



2024-2025 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 FAQs for McQuaid Jesuit. This list can also be found on the Parents' Association section of the website.

1. Whom do I contact for questions regarding...

Academics -

- High School: **Dan Hershel**, *Dean of Academics*
 - 256-6155, dhershel@mcquaid.org
- Middle School: **Janet Dacey**, *Middle School Principal*
 - 256-6140, jdacey@mcquaid.org

My Son's schedule-

- **Amy Sheffer**, *Registrar and Counseling Office Manager*
 - 256-6145, asheffer@mcquaid.org

Attendance-

- High School: **Carolyn Hanna**, *Assistant to the Dean of Students*
 - 256-6114, channa@mcquaid.org
- Middle School: **Andrea McLaren**, *Middle School Administrative Assistant*
 - 256-6175, amclaren@mcquaid.org

Financial Aid-

- **Jennifer Roxstrom**, *Bookstore Manager, Accounts Receivable*
 - 256-6180, jroxstrom@mcquaid.org

Athletic tryouts & sports schedules-

- **Jon Matt**, *Athletic Director*
 - 256-6157, jmatt@mcquaid.org

BASH, McQuaid's Annual Fundraising Gala-

- **Elizabeth Roach**, *Director of Special Events & Parent Relations*
 - 256-6102, bash@mcquaid.org

Campus Ministry and Service Hours-

- **Annette Weidmann**, *Administrative Assistant to Mission & Ministry*
 - 256-6138, aweidmann@mcquaid.org

GOLD Card-

- **Jennifer Roxstrom**, *Bookstore Manager, Accounts Receivable*
 - 256-6180, jroxstrom@mcquaid.org

Schoolology-

- **Maureen McGinn**, *Database Administrator*
 - 256-6188, mmcginn@mcquaid.org

Bus Transportation-

- **Carolyn Hanna**, *Assistant to the Dean of Students*
 - 256-6114, channa@mcquaid.org

Parents' Association

- pa@mcquaid.org

2. What's on the PA website?

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

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 which 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.
- **ED Day** - Early Dismissal- On most Wednesdays, school is dismissed at 2:05 p.m. There is no Flex period on an ED day. However, there are several Wednesdays scattered throughout the year which are not ED days.
- **Fan Pack** - A trio of t-shirts for sale to students in September / October in the bookstore. These shirts are worn at McQuaid athletic events to show spirit. They also provide entrance and free food at all McQuaid tailgates throughout the year.
- **Flex** - Free period every day. Students use this time to study, meet with teachers for extra help, take a make-up exam, etc. The Cafeteria is open.
- **JUG** - "Justice Under God." This is the McQuaid version of detention. Its real meaning in Latin is "jugem," meaning burden.
- **Knight for a Day** - a prospective student who comes and shadows a current McQuaid student for a school day.
- **Simba Cheer** - A long standing tradition at McQuaid Jesuit. 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.
- **What day is it?** McQuaid Jesuit operates on a 4 day cycle schedule. A Day - D Day, each day there are four long period classes, and the cycle is indicated on the calendar in Schoology. Please note there are three lunch cycles to determine when your student will be attending lunch.

4. What's the basic dress code? Dress shirt, tie, pants, and blazer depending the time of year. More details are published in the Student Handbook as well as the "Student Life" section on the website. The Dean of Students, Dr. Parks, is the final arbiter of appropriate dress.

- *What happens if my son forgets a sports coat, tie, etc?*
 - Students may borrow the item from the Middle School or Dr. Parks' office for the day. Typically, belts are not available to be borrowed.
- *When does my son start and stop wearing his blazer?*
 - It varies, mostly upon the weather. Generally the blazer wearing starts in October and ends around May but is at the discretion of Dr. Parks.
- *Who is eligible to wear a sweater?*
 - Athletes, after earning their varsity letters, may wear their varsity sweaters. Seniors may wear their school provided quarter zip pullover..
- *Any restrictions for shoes?*
 - Refer to the Dress Code in the handbook and website.

5. What are service hours, and how may they be served?

- As a Catholic, Jesuit school, McQuaid seeks to cultivate in its students a desire to serve others, particularly those most in need. To facilitate this growth, the school has set minimum requirements for service in both the middle and high schools. 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?

- 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th Grade retreats are during the course of a normal school day. During high school, students may participate in various overnight retreats, including Magis, Emmaus, and Kairos. Each retreat offers young men an opportunity to reflect on their own lives, build class unity, and grow in their relationship with God. See the Mission & Ministry website for more information and dates.

7. When are the school wide Masses available to the entire community?

- Welcome Back Mass and Potluck brunch – Open to the entire McQuaid community
- Advent Mass – While all students attend, this is a special Mass for seniors and their parents. There will be very limited seating for others.
- Daily Mass – is offered most school days in the chapel at 7:30 a.m. It is open to all. Students can attend and still arrive to their first block period 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?

- This can be done online by clicking [here](#), or in person in the finance office.

10. For changes in the school schedule:

- *Pickup 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.
- *Where can I find the master school schedule with days off?*
 - The school calendar can be found on the website.
- *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 3pm You should always contact your local transportation department for specific dates and details.



The McQuaid Jesuit Parents’ Association supports our sons’ pursuit of excellence, service, and justice. To do so, the Association serves as a liaison between the school and its families in order to organize meaningful events that strengthen the McQuaid community and encourage family involvement.