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August 2024

Dear Parent(s) or Guardian(s).

Each school year represents an opportunity to reignite an unparalleled educational journey that is intellectually, socially, and personally transformative! Recovery from the pandemic is still incomplete but we are rebounding! We have intentionally developed conditions for joyful learning experiences that mirrors a private education program for public schools. Our elementaries will continue enrichment blocks of art, music, STEM, physical education, and library time each week. In both middle and high school, we are thankful our students will have a seventh (extra) period but our teachers will only instruct five classes. Extra collaborative planning time is producing stronger outcomes for all students. Madera Technical Exploration Center (MTEC) will continue to create 8th graders who are more ready for high school than ever before! Like last year, we expect our high school students to achieve historic levels of success at the regional, state, national, and world levels in activities, arts, athletics, and career technical education - like the Madtown Robotics 2023 FIRST Robotics World Champions!

Success in the 21st century takes a team approach. Our colleagues, regardless of role, proved we can each be a Student Champion. We continue to reset our culture to meet our student body's needs. The Student Champion Course defines expectations for all educational employees to uplift students and families. We must continuously improve our learning organization to be effective and responsive. The message was received with great support and we are seeing authentic change at every level.

To understand how this plays out for your student, please use this handbook as a guide. The MUSD Student Bill of Rights and Student Believer document help make crystal clear our belief in treating students with kindness, fairness, dignity, and respect. Education in the 21st century seeks to prepare students for occupations and technologies that have not yet been conceived. The MUSD Graduate Profile seeks to guarantee our students know how to learn on their own after graduation. Students who are confident in their ability to THINK, ADAPT, COLLABORATE, COMMUNICATE, PRODUCE, and CONTRIBUTE will find the flexibility to respond to an ever-changing future. The Class of 2025 will conduct an oral defense of their learning as a requirement in their senior year.

We must be partners and extensions of your values. Your expectations at home and ours at school can be aligned when families and teachers communicate. Our choice to work together will truly define the success of our students.

You will find the most updated information on our website at https://www.madera.k12.ca.us/ and we ask you to carefully consider all the district communications we send out. The Student and Parent Rights and Responsibilities Handbook is accessible year-round under the Students/Parents section, or by requesting a copy from your school site or from the office of Student Services at Price's Plaza, 1820 Howard Road, (559) 416-5858.

In the following pages, you will find key policies and laws that affect your child's education; processes for accessing services; and procedures for finding answers to questions or voicing concerns. Please consult the District's website (www.madera.k12.ca.us) or your local school webpage for more detailed information, which is updated throughout the year.

Within the handbook you will find these important topics:

- Governing Board Policies (BP) and Administrative Regulations (AR)
- California Education Codes (EC)
- ☐ Special Education, Categorical Funding and Child Development
- ☐ Dress Code
- ☐ Student Discipline

The MUSD Community Compact states our vision this way: **Madera Unified will set the standard for hard work**, **creativity and resiliency with a fearless drive to continuously improve**. This challenging vision requires us to work together as partners. We're proud to serve you and value your collaboration and communication to help us all improve!

Sincerely.

Todd Lile

Superintendent

Todd Lile Superintendent Board of Trustees Lucy Salazar, President

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