



# Menomonie Middle School Newsletter

February/March 2020 Newsletter

## Mark Your Calendar

Wed. Feb 5: District Spelling Bee  
Thurs. Feb. 6: Orchestra to Pictures exhibition  
Thurs. Feb. 13: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4 – 7:30 pm  
Friday, Feb. 14: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade trip to Action City  
Tues. Feb. 18: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4 – 7:30 pm  
Wed. Feb. 19: Spring Pictures  
Fri. Feb. 21: No School!  
Fri. Feb. 28: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Tubing Trip  
Mon. March 2: 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Music Recruiting Day  
Tues. March 3: Instrument Tryout Night  
Sunday, March 8: Daylight Savings Time Starts  
March 9-13: Character Dare Week  
Mon. March 9: District Orchestra Concert at MHS  
March 16-20: Spring Break – No School!  
Tues. March 24: Family Night  
March 25 – March 31: Testing  
Wed. April 1: Last Day of Term 3  
Thurs. April 9: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Trip to Action City  
Fri. April 10: No School!  
Mon. April 13: PD Day, No School!

## Greetings from Principal Boettcher!

***Attitude + Effort = Success!***

***Together, we will find a solution for every learning need!***

The new semester can be a time of reflection as well as a time to look forward. If the first half of the school year did not go as well as planned there is plenty of time to make a positive change. Menomonie Middle School staff is here for all students. Our goal is to empower each student to reach their full potential. ***Sometimes students may need a little help this time of year. If this is true for you, please consider the following options:***

- **Contact your CARES teacher** – Our CARES program provides a teacher mentor for each student and parent/guardian. When tricky issues arise, communicating with your CARES teacher is usually the first step as we discover solutions.
- **Contact a teacher.** All teachers and staff members are ready, willing and able to help students and parents/guardians to explore ideas and solutions to support you. Many teachers offer academic support for students during lunch and/or after school.
- **Contact your guidance counselor.** Mrs. Sygulla, Mrs. Horner, and Mrs. Hugo have potential solutions for every problem! Don't hesitate to consult with our counselors. Success with learning and achievement at school is an important part of our job here at MMS!
- **Contact your principals.** Meeting the needs of students and parents/guardians is extremely important to us. Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to visit with one or both of us. You may visit in person or communicate by telephone or email.
- **Explore our MMS website and MMS Team pages.** Many teachers use Chromebook technology to provide helpful blogs, spaces, and educational links to help students and parents/guardians understand learning standards and assignments.
- **Review the weekly progress reports provided via email or have students show you on their chromebook.** Students are able to complete missing assignments during WIN each Wednesday.

- **Utilize Family Access.** Skyward Family Access is an online grading tool that enables students and parents/guardians to view grading practices per course. Typically, grades are recorded on a weekly basis. Viewing Family Access regularly avoids a grading surprise at report card time. Parents/guardians must acquire a password code to access this tool. Password codes can be acquired by calling the Technology Department at our district Administrative Center – 715-232–1642. If you do not have a computer, you may also use your smart phone or students Chromebook to access Family Access.
- **Get Involved** - Students who participate in extra-curricular activities often find a natural support group of friends and adults to support academic and emotional needs throughout the school year.
- **Have a growth mindset.** “I might not be able to do it yet, but with the right attitude and effort, I will achieve success!”



**Attitude + Effort = Success**  
**Bart Boettcher**



### Cell Phone/Electronics Usage Policy Reminder

Cell phones and electronics Menomonie Middle School strongly discourages students from bringing any cell phones or electronic devices to school. MMS does not assume responsibility for articles that are lost, stolen or damaged. If you bring an electronic device to school it should be turned off and stored in your locker prior to the start of the school day. Unless directed by a teacher/staff member, you cannot use an electronic device during the school day. (7:43 - 3:05)

Cell phone use/guidelines:

1. Cell phones are allowed in the commons before and after school.
2. Cell phones must be turned off and placed in their school assigned pod locker from 7:43-3:05.
3. After the bell rings at 3:05 pm, students may use their cell phone; however, cell phone use is not permitted in locker rooms or bathrooms.

