



Los Angeles Unified School District
Audubon Middle School and Gifted Magnet Center
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Principal

Dear Parents/Guardians,

**Audubon Middle School
Quality of Student Life Program
2011-2012**

I am excited about the upcoming 2011-2012 school year. A major component to middle school, which enhances a student's time, is the quality of student life. The ultimate intent is to provide students with the greatest opportunity to succeed as productive citizens by providing a safe and orderly environment—as nothing can happen without it. It is our intention to provide you with as much lead time as possible so that important decisions can be made regarding your child's attendance at Audubon Middle School and Gifted Magnet. We understand that personal beliefs may differ from certain policies that **are enforced within our learning community**. In such cases, we understand and recognize your opportunity to **exercise placement of your child at alternate school sites**.

Our policies include....

Student Identification/Debit/Library cards

We are excited about our new student identification/debit/library card for the upcoming school year. The card allows our students to quickly and easily be identified for access into events etc., as well as check out library books, DVD's, and go completely cashless for our student store. **Students are to be in possession of the card at all times** much like adult identification. Though the card will ultimately have many uses, it should be treated/secured as a dual identification and debit/credit card. Cards will be issued to all students at the beginning of the school year.

Eagle-Bucks/ "Audubucks" program

Audubon is developing an exciting and extensive academic reward/community service program to enhance academic achievement, student responsibility, school culture and safety to build our students into civic-minded and responsible leaders. Students will be able to earn credits that will be placed into their debit account, based on academic achievement, citizenship, involvement and leadership. The credits can then be used at our student store to purchase items such as chips, beverages, cookies; school supplies and all the other items school student stores typically sell. The program will be implemented school-wide and calls upon students to be their best and give the best of themselves. This is a high recognition and reward program!!

School Uniforms

All students will be required to wear school-approved uniforms----**there will be no exceptions!** There are tons of articles and research that discusses the benefits of students wearing uniforms. Particularly for Audubon Middle School, uniforms are necessary because we have a charter school on our campus and need to be able to distinguish our students from the students enrolled in the charter school. For those who may take issue with the policy, again we are understanding and recognize you have the opportunity to exercise your options for alternate school attendance. Additionally, know that students will be sent home who are out of uniform. Non-compliance with the uniform policy will have a direct impact on the citizenship grade, which may ultimately impact student promotion to the next grade level and/or student activities.

The uniform is a solid white or gray polo collared shirt /blouse with **solid** gray “Dickies style” pants (no jeans) or skirt. All jackets, overcoats, hooded tops, or sweaters must be solid gray or white. ***All uniforms must be solid colors.*** No patterns, plaids, stripes, or pictures are acceptable. Footwear must be closed toed shoes or tennis shoes. No variations of red or blue are acceptable.

Uniforms can be purchased at the following locations:

- Sears
- Surplus Stores
- Wal-Mart
- Any uniform store (i.e. Banana Tree , Michael’s, Cambridge...)
- **Treasure Hunt (on Rodeo Rd. & La Brea)***
- **Fallas Paredes**

The above locations are only suggestions. We encourage parents/guardians to shop around and find the best price. ****(A full acceptable uniform can be purchased for under \$20.00 at Treasure Hunt.)***

20-Hour Student Community Service (SCS) Requirement

All students will be required to complete 20 hours of community service for the school year. The hours need to be completed in accordance with our semesters (10 hours each semester with the last hours due prior to the last report card period) 20 hours equates to about 1 hour every 2 weeks of school. A list of approved activities and organizations is forthcoming.

Student Attendance and Tardiness

Audubon utilizes a 2x8 schedule whereby students attend certain classes every other day-sometimes only twice in a week’s time. Using such a schedule required a high level of commitment to be in attendance by students. Missing one day is equal to missing a ½ a week of school AND students are still held accountable for the missed worked. The school bell rings @ 7:45 a.m. Students are to be IN their respective class when the bell rings. Students who are late will initially be counseled regarding their tardiness however after 3 tardies, a parent conference

will be required. It is our hopes that parents will implement needed counseling/discipline to extinguish the tardiness. Continued tardiness will result in referral to School Attendance Review Board (SARB). Please understand education is compulsory and when students are late they miss needed instruction which again directly impacts grades and may impact promotion,

Homework POLICY

You child will receive homework ***EVERYDAY in Mathematics and English***. Parents please ensure that the homework is completed. We are not expecting parents to remember subject content—we will handle the teaching. We are asking parents to ensure that students do the work to the best of their ability.

Merely, asking a child if they completed the homework is not helpful to your child. They need for you to review it for completeness. Also please sign the homework. Your signature will let the school know you have reviewed it. If your child EVER tells you they do not have homework in either subject please call the school. I will check with the teacher personally regarding if in fact homework was assigned. If your child ever tells you that they do not understand the homework, again please call the school and inform me: Together we will figure out why!

The Audubon Zone

West to Crenshaw; east to 4th Ave; north to 39th st and south to Vernon is now, what I call the Audubon Zone. With the assistance of Community Build, Safe Passage, School Police, LAPD and the California Highway Patrol, any and every issue/incident, whether related to school or not, that involves an Audubon Middle School student will be handled by the Audubon Administration in a manner appropriate and befitting of the issue/incident. You can support our efforts by informing us of those issues/incidents. The intent behind us widening our traditional school zone (just around the campus) is that in many instances, it is better to educate than to incarcerate our children!

Student Email Accounts/parent email accounts

As we move our school and students further into the 21st Century, all students will have and be required to use an LAUSD student email account. We would like to also have the email account of parents as well. Please take a moment to send an email that outlines your child, your contact information etc. Once all information has been verified, we will include you into our email listing.

LAUSD provides the most secure student accounts than every other email provider. The accounts will be utilized to send important updates, messages, and information regarding the school day, their student debit card account, grades and citizenship. The better-informed student and parents are, the better prepared for school and life they will be. Students and parent should check their accounts regularly as information will be disseminated via email frequently.

Textbooks

While a student at Audubon Middle School, your child will be issued textbooks. We need your help in making sure that textbooks are kept in good condition and that loaned textbooks are returned to school upon asking for it. Parents are expected to pay for the replacement or repair cost for any lost or damaged District Property, including textbooks. The school is legally

authorized to withhold grades, diploma, and transcripts of students until the obligation is cleared. The following are ways to help your student understand this responsibility:

- Ensure textbooks are covered.
- Help students find a safe place to keep books during the borrowing period.
- Inform students that vandalism is not only a crime, but parents or guardians may be held financially responsible for the damage.

Student Expectation

Audubon has an expectation that our entire learning community will be respectful, responsible, and safe. The learning community here believes that if all the stakeholders enforce these expectations each and every student will achieve academically and grow socially. Our student expectation plan is in place to help students meet the behavioral standards needed to succeed. Included in this packet is a copy of Audubon's student expectation plan.