

October 14 – October 18, 2024



THE MCNAIR WAAG

Monday Oct 14	Tuesday Oct 15	Wednesday Oct 16	Thursday Oct 17	Friday Oct 18
Thanksgiving (School Closed)	Day 1	Day 2	Day 1	Day 2
	Block A 8:30 9:40	Block A 8:30 9:40	Block A 8:30 9:40	Block A 8:30 9:40
	Flex Time Sign-in 9:45 10:20	Flex Time Sign-in 9:45 10:20	Flex Time Sign-in 9:45 10:20	Flex Time Sign-in 9:45 10:20
	Block B 10:25 11:35	Block B 10:25 11:35	Block B 10:25 11:35	Block B 10:25 11:35
	Break 11:35 11:50	Break 11:35 11:50	Break 11:35 11:50	Break 11:35 11:50
	Block C 11:55 1:05	Block C 11:55 1:05	Block C 11:55 1:05	Block C 11:55 1:05
	Lunch 1:05 1:45	Lunch 1:05 1:45	Lunch 1:05 1:45	Lunch 1:05 1:45
	Block D 1:50 3:00	Block D 1:50 3:00	Block D 1:50 3:00	Block D 1:50 3:00
	Final day for Student Council online voting	Informal Learning Updates emailed home		BC Election Set Up (Small Gym – 3-10pm)
	Trauma-Informed Practice Lunch and Learn (Library)	Mini School Meeting (at lunch)		

Marlin Strong: Every student, every day, whatever it takes!
“Assessments are critical in the learning process. Without them, teachers and students would never know when to move onto the next subject, or how to help students.” *Unknown*

As we near the first progress report of the year, we are reminded as teachers and parents, that students with a strong belief in their abilities do better and learn more are generally more open to continue to learn and participate in the future. Interim reports or Learning Updates, as well call them should not have negative effects on student confidence, motivation, or engagement.

We can add to students’ self-confidence, not by artificially “pumping up their tires” and over-inflating student achievement on report cards but by genuinely illustrating a student’s strengths and pointing out the hurdles they have overcome while guiding them towards new learning. For many people, self-confidence enables them to be resilient and handle setbacks with ease. Instead of being crippled by failure, resilient people get up quickly, learn from their mistakes, and try again. They accept that failure is a part of life, and they take more chances as a result – this, in turn, makes them even more successful later in life.

As teachers, it is important that when we communicate student progress, we distinguish between those that lack confidence and those that lack ability. Statistically, students that lack self-confidence have the same level of ability as successful students, they just don’t believe in themselves and generally give up before they even try. This lack of self-belief becomes a self-fulfilling prophecy because they stop engaging and participating in new learning. For these students, Learning Updates further illustrate their lack of achievement. These students lack confidence; thus, they take fewer and fewer risks, learn less and less...and most importantly, continue to have negative feelings about self.

Learning Updates should inform students about their learning and their abilities but, maybe more importantly, report cards should encourage new learning, reinforce existing goals, or set new ones. **At McNair, we “Champion students and their learning.”**

Need extra help?

Flex Time is great way to get extra learning support for all students in all subject areas. Students can get some extra help with their learning from a teacher. Please encourage your students to take advantage of this time. Students must sign-up, or teachers and parents can also request students attend Flex Time in their room. Attendance is taken and reported back to parents every Friday.

McNair Tutoring Club provides free tutoring to students in academic subject areas. We have a large group peer tutors who are available to help. To request and arrange tutoring, send an email to mcnairtutors@gmail.com

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Oct 19 BC Elections (Small Gym)
- Oct 21 SCC (Lunch)
- Oct 23 School Photo Retakes
- Oct 24 SBT Meeting at Lunch (Conference Room)
- Oct 25 Professional Development Day -PSA (School Closed)
- Oct 29 Safety Drill @ 9:55am
- Oct 30 Haunted House
- Oct 31 Halloween
- Nov 4 Staff Meeting (after school)
- Nov 5 Grad Assessment – Literacy 12
- Nov 6 Collaboration Day (Classes begin at 9:55am)
- Nov 6 Grade 9: Take Our Kids to Work Day
- Nov 7 SBT Meeting (at lunch)
- Nov 8 Remembrance Day Ceremony

Communicating Student Learning – Learning Updates

All students and parents will receive an Informal Learning Update with brief information from each teacher on October 16. These updates are an opportunity for parents to see the progress their students have made in each course. Equally important, Learning Updates are an opportunity for students to review their goals and even set new goals if they are not meeting their expectations. At McNair, our staff continues to challenge students to set high expectations for themselves and to demonstrate determination in striving for these goals. Setting goals is a good way to help students to reflect on what is important to them, clear their minds, and focus on what type of student they want to be.

Learning Updates Timeline

1. Learning Updates reviewed by admin October 11-16
2. Learning Updates will be emailed October 16

Staff: Helping a Student Who Is Struggling Academically:

1. Get the student’s parents involved early. Call home if a student is not succeeding and make another call home when the student shows improvement. **“Challenge: send a personal email home for each struggling student.”**
2. Try to meet “one on one” with each student who is struggling in your class to develop a learning plan.
3. Provide opportunities for students to self-reflect on their experiences in class. Ask them, “What can they do to improve?”
4. Ask both students and parents how you can help.
5. Look for underlying problems (such as learning gaps or misunderstandings) in the student’s learning.
6. Follow up with other teachers, counsellors, and administrators to gain a better understanding of each struggling student.

McNair 2025 Dry Grad - 50/50 Draw

Dry grad will be selling 50/50 draw tickets. If you would like to purchase tickets, [please click here.](#)