Violations of Cell phone use/guidelines will result in the following:

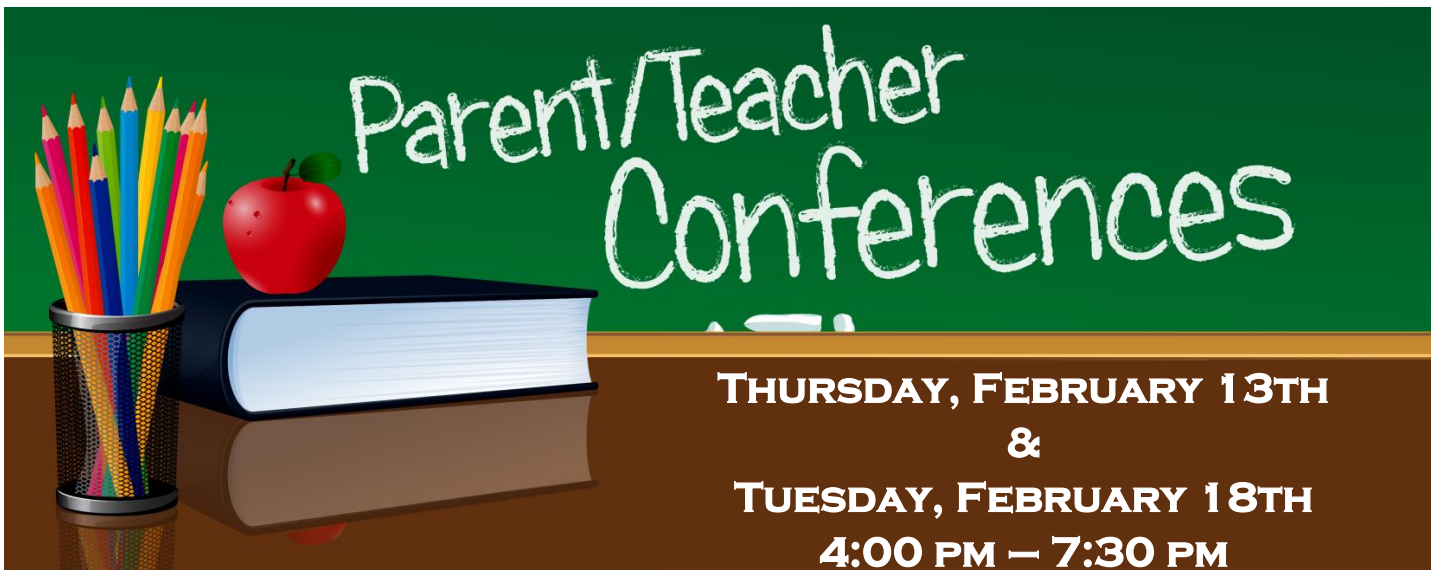
- 1st violation - Cell phone removed from student. Phone can be picked up in office at the end of the day.
- 2nd violation- Cell phone removed from student. Parent must pick up phone in the office.
- 3rd violation- Cell phone removed from student. Parent meeting with student and principal with possible disciplinary action.

Principals are authorized to establish school rules as long as the district acceptable use policy (Rule 362) is followed for limited, non-disruptive use of electronic devices during the school day, in the school building or during school activities for safety, medical, vocational or other legitimate reasons.

### Student Fees

All student fees must be paid in full by the end of the school year. Statements will be emailed out or mailed if your email is not up to date. Please check your student's fee under fee management in Family Access. Fees not paid by the end of the school year will roll over to the next year. If you qualify for free/reduced meals some of your fees may be waived, but paperwork must be filled out. Only current year fees can be waived. Some fees do not apply to the waiver. Please contact Tina at [tina\\_liestman@msd.k12.wi.us](mailto:tina_liestman@msd.k12.wi.us) or call (715) 232-1673 ext. 30111 with questions.





## **CONFERENCE PROCEDURES**

Conferences will be scheduled with your students CARES teacher. We will have scheduled conferences on the first ½ of every hour and then open times for all teachers the second ½ of every hour. Conferences are scheduled in 10 minute increments. **Example:** You are scheduled with your CARES teacher at 4:00pm. If you would like to visit with other teachers, you may stay and meet with any of those teachers between 4:30 and 5 pm. All of the open times are first come, first serve. If you are unable to meet with your CARES teacher during the assigned time, please let the teacher know so we can make adjustments as needed.

