

Tilden Middle School Policies - 2025-2026

2025-26 MCPS Student Code of Conduct

2025-2026 Students' Rights and Responsibilities

Arrival	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Students will enter the building starting at 7:50 am and report to their designated location until 8:05 am<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ 8th grade in the Cafeteria○ 7th grade in the Main Gym○ 6th grade in the 2nd floor Gym● Students arriving late to school must report to the Main Office for a pink hall pass.<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ The attendance secretary will adjust the attendance as excused or unexcused tardy based on the note received from the students for the first 20 minutes of the period.○ After 20 minutes, students arriving at the main office will be marked absent.● In situations involving the late arrival of a school bus, a public announcement will be made to inform staff. Students will be marked as excused tardy.
Attendance Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Please review Tilden's Attendance Policy (HERE and on our website).● Make sure to complete the Google Form to inform the school about your absence or bring a note to the Main Office when you return.● Students are responsible for making up assignments missed during an absence.● Students will be marked absent if they are not in their assigned classroom, even though they are under the supervision of another teacher, unless prior communication is made. The Attendance or Counseling Secretary must make any changes to the attendance code.● For an absence of more than three days to be approved, a request must be submitted to Mrs. Hopkins. A doctor's note must be provided to the attendance secretary in case of an absence of three days or more due to medical reasons.
Backpacks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Backpacks must be inside student lockers before the start of 1st period until dismissal (at 3:00 pm).● No backpacks are allowed in classrooms or the cafeteria without written documentation from the counselor or administrator.● Students may carry the MCPS-provided Chromebook Bag.● Students may carry a pencil case or small personal bag no larger than half a sheet of paper.● If students arrive late to school, they must go to their lockers to put away their backpacks before reporting to class.● Follow the P.A.C.K.S. student support policy for backpack violations.
Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Dismissal at Tilden occurs at 3:00 pm, and all students are expected to vacate the building unless they are attending an

	<p>after-school activity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students are not allowed to re-enter the building once they have left. • Students attending an after-school activity should report directly to the activity under staff supervision.
Food Delivery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Food deliveries for students will not be accepted during and after school. Any food deliveries will be turned away. • Parents/guardians/family members can bring food for students. They must report to the Main Office as per our visitors' policy. • School lunches from the cafeteria are available to all students.
Hall Passes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No passes will be provided in the first ten or last ten minutes of class. • All students must sign out and grab a hall pass before leaving the classroom. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The student will sign out and back in the classroom when leaving. • Students must bring their hall pass back to class upon their return. • Students must have a hall pass if visiting a teacher during lunch. Students will only be allowed to leave the cafeteria with a pass.
Hallway Usage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will be allowed to work in the hallways only with teacher permission and with specific guidelines on location, time, and tasks. • Locations used will be easily monitored by staff at all times (ex., no locker banks, stairwells, foyers, etc.).
Hats/Hood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hats and hoods are allowed in the building except for the following instances: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ In P.E. locker rooms ◦ If it is used to violate the PMD policy at TMS. Note that a violation of this policy is a disruption to the learning environment and will be addressed through the PACKS policy. • Per MCPS's Religious Diversity policy, religious head coverings are exempt from this policy and are permitted in all instances.
Lockers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students should bring their Chromebook, water bottle, and necessary materials to each class. • Students should not leave their belongings <i>outside</i> of their lockers. TMS is not responsible for belongings left out in open spaces. For belongings found in open spaces, first see Security, then see the lost and found in the Cafeteria. • Passes to lockers will be limited in support of P.A.C.K.S. - Be Prepared. • If students need help with their lockers, seek help from the Team Leaders, Administrators, or Security. • Students are NOT allowed to share their locker with another student.
Lunch Passes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students must report to their assigned lunch period in the cafeteria. • Students should leave the cafeteria only if they have an approved pass signed by a staff member. • Students must get the approved pass from the staff member before the start of the lunch period. • Students should remain in one location for the entire lunch period and not float between different locations.

Personal Mobile Device (PMD) Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Personal Mobile Devices (PMD) are to be kept off and away throughout the school day. These include cell phones, smart watches, AirPods, other headphones (wired or wireless), tablets (Kindles, iPads, etc.). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Note: For documented reasons, exceptions will be made. ● Staff are expected to remind students that PMDs should be turned off and out of sight. ● Teachers will include the PMD policy in their course syllabus to communicate with students and caregivers. ● If a student violates the PMD policy, staff are expected to take the following steps. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Students will be reminded twice about the PMD policy. ○ Staff will make two-way contact (via text message on Remind, phone, or email) on the third reminder about PMDs and update the Contact Log in Synergy. ○ Staff will submit a referral in Synergy at the fourth reminder of the PMD policy. ● Administrators and Security have the right to confiscate PMDs if students are non-compliant with staff directions/requests to put devices away. When confiscated, students are expected to pick up their items from the Main Office after dismissal. ● PMDs will be confiscated at ALL levels in P.E. Locker Rooms by P.E. teachers. ● After each referral and at the start of each quarter, PMD violations will reset back to zero.
Tardy Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Students must be in the classroom when the bell rings to be considered on time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ For the first two instances of tardiness, teachers will have a conversation with the student. ○ For the third tardy, teachers will make two-way contact with caregivers (email, Remind app, or phone) and log it in Synergy. ○ For the fourth instance of tardiness, teachers will submit a referral in Synergy after establishing two-way communication. Administrators will follow the MCPS Code of Conduct to determine next steps. ○ For the fourth tardy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Grade-level Team Leaders and administrators will meet with the student and communicate with caregivers about the next steps. ■ Team Leaders can not set up a plan without prior steps being followed and two-way communication logged in Synergy. ○ After administrative follow-up, tardies will reset back to zero. Teachers will restart the above process. ● At the start of each quarter, tardies are reset back to zero.
Dress Code Policy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The administrative team will enforce Tilden's Dress Code Policy and will do so per MCPS guidelines outlined on page 4 of the Students' Rights and Responsibilities handbook. ● Staff will contact the grade-level administrator with any concerns around the dress code.

MCPS dress code policy from the student rights and responsibilities document

Dress and Grooming

Students have a responsibility to be dressed and groomed for school, including virtual instruction, in accordance with community standards for dress and grooming and in a manner that is not disruptive to the learning environment or school activities. Students are permitted to wear scarves, hijabs, yarmulkes, patkas, or other clothing or jewelry associated with their religion or containing religious messages, as long as their style of dress is consistent with the following guidelines. Students' clothing may not—

- endanger or potentially threaten the health and/or safety of self or others;
- fail to meet a reasonable requirement of a course or activity;
- display messages of hate or bias, or depict discriminatory symbols or images;
- be associated with gangs;
- be lewd, vulgar, obscene, or revealing or of a sexual nature; and/or
- promote drugs prohibited on MCPS property as set forth in Regulation IGO-RA, *Guidelines for Incidents of Alcohol, Cannabis, Tobacco, and Other Drug Use Involving Students*.

When possible, schools should provide reasonable accommodations to students if they (or their parents/guardians on their behalf) request permission to wear or not wear certain clothing during physical education class or school-sponsored activities to ensure appropriate modesty, based on religious beliefs. Such accommodations do not preclude a student's participation in an activity. For example, the Maryland Public Secondary Schools Athletics Association allows athletes participating in interscholastic competitions to "wear a head covering, wrap, or other required religious garment which is not abrasive, hard, or dangerous to any player/others, and is attached in such a way that it is unlikely to come off during play." For other questions regarding athletic accommodations, please consult your school athletic director or the MCPS Athletics Unit.