



Understanding the MTSS Crusader FLEX Framework for Success

What is FLEX?

The FLEX period stems from a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) framework intended to improve the wellbeing of the whole child. A simple Google search of [MTSS](#) will provide a better understanding of the purpose, goals, and rationale for this type of framework within schools. In future years, we will focus on Tiers 2 & 3, but for this year, Modesto Christian (MC) will focus on Tier 1, Core Programming, to provide high-quality, school-wide, academic, social, emotional, and behavioral programs and support designed to meet the needs of all students. During Tier 1 of FLEX, teachers will have an opportunity to open their classrooms to continue with reinforcement of previous learning and provide remediation, enrichment, and tutoring. It is a time to meet with students regarding behavior, conduct, Restorative Practices, and CBP. FLEX is also a time to offer a fun activity or meaningful opportunities for growth. Yet another goal of FLEX is to increase teacher-student engagement and peer bonding. This is important because studies indicate that students perform better when they feel a connection with the teacher. FLEX is not meant for teaching a new lesson, therefore it requires little to no prep. Instead, FLEX provides that prime time to extend creativity, invention, and fun into the school day.

In order to set up the FLEX schedule offerings, instructors are to complete the questions provided in the FLEX Google Form survey. Instructors should consider creating options that tap into his/her passion and also support and/or meet the interest of students. For example, an instructor may choose to hold Bible Study on Tuesday, Study Hall on Wednesday, and Gladiator Games on Thursday. Another teacher might like to teach Gardening on Tuesday, Barbecuing on Wednesday, and an Alternative P.E. class on a Thursday. Once we have a schedule, each student can sign up for the FLEX courses that best appeal to him/her personally.

How FLEX works:

Each instructor will submit for approval the course offerings he/she intends to teach during the quarter. (Changes can be made quarterly with the hope that a semester plan is considered). Upon approval, the course is added to a FLEX Course Schedule. Students will be allowed to sign up for the courses they would like to take. Priority will be given to seniority and a teacher approval process.

Can a student Opt-Out of FLEX?

For a student to be released from campus or from FLEX period, the student's parent(s)/guardian(s) must obtain approval from the Principal using the appropriate Opt-Out Request Form easily obtained from the Main Office. If released from campus during the regular FLEX period, he or she must be picked up within 10-minutes from the end of the period preceding FLEX. The student is not allowed to stay on campus if unassigned to a FLEX class. If the student is not picked up within 10 minutes of the FLEX start, he/she must report to the Main Office and be checked into Study Hall. He/she will be released when the class is over.

What if a student wants to change a FLEX for the day?

Students will report on time to FLEX in accordance with the approved MC Bell Schedule. Within the first five minutes of class, the instructor will take roll and if a student has obtained written approval by the forwarding teacher, the assigned teacher can choose to allow the student to make the change. If a student requests a change in his/her course for the day, it will be the responsibility of the teacher to approve the request with the other instructors and to write a pass to the next class. It is the responsibility of the student to promptly go to the class, enter respectfully and join in on the class activity as the instructor has planned and to confirm that the new instructor noted his/her arrival.

How will teachers record attendance?

Teachers will take attendance within the first five minutes of the FLEX tardy bell. Attendance will be recorded in the usual manner. Should a student come or be released to go to another class, the instructor will need to record that move in the electronic Google Sheet provided to all FLEX instructors.

Tardies to FLEX follow the Tardy Policy found in the Student Handbook. After 15 absences, a student will be unenrolled in FLEX and will not receive a service credit for the quarter/semester.

Can instructors [Team Teach](#)?

If approved by the Principal, instructors may Team Teach. Although instructors may choose to team up, both instructors will be expected to be on campus and serving students during the period of FLEX unless asked to assist elsewhere by an administrator.

How will a student be graded for the FLEX course?

The FLEX course is based upon a PASS/NO PASS reporting. It is up to the instructor to set up a system of positive feedback or data reporting criterion. A NO PASS will not affect the total GPA. A PASS in FLEX is equal to one service credit per semester. Note that 6 service credits are required for graduation (new enrollees' totals are credited for the years not present).

Funding:

ESSR funding has been allocated for MTSS and we are checking into whether MC qualifies. You can read about that [here](#).