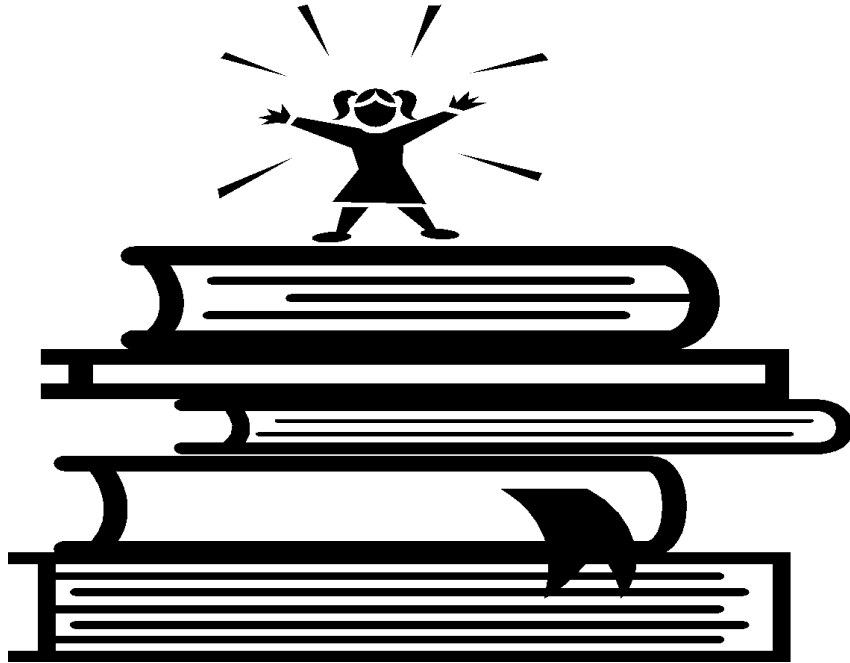


**Pablo Casals
M.S. 181**

Student Handbook



**800 Baychester Ave
Bronx, NY 10475
(718)904-5600
(718)904-5620 fax**

Chris Warnock, Principal
cwarnoc@schools.nyc.gov

“Conceive it, Believe it, and Achieve it”

Website: MS181info.weebly.com

Welcome!!

You are about to embark on a new adventure. If you are experiencing your first year at M.S. 181 or you are a returning student, you are part of a family of exceptional people all learning and growing together.

As you learn about others and gain knowledge and skills, you will receive the full support of every staff member who will assist you in your preparation for the future. In turn, you will be expected to value your learning experience, respect others and contribute to your own success to enable you to fulfill your drives.

Welcome to the Middle School 181 family.

Chris Warnock

Principal

Assistant Principals

Constantine Kouvatsos – Math/Technology – Ckouvats@schools.nyc.gov

Jennifer Kirrane – Literacy/Testing – Jkirrane@schools.nyc.gov

Nelson Medina – Guidance/Discipline – Nmedina@schools.nyc.gov

Rachel Philbert – Science/Special Ed – Rphilbert@schools.nyc.gov

Christine Jones – Social Studies/Equity – Cjones9@schools.nyc.gov

2019 - 2020 School Year Calendar

September	5	Thursday	First Day of School
September	19	Thursday	Family Night, Parent Conference 5:00 – 8:00pm
September	30	Monday	School Closed - Rosh Hashanah
October	1	Tuesday	
October	9	Wednesday	School Closed - Yom Kippur
October	14	Monday	School Closed- Columbus Day
November	5	Tuesday	Election Day – No School for Students
November	7	Monday	10:45AM Dismissal for Students Parent Teacher Conferences AM Conferences 12:00 -2:30pm PM Conferences 5:00 – 8:00pm
November	11	Monday	School Closed - Veteran's Day
November	28	Thursday	School Closed - Thanksgiving Recess
November	29	Friday	
December through January	24 1	Tuesday Wednesday	School Closed – Winter Recess
January	20	Monday	
February	17-21	Monday - Friday	School Closed – Mid Winter Recess
March	12	Thursday	Parent Teacher Conferences PM Conferences 5:00 – 8:00pm
March	13	Friday	10:45AM Student Dismissal Parent Teacher Conferences AM Conferences 12:00pm – 2:30pm
April	9 -17	Thursday - Friday	School Closed – Spring Recess
May	14	Thursday	Family Night, Parent Conference 5:00 – 8:00pm
May	25	Monday	School Closed – Memorial Day
June	4	Thursday	No School for Students - Chancellor's Conference Day
June	9	Tuesday	No School for Students – June Clerical Day
June	26	Friday	Last Day of School for Students

CLASS SCHEDULE
 (Breakfast served 7:30 – 8:00 AM)
 Regular Time 8:00am – 2:20pm Monday - Friday

