

# The 2022-2023 McQuaid Jesuit Parents' Association Survival Guide

Transitioning to a new school is hard enough, let alone figuring out how to adjust to new schedules, people, and traditions. Below are some FAQs for those new to McQuaid Jesuit. This list can also be found on the Parents' Association section of the website.

## 1. What's on the PA webpage?

- Plenty of helpful information ranging from schedules of annual school events to volunteer opportunities at all levels, from organizing to baking.

## 2. Whom do I contact for questions regarding...

- Academics -  
High School: Dan Hershel, Dean of Academics, 256-6155. [dhershel@mcquaid.org](mailto:dhershel@mcquaid.org)  
Middle School: Janet Dacey, Middle School Dean, 256-6140. [jdacey@mcquaid.org](mailto:jdacey@mcquaid.org)
- My son's schedule: Amy Sheffer, Registrar/Counseling Office Manager, 256-6147. [asheffer@mcquaid.org](mailto:asheffer@mcquaid.org)
- Attendance -  
High School: Carolyn Hanna, 256-6114. [channa@mcquaid.org](mailto:channa@mcquaid.org)  
Middle School: Andrea McLaren, 256-6175. [amclaren@mcquaid.org](mailto:amclaren@mcquaid.org)
- Financial Aid - Jennifer Roxstrom, 256-6180. [jroxstrom@mcquaid.org](mailto:jroxstrom@mcquaid.org)
- Athletic tryouts, sports schedules (all dates on website) – Jon Matt, Athletic Director, 256-6157. [jmatt@mcquaid.org](mailto:jmatt@mcquaid.org)
- BASH - Heather Whiting, Director of Special Events and Parent Relations, 256-6151. [hwhiting@mcquaid.org](mailto:hwhiting@mcquaid.org)
- Campus Ministry and service hours: Annette Weidmann, 256-6138. [aweidmann@mcquaid.org](mailto:aweidmann@mcquaid.org)
- Gold card: Jennifer Roxstrom, 256-6180. [asheffer@mcquaid.org](mailto:asheffer@mcquaid.org)
- Schoology: Maureen McGinn, 256-6188. [mmcginn@mcquaid.org](mailto:mmcginn@mcquaid.org)
- Bus Transportation: Carolyn Hanna, 256-6114. [channa@mcquaid.org](mailto:channa@mcquaid.org)
- Parents' Association: [pa@mcquaid.org](mailto:pa@mcquaid.org)

## 3. What are some common McQ definitions and abbreviations?

- **AMDG** - *Ad maiorem Dei gloriam* –For the Greater Glory of God, the Jesuit motto
- **BASH** - Building A Scholastic Heritage. The annual school fundraiser each March that raises money for financial aid and to offset McQuaid's annual operating budget. More than 300 student, parent, and faculty/staff volunteers, along with parent co-chairs, make this event possible.
- **Blue Sheets** - A notice from the Middle School office documenting a missing homework assignment. When a student receives three blue sheets, the parents/guardians are then notified.
- **The Dungeon** - The area in the stadium bleachers where the Simba Society is located.
- **Flex** - Free period every day. Students use this time to study, meet with teachers for extra help, take a make-up exam, attend club meetings, etc.
- **JUG** - "Justice Under God." This is the McQuaid version of detention. Its real meaning in Latin is "jugem," meaning "burden."
- **Mothers for Others (MFO)** - McQuaid moms who take part in various community service projects throughout the year. Click [here](#) for more information.
- **Simba Cheer** - A long-standing tradition at McQuaid. This cheer is performed at pep rallies, games, assemblies, etc. Fun to watch; just don't stand too close.
- **Simba Society** – McQuaid Jesuit Cheering Squad. They also plan pep rallies and student tailgates.
- **Z Day** – The Friday before Memorial Day weekend. There are activities such as the Faculty vs. Senior basketball/hockey competitions, field day games, and a picnic. Early dismissal.

## 4. What's the basic dress code?

- All clothing must be clean, well-kept, properly fitted, and properly worn. Jackets and ties are required as announced by the dean of students. Shirts should be collared, buttoned, sleeved (short or long) and fully tucked in at the waist, with the top button fastened. Plain colored dress pants or casual wear pants (e.g., Dockers), accompanied by a dress-style belt or suspenders, are acceptable. Traditional dress shoes or medium-dress shoes, such as Bass, Dexter, Rockport, etc. (Note: Not all styles of these brands are acceptable. Students should check with the Dean of

Students or Dean of the Middle School as appropriate.) Sneakers are not to be worn outside of PE class. Hairstyles should be well-groomed and evenly trimmed. If there are questions concerning the dress code or appropriateness of a hairstyle, students should consult the Dean before acting.

5. **What are service hours and how may they be served?**
  - Middle school students are required to have five hours/year. High school students are required to have at least 100 hours of service upon graduation. Freshmen have ten hours/year satisfying the theme of “Care of God’s Creation,” Sophomores have 20 hours/year satisfying the theme of “The Life and Dignity of the Human Person, and Juniors have 20 hours/year satisfying the theme of “Option for the Poor.” All seniors are required to complete an individual “Capstone Project” that must be at least 25 hours of service in total with a focus on serving the marginalized or underserved populations. See the Campus Ministry webpage for more information and opportunities.
6. **When are the student retreats?**
  - Middle school retreats are in the fall during one school day. Freshmen are required to participate in a one-day class retreat; Sophomores may participate in a three-day, two-night Emmaus Retreat; and Juniors and Seniors may participate in a four-day, three-night Kairos Retreat. See the Campus Ministry Page for more information and dates.
7. **When are the school-wide masses that are available to the entire community?**
  - Welcome Back Mass - Open to the entire McQuaid community (early September)
  - Mass of the Holy Spirit – Open to the entire McQuaid community (late September)
  - Advent Mass – While all students attend, this is a special Mass for seniors and their parents. There will be very limited seating for others (final day prior to Christmas Break)
  - Daily Mass – is offered most school days in the Chapel at 7:30 a.m. and open to all. Students can attend and still arrive at their first class on time.
8. **What are religious obligations, especially if my student is not Catholic?**
  - Students who are not Catholic are still required to attend the school’s masses and prayer services. They are encouraged to participate as much as they are comfortable (i.e., praying, singing, etc).
9. **How do I deposit funds onto the Gold Card and for what can the Gold Card be used?**
  - Funds may be deposited online in person (cash or debit/credit card) at the Gold Card kiosk outside the cafeteria entrance. The Gold Card may be used to purchase meals in the cafeteria, snacks in the vending machine, and merchandise and books at the bookstore.
10. **For changes in the school schedule:**
  - Pick-up for buses/cars - where and when: there is a directory in the Middle School Office. The Dean of Students’ office in the high school will also have this information.
  - When should I call the public school bus garage to see if they will be running? If a public school is closed, the buses will NOT provide transportation to McQuaid. Also, if McQuaid has a half day, your district may not provide service until 3 p.m. You should always contact your local transportation department for specific dates and details.