

## Introduction

The Mason City Public School believes all students can and will learn to be productive and responsible citizens. Therefore, young people need every available opportunity to increase their educational skills to prepare themselves for entry into our highly technical global community. In following this belief, the Board of Directors of the Mason City Community School District established the Alternative School in the fall of 1975. This school is an effort to establish educational options for students who were not achieving success in traditional school programs.

The Mason City Alternative School offers a flexible program of study with the opportunity for students to prepare for high school completion, higher education, entry into the military service, and job preparation. The Alternative School places emphasis on the basic academic skills as defined by the Iowa Core Curriculum and concentrates on career development. All instruction is geared toward moving students to their highest academic potential and greater competency for living in today's global community.

All students at the Alternative School are considered to possess the ability to function as adults in our overall society. Each student is allowed to construct and implement an individual plan of study that will meet his or her personal goals and aspirations. Students are expected to show increasing control over their own life and academic situations as they progress through school.

The total program is designed to meet the individual needs of students who require an option different from the traditional high school program in pursuing their academic and personal growth goals.

There are seven basic rules outlining appropriate behavior expected of a student who is enrolled in the Mason City Alternative School program. They serve as our Student/Parent Handbook. Each includes a list of specific items that can be further researched in the resource handbook available to you upon request. If there are specific rules you do not understand, please do not hesitate in requesting a resource handbook or talk to the program Principal directly. As an Alternative School student, you will be held responsible for violations of the seven basic rules.

It is the belief of the Mason City Alternative School staff that the following seven basic rules will help you as students in having a successful high school experience, and help you as parents guide your teenager through an important time in his/her life. Note: Throughout the resource handbook references are made to Mason City Community School Board policy. A copy of the board policy can be found at the Mason City Alternative School website, at all other school buildings and at the Mason City Community Schools website.

Have a productive school year. Remember self-discipline + hard work = success.

**Mason City Alternative School  
CLASS SCHEDULE**

**MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY**

**Am Group 8:25 → 8:40 (15 Minutes)**

**1st Period 8:45 → 9:30 (45 minutes)**

**2nd Period 9:35 → 10:20 (45 minutes)**

**3rd Period 10:21 → 11:09 (48 minutes)**

**\*\*PE(MWF)\*\*Group (T/TH)**

**4th Period 11:20 → 12:05 (45 minutes)**

**Lunch 12:05-12:35 (30 minutes)**

**C Lunch 11:59-12:29 @MCHS**

**5th Period 12:40 → 1:30 (50 minutes)**

**6th Period 1:35 → 2:30 (55 minutes)**

**7th Period 2:35 → 3:30 (55 minutes)**

**7th Period 2:35-3:10 (35 minutes)**

**\*\* Early out Mondays @ 3:15**

**PM Group 3:30 → 3:40 (10 minutes)**

**PM Group 3:10 → 3:15 (5 minutes) Mondays Only**

Mason City Alternative School  
CLASS SCHEDULE

**Wednesday**

Am Group 8:25→ 8:40 (15 Minutes)

1st Period 8:45 → 9:20 (35 minutes)

2nd Period 9:35 → 10:00 (35 minutes)

3rd Period 10:05→10:45 (40 minutes) PE

4th Period 10:55 → 11:30 (35 minutes)

Lunch 11:30→12:00 (30 minutes)

**C Lunch 11:30-12:00 @MCHS**

5th Period 12:05 →12:45 (35 minutes)

6th Period 12:50→ 1:30 (35 minutes)

7th Period 1:35 →2:10 (35 minutes)

PM Group 2:10 → 2:15 (5 minutes)

Professional Learning 3:00 → 4:00

## RULES FOR SUCCESS

**1. We will respect and be considerate of the rights and responsibilities of others and ourselves.**

Refer To Section:	School Records 49
Page General Student Conduct 3	Equity-Nondiscrimination Notice 54
Student Rights 27	Anti-Bullying/Anti-Harassment Policy 55
Complaint Procedure 46	Corporal Punishment, Restraint
Equal Educational Opportunity 47	Physical Confinement and Detention 66

**2. We will respect and be considerate of school property and the property of others.**

Refer To Section:
Page Personal Property at School 52
Student Cubbies 61 3.