<u>PERIOD</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>SIGNAL</u>
Entrance/Lockers 0	8:00 – 8:26	Entrance & Lockers
1	8:28 9:08 9:09	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
2	9:11 9:51 9:52	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
3	9:54 10:34 10:35	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
4 Lunch - Grade 6	10:37 11:18 11:19	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
5 Lunch - Grade 7	11:21 12:02 12:03	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
6 Lunch - Grade 8	12:05 12:46 12:47	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
7 Lunch - P.S. 176	12:49 1:29 1:30	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
8	1:32 2:12 2:13	Late Beep Warning Beep Passing Beep
Dismissal	2:14 – 2:20	Homeroom/Lockers Dismissal

Building Access

Student entry begins with breakfast at 7:30am. All students must stay in Cafeteria A only. If a student is involved in any other morning program a pass must be issued by the supervising staff member ahead of time. All students must enter the building through the main entrance. Under no circumstance should any student open any other door for anyone seeking entrance.

Any parents wishing to enter the building must also use only the main entrance. Once inside the building, please report to the main desk and sign in with the School Security Agent. Parents will be required to show valid I.D. to enter the building.

Attendance

Middle School 181 recognizes that regular school attendance is a major component of academic success, and that school attendance is both a right and a responsibility. Our school is an active partner with students and parents in the task of ensuring that all students meet or exceed the New York State Learning Standards. If a student must be absent, please send a note explaining the absence with your child when he/she returns to school. If the absence is due to a medical illness or other appointment the appropriate documentation should be submitted to the main office as soon as possible.

Lateness

The staff of M.S. 181 teaches good work habits and responsibility by stressing the importance of being on time for school. Entrance is at 7:55 a.m., morning routines/lockers take place from 8:00 – 8:20 am. Lateness is monitored by the homeroom teacher until 8:26 am. Any child who is not in their homeroom class by 8:00 am is marked “Late” by the homeroom teacher. After 8:15 am students must sign in at the main desk. It is important that students make sure to sign in as this sheet is used to change the “absence” to “lateness” in our school’s ATS attendance system.

Breakfast/Lunch

Breakfast is served from 7:30 – 7:55 am daily. The breakfast and lunch programs are free to all students. Food and beverages are not allowed outside of the cafeterias. Students receive lunch applications on their first day of school. It is **mandated** that this form is filled out and returned as quickly as possible. You are encouraged to complete the school lunch form online at: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application>.

Lockers

Each student at M.S. 181 will be assigned a locker. Lockers can be located inside their classroom or in a corridor. It is important that lockers be secured with a lock. We encourage students to purchase a school lock (\$6.00) to secure their locker. If your child purchases a school lock and forgets his/her combination, Ms. Gomez (room 115) can assist them with obtaining the code. Please make sure that students do not leave any sort of money/valuables in their lockers. The school is not responsible for valuables and personal articles left in lockers. Lockers are school property and are not to be defaced or decorated inappropriately. School staff and/or administration can check student lockers when deemed necessary or appropriate. Inappropriate objects found in a locker will be presumed to be the property of the student to whom the locker was assigned. Please be reminded each student is assigned a locker, students should not be sharing lockers with another student. Locks will be available to purchase every Tuesday.

Metro Cards

Students who are eligible in grades 7 and 8 will receive a student Metrocard. These cards are only for use by the student to whom it was issued and whose name is written on the card. The cards are to be used to travel to and from school and school-related activities between 5:30am and 8:30pm, only on days when school is in session. The card is good for three trips each day and is good for the entire school semester. Students will receive the first card in September and the second in February. Students must do their best to secure their metro cards in a safe place. If the card is lost, a replacement card may not be immediately available.

Sixth grade students who do not have a bus route and are eligible for transportation will receive a metro card. If a child has a bus route but would prefer to ride the city bus, he/she must have written permission from their parent/guardian to receive a card. Students who ride the yellow school bus cannot also be issued a Metrocard.

Hall Passes

For safety reasons, it is important that we always know where students are. If a student is out of their regular classroom for any reason, the student must have a pass (breakfast and lunch time included).

Behavioral Expectations

Middle School 181 follows the citywide Chancellor's Regulation to determine appropriate reactions for every action. This can be found at <https://www.schools.nyc.gov/school-life/rules-for-students/discipline-code>. Please make sure you look over this policy and discuss it with your child.

Honor Roll

The M.S. 181 family looks to celebrate student success whenever possible. For that reason we have several tiers of honor roll. Every student, even our struggling learners, has the opportunity to be celebrated for their achievement as described below:

Honor Roll – overall average of 90% or higher with no one grade lower than an 80%.

Merit Roll - overall average of 85% - 89.5% with no one grade lower than a 75%.

Conduct Roll – all conduct grades of “E” in every subject.