### **MMS PARENT/GUARDIAN ALLIANCE GROUP**

The MMS Parent/Guardian Alliance is a group of parents/guardians and teachers who actively foster a spirit of cooperation and a sense of support, pride and enthusiasm for education. Nurturing a sense of community and engagement for families is our ambition. Current Goals Include:

- \*Create opportunities to engage families with the middle level experience
- \*Provide academic and social support for our students and families
- \*Communicate, collaborate and connect
- \*Learn

Meetings will occur the first Tuesday every other month at 5:30. Email:

[MenomonieMSAlliance@gmail.com](mailto:MenomonieMSAlliance@gmail.com)

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 14 at 5:30 pm.



## **Spring Picture Day** **Wednesday, February 19**

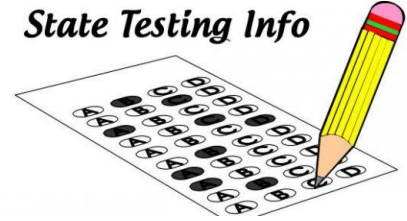
Spring pictures will be taken during CARES and 1<sup>st</sup> hour. Money envelopes must be turned in at the time your photo is taken. You can pick one up in the front office. You can also order ahead of picture day online at [mylifetouch.com](http://mylifetouch.com) using Picture Day ID: EVTJDH4R8



# No School Spring Break March 16-20

We will be State Testing March 25<sup>th</sup> – March 31<sup>st</sup>. We will be mailing out information soon. This is a very important time for our kids. Please make sure they get plenty of sleep and are eating foods high in nutrients. Attendance is important. Please try to schedule appointments after school if possible to avoid interruptions.

## State Testing Info



## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade Instrument Tryout Night



On Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, current 5<sup>th</sup> graders and parents/guardians are invited to Menomonie Middle School to our Instrument Tryout Night from 5pm – 7pm. This is a great opportunity to take a look at all the different instruments you can play at the Middle School. We hope to see you there!

## Incoming 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration

In the beginning of March, your student should be bringing home a 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration form. Please fill out your choice of music. Be sure to list your instrument choice for band and orchestra students. These forms should be returned to their teacher. The form is due no later than March 6<sup>th</sup>. Not every instrument request can be honored, but we will do our best to get students their first choice when possible. Please make sure you return this sheet to save your spot in the music class of your choice. Students that do not return forms will be placed by our scheduling staff.

# Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration

Current 6<sup>th</sup> grade students have received their registration form for next year. Forms were due on January 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have not completed your form, please do so right away and have your student bring it to the front office. We also have extra forms available in the front office. Students that do not turn in a registration form will be placed in a music class by our scheduling team.

# Incoming 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Registration

Current 7<sup>th</sup> grade students have received their registration form for next year. Forms were due on January 31<sup>st</sup>. If you have not completed your form, please do so right away and have your student bring it to the front office. We also have extra forms available in the front office. New for next year – our Exploratory courses will be semester long courses and you get to choose your courses! On the sheet, rank your choices. Scheduling staff will make every effort to meet all requests, but not all requests may be granted. You will also choose one music course. If you need an extra form, we have some available in the front office. Students that do not turn in registration form will be placed in classes by our scheduling team.



## Music Notes



Greetings from the MMS Music Department,

Please note the following dates and events that are coming up in the coming months for the middle school music department. If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Anderson (orchestra), Mrs. Enyeart (Choral), Mrs. Grubbe or Mr. Mackie (Band).

We would like to extend a welcome to Ms. Gloria Dorschner to the department who is currently sitting in for Mrs. Grubbe while she is away on maternity leave. Welcome Ms. Dorschner and congratulations Mrs. Grubbe! Ms. Dorschner graduated in December from UW-Eau Claire with a degree in K-12 Instrumental and General Music Education and a Certificate in Adaptive Music.

Parents, please feel free to like the MMS Music Boosters Facebook page! Please also consider joining our Menomonie Middle School Music Boosters!

