

Michelle Obama School of
Technology and the Arts

Class of 2022 2022
8th Grade
Parent Informational

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#REALPatriotsRise






School Support System


- Dr. Timothy Craddock, Principal
- Mrs. Kristin Foster, Principal of Climate, Culture, and the Arts
- Mr. TJ Lee, Assistant Principal
- Ms. Joan Crusor, Dean
- Ms. Cheryl Franklin, Dean
- Ms. Kimberly Creasy, English Language Arts
- Ms. Robin Testa, English Language Arts
- Mr. Dakota Goode, Math
- Mr. Don Hiemstra, Math
- Ms. Jackie Pavlick, Science
- Ms. Keerie Prasopoulos, Science
- Mr. Christopher Kazaglis, Social Studies
- Ms. Catherine Konecki, Social Studies
- Mr. Mark Foushi, Alternative
- Ms. Simone Black, Instructional
- Ms. Shanna Mitchell, Instructional
- Dr. Doriann Williams, Instructional
- Ms. Elizabeth Batten, Resource
- Ms. Karen Mansueto, Resource



8th Grade Leaders: Rising to Excellence

#RealPatriotsRise: *Our mission is to inspire and empower globally aware students to **rise** to their fullest academic and creative potential. Our vision as R.E.A.L Patriots is to create a **Respectful** community where students elevate **Excellence**, take **Accountability** for their actions, and demonstrate **Leadership** daily in a safe learning environment with a curriculum that is fortified with real world authenticity, technology, and artistry to build life-long learners.*



- High Academic Expectations
 - Attendance in all classes
 - On Time daily
 - Engaged in active learning
 - Completion of assignments
 - Leadership Apparel worn daily; cardigans on Wednesdays
 - Email or connect with teachers and staff with questions or concerns
 - Participate in Learning Lab and Patriot Period classes for additional support
 - **Finish this year STRONGER than you started!**
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Important

Fees:

- The Board of Education waived fees for the 2021-22 year due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Band students are assessed a band fee for instruments.
- Students accessing uniforms or costumes for extracurricular activities will be assessed a \$25 usage fee.

**Pg. 23, Handbook*



Graduation

Eighth grade students who qualify for promotion and meet all academic and behavioral requirements will have an opportunity to participate in a graduation ceremony at the end of the school year. Parents are informed as soon as possible if students become ineligible for participation in graduation exercises for any reason.

The following will be considered in making decisions regarding promotion/retention:

- Maintain at least a 2.0 cumulative GPA in Mathematics
- Maintain at least a 1.0 cumulative GPA in Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies.
- Maintain at least 1.5 overall GPA each quarter across all subjects.
- Pass the State Constitution and Federal Constitution tests (7th grade)
- Proficiency demonstrated by:
 - State Test and standardized test scores
 - Grade level exit criteria

All promotion/ retention decisions will be made on a case by case basis.

For participation in the graduation ceremony, 8th grade students must meet all academic criteria as well as behavioral criteria.

Graduation Points 2 per Quarter

Areas:

- School Service
- Academics
- Community Service
- Character and Behavior

Teachers monitor student point information using a shared point ledger. When students complete an activity or task, they must submit documentation (letter from pastor, program, letter from fraternity or sorority, etc.) Photographic documentation is acceptable.

Students can receive updated information regarding their individual points during morning SEL or Patriot Period at the end of the day. Students can also message their teachers on Schoology to inquire. Students should take an active role in monitoring their point progress.

Minimum of 8 leadership points – the school will provide opportunities for earning points. Opportunities outside of school are encouraged. *Students not meeting the minimum of 8 points will not be invited to participate in graduation activities.

Graduation Points and 8th Grade Leadership Brochure

All 8th graders need 8 credits
to participate in
graduation activities

Service!

