Team Members](#)

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## FRESHMAN FOCUS

# Are You Ready?

Below is a checklist to ensure you have completed all necessary steps in order to be ready for the first day of school.

In order to attend school on the first day, students MUST have the online registration process complete, including proof of residency, and they MUST have a completed physical and updated immunizations, or proof of an appointment prior to October 15th from a physician.



### McHenry High School Freshman Campus *Are you ready?*

The following checklist highlights important steps to ensure students are ready for the first day of school.

- ☐ **Complete online registration and proof of residency.**
  - This process is completed in the Skyward Family Access Parent Portal and must be done to attend school on August 16th.
  - This step must be complete prior to August 3 in order to attend the Freshman Rally and obtain any materials including schedule or books.
- ☐ **See a doctor for an updated physical and immunizations.**
  - Students must have this step complete in order to attend school on the first day on August 16. Proof of an appointment before October 15 from a physician may also be provided.
- ☐ **Purchase a PE uniform and optional Chromebook Insurance**
  - These items must be purchased in the Skyward Family Access Parent Portal using the Fee & Fee Payment tile
  - Yearbooks for 2023-2024 can also be added for purchase using this tile.
- ☐ **Purchase a calculator for math if you don't already own one.**
  - All math classes require TI-84 Plus calculator. These can be purchased at Walmart, Amazon, Target etc.
- ☐ **Sign up to attend the Freshman Rally.**
  - An email will be sent at the beginning of July with details for the rally and how to sign up to attend a session.
- ☐ **Attend the Freshman Rally - August 3 - Save the Date!!**
  - Two sessions will be offered 2pm-4pm and 5:30pm-7:30pm
  - Online registration and proof of residency must be complete in order to attend.
- ☐ **You're ready to attend the first day of school!**
  - Teachers will tell students on the first day of school what materials they will need for class.



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## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### **ON TRACK**

The ultimate goal for our entire freshman staff is to help all incoming freshman remain ON TRACK. 9th grade on track is a key indicator of success in high school. In order to stay ON TRACK, 9th graders must:

- Earn 6 credits by the end of the year
- Have no more than one F in a core classes (math, science, English, social science)

Students who finish freshman year ON TRACK are four times more likely to graduate. Knowing this, our school initiatives focus on ideas to keep our freshmen ON TRACK.

### **Be Distinguished**

One major initiative that supports our 9th grade on track push is our BE DISTINGUISHED initiative. For a decade now, MCHS seniors have worked to earn the Distinguished Warrior recognition. DW is a four-year recognition highlighting academics, character, and college/career readiness. BE DISTINGUISHED is the first step for our 9th graders. They can BE DISTINGUISHED by:

- Earning SIX credits
- Completing SIX hours of service
- Participate in ONE school sponsored activity

These requirements align directly to the DW recognition and are key steps for 9th graders staying on track.

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## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### MCHS Activities

MCHS values experiences outside of the classroom. Many of these experiences come from our many extracurricular offerings.

The majority of our activities are hosted at the Upper Campus. We provide a daily shuttle at dismissal that takes freshmen to the UC. There are also activity buses home at 4:15 and 5:55.

All student activities listed on this page are open to freshmen.

[LINK TO MCHS ACTIVITIES](#)

### Activities at FC

Art Club  
Drama Club / Winter Play  
Environmental Club  
Fall Play  
LASO  
Social Club  
Student Council



### Activities at UC

Academic Team  
Art Club  
Automotive Club  
Bass Fishing Club  
Black Student Union  
Book Club  
Broadcast Journalism  
Chess Team  
Color Guard  
Comics, Manga, and Fandom  
Creative Writing Club  
Cyber Security  
Drama Club  
Environmental Club  
Fall Play  
eSports Club  
French Honor Society

Garden Club  
German Honor Society  
Gender and Sexuality Alliance (GSA)  
Halftime Dance  
Intramural Basketball  
Intramural Volleyball  
Key Club  
LASO  
Marching Band  
Math Team  
McHenry Activism Club - MAC  
National Art Honor Society  
Newspaper  
Orchesis Dance  
Pep Band  
Powerlifting Club  
Sideline Cheer  
Spanish Honor Society  
Special Olympics  
Spring Musical  
Student Council  
Subelement Breakdance Club  
Trading Card Club  
Tri Music Honor Society  
Warrior Buddies  
Warrior Nation  
Winterguard  
Yearbook



# McHenry Community High School

## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### MCHS Athletics

#### Website

##### Fall

Cheerleading  
Boys and Girls Cross Country  
Dance  
Football  
Boys and Girls Golf  
Boys Soccer  
Girls Swimming  
Girls Tennis  
Volleyball



##### Spring

Badminton  
Baseball  
Boys and Girls Lacrosse  
Girls Soccer  
Softball  
Boys Tennis  
Boys and Girls Track  
Water Polo

##### Winter

Boys and Girls Basketball  
Boys and Girls Bowling  
Cheerleading  
Dance  
Boys Swimming  
Wrestling





# McHenry Community High School

## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### 1:1 Technology

MCCHS is a 1:1 District. All students are given a Chromebook for their academic use in and out of school. Chromebook information can be found at this [LINK](#)



### Important Accounts



Schoolology - Schoolology is our platform for curricular activities. Many teachers will assign and collect activities through Schoolology. Schoolology also houses teacher gradebooks.