**3. We will follow the class schedule, attend school daily, and be on time.**

Refer To Section: Page	
Attendance/Absences/Tardies 7	Absences in High School Classes 18
Make-up Work 14	Shared-Time Students 35

**4. We will follow rules pertaining to specific areas – such as outside PE area, John Adams Middle School, field trips, etc.**

Refer To Section: Page	Visiting the Alternative School 23
Entering Mason City High School 16	Outside the Alternative School and On Surrounding Grounds 24
Transportation to School and School Activities 20	Student Activities 30
On-Campus Driving 21	Throwing Objects 37
Visiting Other School Buildings 22	

**5. Students need permission to be out of a class and you need the Administration's permission to leave the building – no exceptions.**

Refer To Section: Page
Dropping Students from Class 16

**6. Students will follow the general school district operating policies and procedures contained in the Student/Parent Resource Handbook.**

Refer To Section:	
Page Enrollment 4	Deadline 9 Use or Possession of Tobacco By Student(s) 25
Open Enrollment 5	Lunch Program 26
School Materials and Book Fees 6	Student Substance Abuse 28
Requirements for Graduation/Graduation Progress	Small Children 31
	Student Withdrawals 33

High School Dances 36  
Directory Information 38  
Bad Weather Conditions 40  
Custody and Parental Rights at School 45  
Unauthorized Groups 53  
Students with Weapons/Firearms 57  
Use of Technology 58  
Human Growth and Development 58  
Child Abuse 60  
Personal Technology Items 62

Medication 42  
Fireworks/Firecrackers 43 Divorce,  
  
Interview of Students by Outside  
Agencies 63  
Search and Seizure Regulations 64  
Public Conduct on School Premises 65  
Emergency Situations 67

**7. Students will meet all academic, attendance and behavior portions of their individual progress review contract.**

Refer To Section Page:

Definition of Points 10  
Grading/reporting of Student Progress 11  
Student Advisor 12  
Progress Review 13  
Student Progress at MCHS 17  
Suspensions 19  
  
Student Achievement Awards 32  
  
Promotion of Students 33  
Study Hall Procedures 50  
In-School Suspension 51  
Appropriate Dress 39  
Student Phone Use 41  
Insubordination 44  
Career Education/Job Placement 48

## Staff Course Assignments

**Katie Fistler**, Supervisor

**David A. Durbala**

Group Advisor  
Print Mass Media  
U. S. History I, II  
English 11  
Drama  
Government  
Advanced Composition

**Stephanie A. Waters**

Group Advisor  
Biology  
Anatomy & Physiology I  
Forensic Science  
Foundations of Math I  
Life Math I & II

**DeeDee Winter**

Secretary  
Attendance  
Technology

**Mark R. Hansen**

Group Advisor  
Into to Alg./Algebra I, II/Pre  
Alg.  
Workplace Readiness I, II  
Geom./Informal Geometry  
Practical Math  
Applied Math Life Math I & II

**Cyndi R. Ehrhart**

Group Advisor  
Science 9 I, II  
English 9 I, II  
Lit Skills I & II  
Special Education Courses  
Life Math I & II

**Janell A. Drumheller**

Group Advisor  
Graphic Design  
Basic Design  
Environmental Science  
Computer Applications  
Social Health  
Yearbook/Publications  
Painting/Drawing

**Katie E. Fistler**

Career Decision Making  
English 10

**Danyell Tielke**

Consumer Economics  
Psychology  
English 10  
Parenting  
World Cultures/Geography  
Street Law

**Kathy Spotts**

Job Seeking Skills  
Counseling Program  
General Student Management  
One-On-One Academic  
Guidance