- February 6<sup>th</sup> - Orchestra trip to the Minnesota Orchestra. All school day.
- March 9<sup>th</sup> - District orchestra Pops concert, MHS Commons 7:30PM
- April 4<sup>th</sup> - District solo and ensemble fest. Chippewa Falls HS, All day
- April 14<sup>th</sup> - Band and Orchestra Large Group Fest., 8<sup>th</sup> Grade., Memorial HS, Eau Claire
- April 23<sup>rd</sup> - Choir Large Group Fest. 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, MHS Auditorium
- May 2<sup>nd</sup> - State Solo and Ensemble Fest. All day, UWEC
- May 6<sup>th</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grade trip to Minnesota Orchestra, All day, Orchestra Hall
- May 9<sup>th</sup> - Spring Swing, MHS Commons
- May 15<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> grade trip to see "Frozen" at the Orpheum Theater.
- May 18<sup>th</sup> - 6-8 Orchestra Concert, MMS Gym
- May 21<sup>st</sup> - 6-8 Band Concert, MHS Auditorium
- May 26<sup>th</sup> - 6-8 Choir Concert, MHS Auditorium

Thank you for your continued support for MMS Music!

A blue oval logo with the words "FAMILY NIGHT" in yellow, bold, sans-serif capital letters. The oval is decorated with white stars and is set against a white background with a light gray checkered pattern.

# Menomonie Middle School Family Night

Tuesday, March 24th - 5:00 - 7:30PM

FREE light dinner served with a Dairy Queen Dilly Bar between 5:00 and 6:30 PM in the cafeteria.



**WHAT:** Family Night MMS Department Rotations

Come meet MMS Teachers, explore the pods, play games and take home free items from each rotation!

**WHERE:** Meet in the Cafeteria for dinner at 5PM, and then explore the Pods, Gym, and LMC for the rotations.

**WHEN:** 5:30 PM Passport Rotations Begin

One FREE passport per 5th - 8th grade student: pick up at sign in. Passports used to enter the end of the evening prize drawing (held in the cafeteria at 7:15) for several awesome prizes. Need not be present to win.

**WHO:** Students in 5th grade through 8th grade and Parents/Guardians & Family Members

family **FUN** night

**We're here to help you! Sometimes it can be confusing to know who to talk to. Here are a few of the main phone numbers and people to talk to.**

**Main School Number: (715) 232-1673**

**Attendance Secretary – Kelly Steinmeyer - ext. 30100**

Student will not be at school.

Student is leaving school early—appointment.

Student has a planned absence—vacation.

Have a question about your student's attendance.

**Nurse's Office – Amanda Eastvold —ext. 30103**

Student is sick and would like to leave school.

Questions regarding medications and plans.

**Food Service - Kari Sisko - (715) 232-2606 ext. 42124**

Food Service is located at the High School

Questions about lunch accounts

**Guidance Office – Mykayla Sygulla - ext. 30110**

Questions regarding students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Guidance Office - Nancy Horner - ext. 30112**

Questions regarding students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Guidance Office – Katherine Hugo - ext. 30108**

Questions regarding students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Main Office - Tina Liestman - ext. 30111**

Have a question about your student's fees—tech, print fee, athletic/club fees, etc.

**Parent/Family Online Access**

Online Family Access is available for all families in the district. To obtain a username and password, contact our district office at (715) 232-1642. Please, for security reasons, do NOT share your parent login with your child. Go to [www.sdmaonline.com](http://www.sdmaonline.com) and click on the **Family Access Login** link on the left side. You can access your child's attendance, grades, fees and lunch balance.

**Attendance Reminder**

Good school attendance is one predicator of academic success. All Menomonie Middle School students are required to be in attendance from 7:43 am to 3:05 pm. Additionally, students are reminded that they have a maximum of 10 school days that can be missed during the school year for personal illness, religious services, and family activities. If a student needs to attend an appointment during school hours, a note from a parent/guardian or that business office needs to be turned into the Attendance Office the morning of your appointment so we can get your student a pass and that it does not count against those 10 days. If your child is absent, please call the Attendance Office.



**Parents**

Sign up to receive daily announcements, newsletters, and other important updates. The link is available on the middle school website.



Go to Parents & Community, then to Parent Tools. You will see a drop down menu listing Daily Announcements. Click on that link. This will take you to the Middle School Announcements page. On the right side is a Subscribe button. Click on that and follow the prompts.

Please remember to update your information, emergency contacts, and fill out permission forms on Skyward Family Access for your student(s). This is important for field trip permission, student and bus code of conduct, video/photographing permission, computer network agreement, health services standing orders, and more. You can also pay online fees for the middle school and sports fees.

