

**McMath Middle School**  
**Denton Independent School District**  
**Debra Nobles, Principal**  
**Community and Student Engagement Survey**  
**2015-2016**

At McMath Middle School we believe that all of our students can be successful and that it takes all stakeholders to help them achieve that goal. Our population predominately comes from four elementary schools. Four very different elementary schools. One of our primary tasks is to include every child in the McMath family. In order to do this, we must work with the families and the community to provide a place where every child feels welcome, safe and cared for. And we have to work with all of our families to be sure that the value of education is understood. We expect every child to graduate from high school within four years of leaving McMath. We are very aware that our students come to us with vastly different experiences and it is up to us to help build the scaffold that will allow all of our students to be on a level playing field for the rest of their lives.

One thing that we are very proud of at McMath is the high level of expectations we have for the students. It is a real confidence builder for our students to be able to compete in UIL academic and fine arts contests knowing that they are continuing a long history of excellence. In order to prepare our students to be productive members of society, we recognize that we must prepare them for technology that we can only dream of and for jobs that have never existed before. We are constantly re-evaluating our academic programs and fine arts programs and looking for better ways to educate our population.

We continue to be active in the Texas Association of Middle Schools as a nationally recognized School to Watch.

The components in this survey target some of the areas that we are working on to help ensure that our students are going to be successful adults.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Fine Arts	Compliance	Does the campus provide TEKS-based fine arts courses taught by content specialists to meet state and local graduation requirements including the Arts and Humanities Endorsement?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide multiple opportunities for parents and community members to attend public shows & performances?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with a variety of evidence for assessing fine arts programs?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide fine arts students numerous opportunities to interact with arts experts through private lessons, clinics, master classes, and university/community arts collaborations annually?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide students with opportunities to promote school and community culture/climate?	Yes	

McMath Middle School, named after a beloved DISD band director, has always held the fine arts in high esteem. Our band consistently wins high awards at contests and UIL competitions. The jazz band won a very elite national award last year and has submitted a recording again for this year's contest. Orchestra, Choir and Band all received high scores in UIL competitions and festivals. Our art program grows every year...we had a record number of Jr. VASE entries as well as other showings in the community of our students' work. We have outstanding support from our parents for all student performances. The choir and theater arts classes worked together to stage a very complex and well received musical production this year. We are fortunate to have many instrumental collaborators from UNT working with our band and orchestra programs.

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<b>Wellness and PE</b>	<b>Compliance</b>	<b>Does the campus seek information from parents related to food allergies at the time of new student enrollment?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Exemplary</b>
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus offer opportunities to participate in community health and wellness events?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus provide community health and wellness resources and information?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus provide developmentally appropriate bullying prevention education programming?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus have procedures in place to assist students and staff during crises?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	
<p>The campus RN is available to meet with parents at the time of enrollment during the regular school year and during volunteered time during schedule pick up. Counselors and the nurse work together to provide timely information to our school community regarding health and wellness resources. The counselors provide all required education programs as well as additional responsive programs unique to our population. We focus on doing the right thing and kindness instead of the bullying behavior. Our students are very willing to report problems to the counselors because the counselors are out in the building and readily available for all students. The responses on safety surveys indicate that this approach is successful for our students.</p> <p>We also have a program on “making the right choices for your body” every year for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders. The Goffs, both pediatricians in Denton, volunteer an entire day to meet with small groups to provide factual information about the body changes the students are experiencing and discussing the consequences of making a bad choice.</p>				

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	<b>Compliance</b>	<b>Does the campus welcome parents and community members in planning initiatives?</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Exemplary</b>

<b>Community and Parent Involvement</b>	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus implement programs to increase parent and community involvement including families without currently enrolled students?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Parent</b>	<b>Does the campus have a comprehensive, proactive communication plan to inform community members and parents regarding campus events?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus provide opportunities for students and parents to be actively involved together on campus?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
	<b>Student</b>	<b>Does the campus provide students with opportunities to participate in activities that benefit the community?</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<p><b>This area has been a focus for the past 5 years. We now have active community, business and parent representatives on the Campus Leadership Team. Our volunteers include several people who do not have students enrolled in any Denton schools. A group from Robson Ranch volunteers in our PE class. We had a very successful program run by one of our volunteers that connected students with other students around the world and brought in expert guest speakers via skype on a variety of environmental and cultural issues</b></p> <p><b>This year we set a goal to provide more academic events for parents and students to participate in together. We had a very well attended evening meeting prior to STAAR testing to provide parents with individually prepared folders on the areas their child needed to improve in to be successful on state testing. PTA provided food and babysitting. The feedback after the meeting was very positive and we will expand this program in the future. Keep Denton Beautiful is a very successful community involvement program for our students. We work together to keep the campus and surrounding area clean and attractive. It has been good for both groups to work together. NJHS and GOAL both actively participate in a variety of community projects throughout the year.</b></p>			

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21st Century Workforce	Elementary Compliance	Does the campus guidance curriculum teach students the interpersonal skills necessary for college/career readiness?	No	Recognized
	Secondary Compliance	Do the campus CTE programs include district and community stakeholders in an advisory capacity?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus actively cultivate business, community, and university partnerships to support 21st century workforce development?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus have systems in place for including parents in their child's preparation for the 21st century workforce?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus offer enrichment and/or competitive events for the students to reinforce their 21st century workforce skills?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus host "college days," "career days" or other events for students to show interest in post-secondary education?	Yes	

We have college days and HIGH SCHOOL days at McMath. In order for the students to be well prepared for college/career we needed to first prepare them to do well in high school. The counselors have spent a great deal of time this year meeting with the students, developing four year plans and implementing Naviance.

