

Marsh Jr. High School's 21st Century BLAST After School Program



Parent/Student Handbook





CHICO UNIFIED
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Administrative Offices/Education Services
1163 E. 7th Street, Chico, CA 95928
(530) 891-3000

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the BLAST (Best Life After School Team) – a 21st Century Community Learning Center after school program! We are pleased to offer this program and take pride in the quality program we provide for the youth of Chico. Our goal is to provide a safe and fun atmosphere for your student and to help your student succeed in school. We constantly review our program and make every effort to provide a wide variety of stimulating activities for participants.

Everyone involved in the BLAST is excited about the new school year! If you have any questions, please speak to your site coordinator or contact me directly.

Have a great school year!

Kristine Keene

Kalyn Quok

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BLAST After School Program Schedule

MJHS's BLAST operates on all school days and will be closed on all school holidays. BLAST operates from the end of the school day until 5:15pm, Monday - Friday.

Attendance Procedures

**** Students initially are admitted into the BLAST program through a lottery system, and spots are limited. If a student does not receive a spot, they will be placed on a waiting list. Failure to meet attendance requirements may result in dismissal from the BLAST program.**

Attendance is taken daily. You child is expected to attend the program at least **4 days per week and stay until at least 4:00 pm**. Students are required to sign in and out of the program every day that they are in attendance. They will do this in the BLAST classroom (Room E22). Students who are authorized to walk or ride a bike home must have a signed statement on file. Authorized individuals will pick-up students in the BLAST classroom. For your convenience, students can be reached through the BLAST cell phone at any time.

Marsh Junior BLAST Cell Phone: (530) 801-1490

Attendance/Early Release

Your child is expected to be at program every day until at least 4:00 pm unless otherwise arranged with your site Coordinator with an Early Release Form (obtained from Site Coordinator) **BLAST employs a strict attendance policy. If your child misses more than (15) unexcused absences OR non-excused Early Releases (not due to illness/medical appointments) days during the school year, he or she may be dropped from the program.** Note: You are granted (1) day a week for an early release to another extracurricular activity. Other weekly early releases, before 4:00 pm, may result in your child being dropped from the grant funded BLAST After School Program.

School Clubs/ Sports

All students participating in school clubs or sports during after school program hours must report to BLAST first to check in. This ensures the safety and whereabouts of all students on the campus.

Late Pick Up Policy

The after school program closes promptly at 5:15 pm each evening. All parents and/or guardians are expected to pick up their children on time. If you are unable to do so, it is your responsibility to notify the BLAST Coordinator on the BLAST cell phone.

****A Late Pick-up Fee of \$1 per minute, per child will be charged after 5:15 pm.**

****If your child is not picked-up by 5:30 pm and no contact has been made with person on the emergency form, Child Protective Services will be called.**

Daily Schedule/Activities

Upon dismissal from school, all students report to the BLAST classroom (Room E22) to sign in. Students are then assigned an academic room that they will report to daily from 2:55 pm – 3:50 pm. At 3:50, students are dismissed from academic hour and will report to the Multi-Purpose Room where they will receive a supper snack. At this time, daily announcements will be made and students will pick an enrichment or recreational activity to participate in.

2:45 – 2:55 Check In (Room E22)

2:55 – 3:50 Academic Hour (Homework help / Tutoring)

3:50 – 4:10 Snack / Transition

4:10 – 5:05 Enrichment and Recreation (some listed below)

5:05 – 5:15 Check Out (Room E22)

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| → Intramural Sports | → Arts and Crafts | → Cooking |
| → Basketball | → Computers | → “Jengtecture” |
| → Dodgeball | → Flag Football | → Reading |
| → Soccer | → STEM | → Game Room |

AND MORE!!!

Academic Hour Expectations

- ✓ Sit down and quietly take out your planner
- ✓ Be productive with your time
- ✓ Come prepared with a book. If you don't have homework you may read quietly.
- ✓ Chromebooks are for educational use only
- ✓ Do not distract others.

BLAST Expectations

- ✓ Be respectful to all staff and students
- ✓ Cell phones must be kept on vibrate and may only be used to communicate with parents. No social media, texting friends, taking pictures, etc.
- ✓ Must be in a supervised location at all times.
- ✓ All school rules apply after school
- ✓ Have fun!

Dress Code

All students are required to be in compliance with the Chico Unified Junior High Dress Code.

Personnel

BLAST maintains a staff to student ratio of 1 staff member for every 20 students. All staff are certificated employees and are either CUSD certificated teachers or student teachers. Each staff member must be fingerprinted and background screened.

Weekly Schedule/Announcements

A weekly schedule and important announcements will be available in the BLAST classroom (Room E22). This is our primary method of communication for parents.

Healthy Snack

A healthy snack program will be provided based on the California School Nutrition Standards guidelines. Snack is portion controlled and the same snack will be offered for each child on a daily basis.

Discipline

The BLAST staff are committed to providing a safe, enjoyable place for all participants to achieve success. After school staff are dedicated to using positive reinforcement and conflict resolution. The following consequences will be applied to students in defiance of the BLAST rules and expectations

Consequences

Warning Notification

Strike 1: Conference with BLAST Coordinator and parent notification

Strike 2: Suspension from BLAST

Strike 3: Expulsion from BLAST

Expulsion Policy

Extreme cases of behavior such as fighting, extreme disruption, stealing, threats of violence, or possession of drugs/alcohol/weapons may result in immediate suspension or removal from the program. If your child is expelled for any reason, he or she may not attend after school programming with BLAST for at least one year following the date of expulsion. The “three strikes and you’re out” rule applies to ALL students.

Supply Donation

BLAST After School Program is provided free of charge except for an annual, non-refundable, suggested supply donation of \$60.00. Supply donations (**cash or money orders only**) are due to the BLAST site coordinator within two weeks of your student attending the BLAST program. Payment options are available. Your Site Coordinator is more than willing to work with you, should this be a hardship. Additional cash donations are always accepted and appreciated.

