



# MISSISSIPPI SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

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## HANDBOOK AND SECURITY CONTRACT

### Parent and Student Contract

*(This is a legally binding document.)*

*All Mississippi School of the Arts (MSA) students—residential and commuters—and their parents or legal guardians must read and sign this contract. Signature is required at the beginning of each new school year since all MSA handbooks must be updated annually and approved by the State Board of Education.*

As a student (or parent/guardian of a student) who is enrolled at the Mississippi School of the Arts, we hereby acknowledge that we have received and/or have access to a copy of the following documents that contain the official policies and procedures that affect MSA students:

1. *MSA Student Handbook (Available on the Internet, print copies distributed on campus.)*
2. *Prohibited items (MSA Student Handbook, Pg 49)*
3. *Residential Life definitions, policies, and expectations (MSA Student Handbook, Pgs 48-56)*
4. *Security Policy governing safety (MSA Student Handbook, pages 67-72)*
5. *Technology Contracts and Policies (MSA Student Handbook – Pages 72-85) - Cell Phone Policy, Portable Listening Device, Facebook and Acceptable Usage*
6. *Student Code of Conduct (MSA Student Handbook, Pages 88-97)*
7. *Attendance Policy (Enclosed in registration packet)*
8. *Brookhaven High School Handbook and Focus Book (Available on Internet)*
9. *Bullying Policy (Pg 92-93)*

We understand that an electronic copy of these policies and publications can be found online at the Mississippi School of the Arts website <http://www.msa.k12.ms.us>. MSA students can use school computers to access these resources using their MSA user account identification. If electronic access is not convenient, we acknowledge that we also have received one print copy for our family. We understand that all students are responsible for adhering to the policies and procedures of these documents while at school or on school activities. Because of an interlocal partnership with the Brookhaven School District, all BHS policies apply to MSA students attending classes there.

As a student (or parent/guardian of a student) who is enrolled at the Mississippi School of the Arts, I hereby acknowledge that I have received a *Student Identification Card and MSA Lanyard/Clip* and will adhere to official policies and procedures that affect MSA safety.

In addition, we understand that the Mississippi School of the Arts is a special state residential public high school. **Attendance at the Mississippi School of the Arts is a privilege, not a right.** Students have neither constitutional nor statutory rights to public education in a state special school. Student educational rights exist only in the local school district in which the individual resides. While enrolled at MSA since it is a residential school, parental permission and signatures are required regardless of the age of the student.

Furthermore, we recognize that this is a legally binding contract and that violation(s) of the terms, conditions, and/or guidelines of school or state policies may result in disciplinary action, loss of privileges, probation, suspension, dismissal to the student's home school district, or expulsion dependent upon the nature of student actions. We understand that MSA will fully cooperate with local and state officials in any investigation related to student actions while at school.

We understand that the administrative staff of the Mississippi School of the Arts welcomes suggestions that could help improve the educational environment for Mississippi children while in residence on the MSA campus. Following a request for an appointment, the Executive Director will arrange a conference with the appropriate MSA staff to discuss issues and concerns related to students enrolled in the school.

**Student Name** (Please print.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Parent Name** (Please print.): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date