**Free and Reduced Lunch**

Families who may be experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to apply for the free and reduced lunch program. Guidelines change and family circumstances change as well. Applications are available in the middle school office, as well as the district office. Many times our families are struggling to make “ends meet” and if they are eligible for assistance, it could really help their family. In addition, students who meet free and reduced eligibility are often times eligible for other programs. However, if an application is not submitted, they cannot receive that service. To learn more about eligibility criteria or receive an application, contact the Food Service Office at (715) 232-2606 ext. 42124.



## **Lost and Found**

We accumulate many, many clothing items and lunch bags/boxes from the start of the school year. Please take the time to check our “Lost and Found” table when you are in the building. The “Lost and Found” is located in the hallway by the main office. Or even better, encourage your student to look for their missing items.



### **MMS IS A BULLY FREE SCHOOL ZONE**

Principals, teachers, counselors, and other staff members at Menomonie Middle School are always willing to listen to and consider the ideas, concerns, and needs of our students and parents/guardians. Several options for communication exist:

- **Talk to an adult you trust face to face**  
*Choose an adult staff member you trust and talk! We like talking with students and parents/guardians! If the adult you trust seems busy, ask to set up an appointment to share later.*
- **Call an Adult You Trust**  
*Using the telephone to communicate is perfectly OK!*
- **Write to an Adult You Trust**  
*If talking face to face or on the telephone is too hard, write a message to an adult you trust. Written messages can be delivered to an office or classroom. We will respond to you in a timely manner.*
- **Use Our MMS Idea Box**  
*Written messages can be dropped off in our Idea Boxes located in the middle school hallways. Paper forms are available next to each box.*
- **Send an Email to an Adult You Trust**  
*Sending an email to an adult you trust is a safe and easy way to share. We will respond in a timely manner.*



**All students should feel safe at school! No concern is too small! “Stand up” for yourself and “stand up” for your friends and peers. Together, we can eliminate bullying in our school!**

### **Do You Have Questions About How to Use “Skyward Family Access”?**

If you have questions about how to use our Skyward grading data base “Family Access”, you are not alone. Parents/guardians often have questions or difficulty when navigating this site. Do not hesitate to contact our front office for guidance when this occurs. We are ready and willing to assist you. To login to Family Access, go to the Parents & Community tab, go to Parent Tools and a drop down menu will come up with Skyward Family Access on it. Click on this option to access Family Access.





# BOXTOPS

**Thanks for your continued support for our school!**

*THE NEXT GENERATION OF [BOX TOPS](#) IS HERE! *Box Tops* is changing to fit today's families. The new and improved *Box Tops* mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt, find participating products and instantly add [Box Tops](#) to your school's earnings online.*



**SCAN:** If you see this label, do not send it to school. Use the new [Box Tops App](#) to scan your store receipt within 14 days of purchase. The app will find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to your school's earnings online.



**CLIP:** Traditional Box Tops clips are being phased out of production, but you can still send unexpired clips to school. Every valid Box Tops clip is worth 10¢.  
*The collection bin is located in the office.*

Download the [BOXTOP APP](#) now!!!

## **Earn Money for Our School!**

### Shoparoo

Turn your shopping receipts into donations for our school. Just download the Shoparoo app and select the school you want to receive the donation. Just download the Shoparoo app and start scanning your receipts.

Shop: Shop for any product, at any store

Snap: Take a picture of your receipts

Earn: Shoparoo donates to your school



Where does the donation money come from? Their founders are former teachers and retail executives who have found a novel way of matching schools' need for financial support with major consumer brands' need for market research. When you use the Shoparoo app to raise money for your school, your receipt data along with any answers you provide to optional surveys is made anonymous and summarized in market research reports that brands purchase. All research data remains anonymous, and this enables them to give money back to schools!



## Dunn County Health Department

3001 US Highway 12 East  
Suite 032  
Menomonie, WI 54751  
715-232-2388  
fax: 715-232-1132  
TTY: 715-232-1116  
www.co.dunn.wi.us

January 16, 2020

Dear Parents and Staff,

The Dunn County Health Department is working with the school district to get the word out about an increase in illness with several different germs in our community. Norovirus, pertussis and seasonal influenza are all making people sick in our community right now. Here's what you need to know keep your school community safe and healthy.