We have actively recruited retired experts to volunteer in our technology classes. One of them, who signed up for an hour a week, is routinely volunteering 20 hours a week in our technology class. McMath participates in robotic contests and does well.

This year we also became a Strengths Based School, all 6<sup>th</sup> graders took the Gallup Strength Finder survey and participated in activities to develop those strengths.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Second Language Acquisition	Compliance	Does the campus provide yearly LPAC training for all required staff?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide opportunities for non-English speaking parents to know about student programs in the school and community?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide communication in both Spanish and English?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have procedures in place to promote students' exit from BIL/ESL within 5 years of identification in elementary and 3 years of identification in secondary?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus offer opportunities for students to be exposed to multiple languages to promote second language acquisition?	Yes	

We provide information in Spanish routinely and have actively sought and hired bilingual staff members. The Spanish class continues to grow every year. We have doubled the number of students enrolled in a language program for next year. Our campus is also the Regional Day School for the Deaf middle school site. Sign language is a part of our everyday life here at McMath.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Digital Learning Environment	Compliance	Does the campus conduct annual training for students regarding digital citizenship and acceptable use of technology?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide technology training and professional development opportunities for all teachers, parents, and community members?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide a public Wi-Fi signal that parents and guests can use to connect to online resources?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize specialists in instructional technology to engage teachers and students with technology integration?	Yes	
	Student	Do the campus teachers actively leverage technology to engage students in the learning process?	Yes	

We are committed to having technology embedded in instruction and not viewed as a “separate lesson to be taught”.

McMath increased our presence in social media this year. We have a regularly updated Facebook account and has more than doubled in followers. In addition to the weekly phone call out, an email is also sent to every parent.

We have found that our teachers learn a great deal from each other, so we are including a technology mini-session in our faculty meetings for teachers to share something they have found useful from the world of technology.

Almost all of our teachers attend the district technology conference, TIA, in the summer.

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Dropout Prevention Strategies	Compliance	Does the campus have a system of intervention ( <i>Response to Intervention</i> ) for supporting all students?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus direct parents to research/information regarding the relationship between poor attendance and drop-out rates?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide opportunities for parents that reinforce the importance and value of education to students' futures?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus have a systemic plan for maximizing attendance/minimizing absenteeism?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus utilize age appropriate opportunities to engage students in college and career readiness activities to increase graduation rates/prevent dropouts?	Yes	

McMath uses the typical middle school teaming concept because it is the most effective means of keeping up with each student's needs. The teams implement RTI early and the results have been very successful. Attendance is consistently very high because intervention is done early. Teaching parents about the importance of attendance at the secondary level is an important part of our new 6<sup>th</sup> grade meeting.

Preparing the students for high school is part of our dropout prevention plan. We work with the students and the parents throughout the middle school years to help them succeed in high school and beyond. The GOAL program works with our feeder elementary schools in fifth grade to help make the transition to secondary school successful for all students. We also started a SciGirls program in collaboration with UNT to focus on encouraging Hispanic females to explore the world of science and take higher level courses leading to college majors and jobs in the science, math and technology areas.

We set a goal this year to increase communication with targeted parents about the value and importance of education for their children's future. This has been done with parent emails, counselor led parent information nights, and a college information wall.

Evaluation Category	Question Type	Questions	Answer (Yes or No)	Campus Rating
Education Programs for Gifted and Talented Students	Compliance	Does the campus have a systemic plan to ensure that Gifted and Talented teachers meet the professional learning standard for new teachers (30 hours) and for annual updates (6 hours)?	Yes	Exemplary
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with the opportunity to participate in meaningful experiences related to the education of gifted students?	Yes	
	Parent	Does the campus provide parents with opportunities to participate in the nomination/consideration of students for gifted and talented services?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide opportunities for gifted and talented students to participate in extracurricular activities that reinforce a variety of academic and creative skills?	Yes	
	Student	Does the campus provide a variety of instructional and support services for gifted and talented students?	Yes	

McMath is very involved in the UIL academic program. We actively recruit students to participate and encourage parents to help coach teams.

We have been district champions or runner up for the past 8 years. The chess club is also becoming successful. We hosted the first chess club invitational meet this year and had over fifty students from four district schools compete.

We have had a very impressive number of students participate in the Duke Talent Search program over the past years. We also encourage our students to nominate themselves for EXPO, with many of the self-nominated students qualifying for the program.