Skyward - Skyward is our Student Management System where the majority of student information is located. Parents can view daily attendance, class schedules, and other student specific information through this site. Skyward also contains a tile to click to pay fees through RevTrak.



SchoolLinks

Schoolinks - This is a new program for the 2023-24 school year. This program will help students explore college and career experiences. It will also be used for college applications and transcript requests.



MyHomework - This is our digital hall pass system. Students and staff use this to write passes to various locations throughout the building

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### **AIM and Senior Leadership**

One vital component of supporting freshmen is our AIM period. Our AIM period is an academic support period that meets prior to 1st period. All students are assigned an AIM teacher but they can request passes and work with different teachers. Students also have this time to work on homework. There will be no AIM on early release Wednesdays.

Continuing a long tradition at MCHS, we have senior leaders assigned to each AIM class. These seniors are part of our Leadership in Action course. Senior leaders will be in AIMs once a week completing a variety of activities and helping to introduce 9th graders to MCHS culture.





# McHenry Community High School

## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### Important dates and events

This year, MCHS will move to a consistent 'early release' schedule. Every Wednesday will be an early release for freshmen at 1:36.

MCHS offers a wide range of events for our students. Below is a list of some of the larger events and important dates for this year.

Date	Event	Time	Location
8/3	Freshman Rally	Session 1- 2-4 pm	Freshman Campus
		Session 2- 5:30 - 7:30	Freshman Campus
8/7	Materials Pick Up	3-6 pm	Freshman Campus
	(if unable to attend Rally)		
8/16	First Day of School	7:25 am	Freshman Campus
8/30	Walk in Their Shoes - Parent Night	7-9 pm	Freshman Campus
9/4	Labor Day	No School	
9/11-15	Freshman Pride Camp	8 am - 2 pm daily	Camp Duncan
9/21	Paint the Town (Homecoming)	After school	Downtown Businesses
9/24	MCHS Homecoming Parade	1 pm	Green Street
	MCHS Homecoming Rally	1:30 pm	Veteran's Memorial Park
9/29	Homecoming Football Game	7 pm	McCracken Field
9/30	Homecoming Dance	7-10 pm	Upper Campus
10/4	MTI Expo	6-8 pm	Upper Campus
10/18	PSAT		Upper and Freshman Campus
10/19	Freshman Future Planning	6-7 pm	Freshman Campus
11/9-11	MCHS Fall Play	7-9 pm	Freshman Campus
11/20-21	P/T Conferences - Virtual		
12/15	Winter Spirit Rally	2-2:50	Upper Campus
12/20-21	Final Exams		Freshman Campus
1/8	Teacher Institute - No Students		
1/15	MLK Day	No School	
1/20	Winter Formal	7-10 pm	Freshman Campus
2/16	Teacher Institute - No Students		
2/19	Presidents' Day	No School	
3/1	Battle of the Bands	6-9 pm	Freshman Campus
3/8-10	Shrek the Musical	7-9 pm	Upper Campus
3/15-16	Shrek the Musical	7-9 pm	Upper Campus
3/25-29	Spring Break		
4/1	No School		
4/10	PSAT 9/10		Freshman Campus
5/5-5/17	AP Testing		
5/22-23	Final Exams		Freshman Campus

# McHenry Community High School

## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### FAQs

How do I find my bus information?

You can find your info at this [LINK](#).

What school supplies do I need?

With the increase in digital assignments, there are fewer supplies needed. All students need a TI-84 plus calculator. Students will also need pencils and pens. [Calculator link](#).

Who can answer questions about my schedule?

Your counselors will help you with any questions about your current schedule. Their info is found on the next page.

How long are classes?

Classes are 45 minutes on a regular day. All Wednesdays will be early release days. Classes are 42 minutes on those days.

Can I use my cell phone at school?

Cell phones are allowed at the Freshman Campus. However, they are not allowed out in classrooms. Also, students must leave their phones in the classroom when they go to the bathroom during class.

Where can I find...

Registration info?: [LINK](#)

Fee waiver info?: [LINK](#)

School calendar?: [LINK](#)

Health requirements?: [LINK](#)

Drop off/Pick up process?: [LINK](#)



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## FRESHMAN FOCUS

### Administration



Mr. Terry Fitzgibbons  
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Mr. Brian Wilbois  
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Mrs. Patrice Frederick  
Assistant Principal (traveling)  
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### Student Services

Mr. JR Bocian - School Counselor  
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Ms. Stephanie Zarinaña - School Counselor  
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