**Norovirus:** This germ spreads really easily and is often called the "stomach bug". While the vomiting, diarrhea and chills will usually go away on their own, it can cause dehydration in the very young and very old. People can pass on the germ for up to two weeks after they feel better, but it is more likely in the first 48 hours' symptom free.

**Pertussis:** This germ is also known as "whooping cough". Whooping cough is spread through direct contact with someone that is sick with a cough. It starts like a cold with a cough. It gets much worse over the next 1-2 weeks. The coughing fits can get so bad that it is hard to breathe or make people vomit. Babies can't get the shot that prevents whooping cough and they are at high risk for serious illness if they are exposed to the germ. This germ is treated with antibiotics.

**Seasonal Influenza:** This year's flu germ is really hitting young adults and children hard. We have seen several hospitalizations here in Dunn County and Wisconsin had its first child die due to flu last week. When you get your flu shot, you are much less likely to get sick with flu. Even if you don't normally get a shot, consider getting one this year. The shot helps you, your family, your coworkers and your community stay healthy.

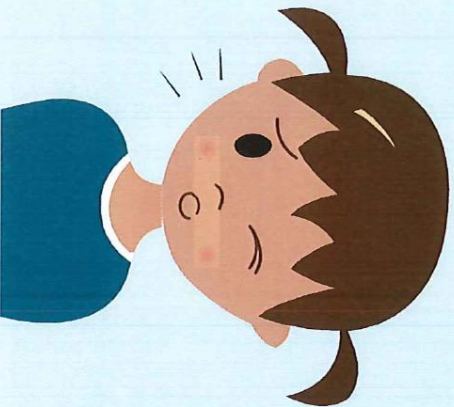
Stay healthy by washing your hands often and keeping you and your family up to date on your shots. If you do get sick, cough and sneeze into your elbow, wash your hands and of course stay home following the district's guidelines. See the attached sheets from the Wisconsin Department of Health for more information. If you still have questions, talk to your medical provider or give call us at 715-232-2388 (#8).

Respectfully,

KT Gallagher, MPA  
Director/Health Officer

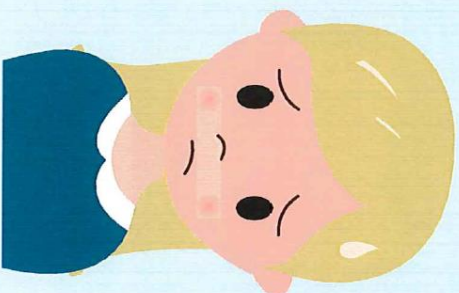
*The mission of the Dunn County Health Department is to promote the health of all people in the community by working toward a safe and healthy environment, preventing disease and disability and promoting positive health practices.*

# WHEN IS SICK TOO SICK FOR SCHOOL?



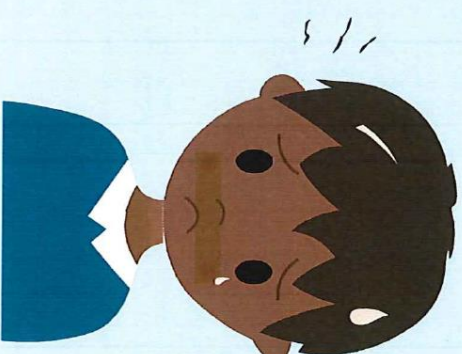
## Send me to school if...

- I have a runny nose or just a little cough, but no other symptoms.
- I haven't taken any fever reducing medicine for 24 hours, and I haven't had a fever during that time.
- I haven't thrown up or had any diarrhea for 24 hours.



## Keep me at home if...

- I have a temperature higher than 100 degrees even after taking medicine.
- I'm throwing up or have diarrhea.
- My eyes are pink and crusty.



## Call the doctor if...

- I have a temperature higher than 100 degrees for more than two days.
- I've been throwing up or have diarrhea for more than two days.
- I've had the sniffles for more than a week, and they aren't getting better.
- I still have asthma symptoms after using my asthma medicine (and call 911 if I'm having trouble breathing after using an inhaler).



Adapted with permission from Baltimore City Public Schools.

# Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



## Short Stops

### Stay informed

Want to connect with your child's school on social media? Make sure to select the official page so you'll know the information is trustworthy. Click on social media icons on the school district's website, or contact the office to ask for links.

### Special siblings

A youngster with disabilities can require extra time and energy from parents. To help your other children feel important, too, try to give them some undivided attention each day. For example, you might play a board game in the evening or have a one-on-one talk before bed.

### A taste of learning

Encourage your middle grader to "chew on" information he learns—just like he would a tasty snack! For instance, rather than simply memorizing the First Amendment to the Constitution, he could mull over ways he has used his right to free speech or to "peaceably assemble." Perhaps he wrote a letter to the editor or went with you to a rally.

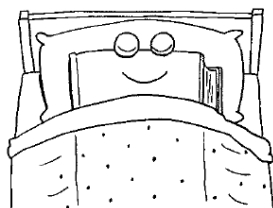
### Worth quoting

"It takes as much energy to wish as it does to plan." *Eleanor Roosevelt*

### Just for fun

**Q:** Where do books sleep?

**A:** Under their covers.



## Ways to manage stress

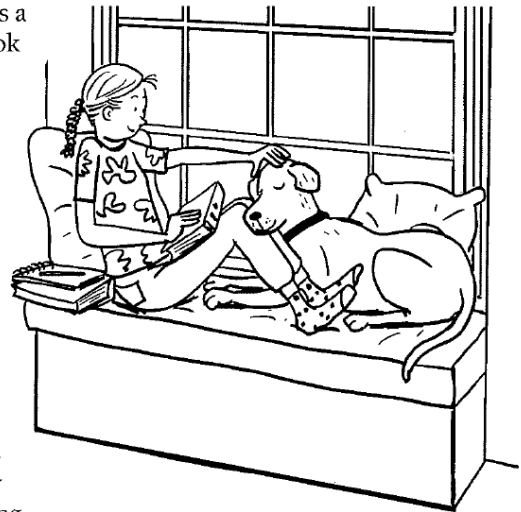
Anna, a typical middle grader, has a lot on her plate: schoolwork, yearbook committee, and sports. While she gets stressed from time to time, she uses strategies like these to cope—and your tween can, too.

### Reduce triggers

Encourage your child to make a list of what stressed her out this week. *Examples:* "taking a pop quiz," "preparing for the student council meeting." Suggest that she identify what's behind the stressors (being unprepared, leaving things until the last minute) and plan ways to overcome them. She could review her notes each evening or start getting ready for meetings sooner, for instance.

### Offer ideas

Share ways you deal with stressors such as a train delay or a computer problem. Maybe you look at a photo of a loved one or picture a peaceful scene like falling snow. Then ask your tween to name ways she could work through her stress, like taking deep breaths or snuggling with her dog.



### Turn to others

Let your middle grader know that she can come to you when she's stressed. Also have her think of other people she could turn to, such as friends, her school counselor, or her coach. She can talk about what's bothering her and learn strategies for dealing with it.

*Note:* If stress seems to be interfering with your child's daily life, talk to her pediatrician. 👍

## A+ attendance

The first step toward doing well in school is to show up! As the school year continues, encourage your child to keep up good attendance with these tips.

■ **Set expectations.** Weave comments into your conversations that make it clear how important you consider attendance. ("I scheduled your dentist appointment for 3:30 p.m. so you won't miss anything in 7th-period science.")

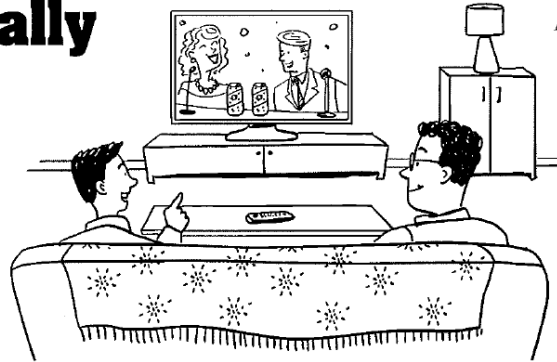
■ **Know school policy.** If your middle grader misses school because he's sick, use the policy to help you decide when he can return. For instance, if he has been fever-free for the required amount of time and feels better, he could go back to school. 👍



# Think critically about ads

Evaluating advertisements is an important part of being a critical thinker and a savvy consumer. Share this advice with your middle grader.