Perfect Attendance – No Absences at all from the first day of school for any reason, **this includes any excused absences**. Perfect attendance is just as it states, perfect. There is an allowance for lateness beyond our control, 5 for the Winter Carnival and 10 for the Spring.

School Celebrations

All in school/class celebrations must be approved by the principal. Class birthday celebrations are not allowed.

Twice a year the “181 Family” will get to celebrate the success of our students: The Winter Carnival and Spring Carnival. These are invitation only events. To receive an invitation to the Winter Carnival a student must make either the Honor Roll or Conduct Roll for the Second Marking Period, or have perfect attendance from the first day of school through the end of the second marking period. Students who have a 90+ average, make the Conduct Roll, and have Perfect Attendance will be invited to join the “Principal’s Club” and will receive a separate and additional activity. Students who receive an invitation to the Spring Carnival will have met the above criteria for the first three marking periods up to and including all grades through mid-June (part of the fourth marking period). It is the obligation of the student to monitor his/her performance and to make sure that his/her attendance is accurate.

School Website

Our school's website address is: ms181info.weebly.com. We suggest visiting the site and saving it as a favorite on your internet web browser as the site contains a wealth of information, including calendars and copies of backpack mail. A detailed letter will be sent home regarding online access to your child's online gradebook, curriculum, and homework support.

Google Classroom

Google Classroom is your online gradebook. It is the responsibility of every student to check their Google Classroom account and to be aware of their grades and missing assignments. All teachers post homework and resources on their Google Classroom site as well. If you are absent or lose school work, it is your responsibility to ensure that you visit your teacher's Google Classroom site to obtain this work. Log in instructions will be sent home in September. Please contact our parent coordinator, Ms. Stevens, for assistance.

Illness

If a student is feeling ill during the school day, they should ask for a pass to the nurse's office. Students who need to leave early because of illness must have a parent or parent designee sign them out in person and accompany them home. Only those listed on the blue emergency contact card will be contacted. Children cannot be dismissed from school during the day on their own.

Lunch Forms

All parents are required to complete, as per federal regulations, a lunch application. Lunch forms can be completed online at: <https://www.myschoolapps.com/Application> or be filled out and returned to the teacher.

Dress Code

Students are expected to be dressed appropriately for school. Students should not wear cut off, ripped or abbreviated clothing of any kind. Shorts or dresses should be to the knee. No spaghetti strap or sleeveless tops. **Flip/flops, slides, and slippers** are not allowed to be worn in the building. Vulgar or obscene images/sayings on clothing items are not allowed. Spikes are not allowed on any item. Students are not permitted to wear head coverings in school. This applies to hats, "do rags", bandanas etc. However decorative head wraps are allowed. If a student is deemed to be wearing inappropriate clothing, a parent/guardian will be contacted to bring appropriate attire or to pick up the student.

Electronic Devices

Cell phones, portable music devices, earbuds and other electronics may be brought into the school. These electronics **cannot** be used or seen during the school day. If any situation arrives where a child needs to use a cell phone they may do so with the supervision of a staff member.

If cell phones are on or used during the school day they will be collected by a staff member and stored solely with the principal for parent pick-up.

Disciplinary action will be taken if any of the following occur:

- Electronic devices (cell phones, smart watches) used in any private location. i.e. bathroom
- Academic Dishonesty – Using a cell phone during an exam.
- Use of phone during an emergency situation. i.e. fire drill

Please discuss with your child the importance of securing their property. Valued electronics must be secured throughout the day.

Respect for Authority

In school, it is expected that students will respond to reasonable requests from adult supervisors. If a student fails to do so, they will be subject to disciplinary action. It is important that lines of authority be maintained in any organization for the safety and well being of the entire student population.

School Closings

The Chancellor will make all decisions related to school closings or delays. By 6:00 a.m. an announcement will be made on the 311 hotline, NYC Department of Education webpage (<http://schools.nyc.gov>), and to the major television and radio stations (WCBS 880AM and WINS 1010AM).

Sports Equipment

Sports equipment including but not limited to basketballs, footballs, skateboards are not permitted in school. If they are brought to school, they will be taken away and a parent/guardian will have to come to the school to retrieve them. Please know that appropriate sports equipment is provided for all students during recess.

Media Consent Form

Every student must have a signed media consent form on file (attached). This form allows photos and videos of your children to be used on our school website and with various vendors the school may use. If the form is not returned, your child may be excluded from activities that a signed consent form would be required for.

Clear Expectations

Parent and Student “clear expectations” are created by teachers and act as a college syllabus. These “clear expectations” are posted on every teacher’s Google Classroom and include a parent tear-off to be returned as the first homework of every unit.

Student Name: _____

Grade: _____ Class: _____

Parent Name: _____

I have read and reviewed the Middle School 181 handbook. I have discussed the information with my parents and understand by roles and responsibilities as a student of Middle School 181.

Student Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____