School Service

- Student Council (1pt. per Qtr.)
- 8th Grade Genius Advisory Board (1pt. per Qtr.)
- Attend a monthly Board of Education meeting with a guardian
- Attend Saturday Genius Symposium

Academics

- Perfect Attendance (1pt. per Qtr.)
- Honor Roll (1pt. per Qtr.)
- Lead a parent-teacher conference session between your parent and teacher using reflection, data, and goal-setting.
- Volunteer to tutor a 6th/7th grade student during Patriot Period for a given amount of time.

Inspiration!

Leadership points are accrued throughout the school year and are approved and tracked through teacher/student/parent interaction.

Each child must earn 8 points in order to participate in the graduation ceremony and other graduation related activities.

Points may be earned through a combination of any the areas listed. Some of the possible activities that each child can complete to earn a point are listed on this brochure under *School Service, Academics, Community Service and Character.*

Don't stop there though! Please contact your child's teacher to approve other activities. These are just a few of the options for our students.

We look forward to working with all of you on this opportunity!

Academics!

Community Service

- Earth Day School Project (date/time forthcoming)
- Volunteering at a sorority/fraternity community service events
- Volunteering at a church/religious/social event
- Beautification projects
- Volunteering at animal shelters

Character

- Volunteer to lead a morning SEL activity in homeroom. Can be done with a group.
- Present a Leader in Me lesson to a 6th or 7th grade homeroom. Can be done with a group.
- Complete a Random Acts of Kindness (RAK) Challenge (2/14-19/2022)
- Participate in an SEL broadcast segment w/ Mr. Lopez
- MOS Beacon Award recipient (Quarterly SEL award)

INTRO TO AGRICULTURE SCIENCE

A partnership opportunity for SD 163 and SD 227



- ▶ This hands-on course provides opportunities for students to develop leadership skills, understand the impact that agriculture and natural resources have on the world, and to learn basic food production techniques. Essential concepts in animal science, plant science, soil science, horticulture, natural resources, agribusiness management, and agricultural mechanics will be presented. Students will also learn about parliamentary procedure, leadership skills, and public speaking. Improving computer and workplace skills will be a focus. Lastly, participation in FFA student organization activities and Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) projects is an integral course component for leadership development, career exploration, and reinforcement of academic concepts. All students enrolled in this course are automatically part of the National FFA Organization, one the country's largest youth leadership organizations, for no additional charge.

COURSE DESCRIPTION

- ▶ Agriculture is in Everything
- ▶ Three Circle Model
- ▶ Recordkeeping
- ▶ Communication
- ▶ Proper Use of Equipment
- ▶ Scientific Process
- ▶ Natural Resources
- ▶ Plants and Animals
- ▶ Healthy Living
- ▶ Ag Power & Technology
- ▶ Horticulture
- ▶ Food Production & Safety
- ▶ Looking Ahead

COURSE TOPICS

- ▶ Earn scholarships!
- ▶ Hands-on experience!
- ▶ Learn outdoors through planting!
- ▶ Earn industry-level certifications!
- ▶ Premier leadership, personal growth, and career success
- ▶ Agricultural education prepares students for successful careers and a lifetime of informed choices in the global agriculture, food, fiber, and natural resources systems.
- ▶ Field Trips

BENEFITS OF INTRO TO AG. SCIENCE

- ▶ The class will consist of 15 children as a maximum
- ▶ Students that are enrolled in the course will be bussed over to Barack Obama School of Leadership & STEM daily for class from 12:48-1:38 PM
- ▶ If the children pass the course, they will receive high school credit in District 227 and will begin freshman year in a sophomore level course
- ▶ Children will fill out an application for the class that will be due on October 15, 2021
- ▶ Children will be chosen based on their application, grades, test scores and teacher recommendation
- ▶ The class will begin on October 21, 2021

COURSE DETAILS

All Things Graduation



- **January 12, 2022** - Graduates Picture Day
- **May 13, 2022** – 8th Grade Dance, Michelle Obama School, 7:00pm
- **May 20, 2022** – 8th Grade Cookout; Central Park, time TBD
- **May 26, 2022** – Graduation; Michelle Obama School; 7:00PM



Final Thoughts...