**Product placement.** When you and your child watch TV or movies, try to spot brand names. Maybe the judges on his favorite talent show always drink a certain brand of soda.



Ask why he thinks that is. Do all the judges just happen to like it? Maybe—but the soda company pays the show to feature the product. Can your tween figure out the unstated message? (If famous people drink it, maybe he should, too!) He'll learn that ads aren't always obvious and start to think more critically about them.

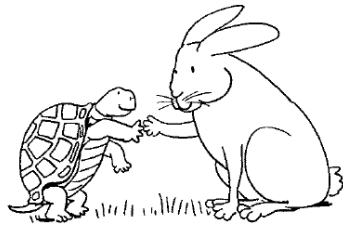
**Targeted advertising.** Did your tween ever look up a sports team online, then see an ad for game tickets on another site? Web browsers use "cookies" to determine who gets which ads. Your middle grader should consider who the advertiser is (perhaps a ticket reseller), why he's seeing the ad (he's a fan of the team), and what isn't stated (how much tickets are marked up). 👍

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## Q&A Changing friendships

**Q** My daughter seems to have a different best friend every week. Is that normal for this age?

**A** Friendships can change frequently in middle school. It's typical for kids to out-grow relationships and to feel closer to one friend than to another as their interests and maturity levels change.



Let your daughter know that no matter who her "best" friend is, she can remain friends with many people. Mention the various social circles in your own life, such as your book club friends, work buddies, and college roommates.

Also, remind your child to treat everyone kindly, including classmates she may have grown apart from. Remaining friendly will leave the door open for spending more time together in the future. 👍



## Practical writing

Writing isn't just something your tween does in school—it's important in daily life, too. Encourage her to practice different types of writing at home with these activities.

### To inform

Your child could interview relatives about their jobs. What does a typical day on the job look like? What do they like best about their work? She can write and share a "Who's Who" to help family members learn more about each other. *Example:* "Aunt Cora is an optometric assistant, which means she works alongside eye doctors. Her favorite part of her job is helping patients pick out glasses." 👍



### To entertain

Suggest that your middle grader write a script for a silly skit. She can include dialogue and stage directions (notes that tell actors what to do). Encourage her to consider her audience—if her skit is for younger siblings, what will they find funny? Then, she and her friends could practice the skit and perform it for their audience. 👍

## Parent to Parent Take pride in your work

This year, my son Aidan started rushing through his assignments and making careless mistakes. I wanted him to take pride in his work like he did when he was younger, so I had an idea.

I pulled out a storage bin full of papers and projects we'd saved from Aidan's elementary school years. We took a nice trip down memory lane as we

admired stories he'd written, pictures he'd drawn, and tests he'd done well on. Seeing his old papers made Aidan realize how nice it feels to be proud of your work.

Now Aidan has started saving his middle school work, too. I'm not seeing as many careless errors—I can tell he's trying harder. I know we'll enjoy looking through his collection when he's in high school! 👍



**OUR PURPOSE**

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

Resources for Educators, a division of CCH Incorporated  
 128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630  
 800-394-5052 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com  
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# Congratulations to our MMS students!

## MMS Exceeds Expectations!

FINAL - PUBLIC REPORT - FOR PUBLIC RELEASE

November 12th, 2019



### Menomonie Middle Menomonie Area | Public - All Students School Report Card | 2018-19 | Summary

**Overall Score**

**75.7**

★★★★★  
Exceeds Expectations

Overall Accountability Ratings	Score
Significantly Exceeds Expectations	83-100 ★★★★★
Exceeds Expectations	73-82.9 ★★★★☆
Meets Expectations	63-72.9 ★★★☆☆
Meets Few Expectations	53-62.9 ★★☆☆☆
Fails to Meet Expectations	0-52.9 ★☆☆☆☆

Priority Areas	School Score	Max Score	6-8 State	6-8 Max
<b>Student Achievement</b>	<b>64.7/100</b>		<b>61.3/100</b>	
English Language Arts (ELA) Achievement	34.4/50		32.2/50	
Mathematics Achievement	30.3/50		29.1/50	
<b>School Growth</b>	<b>71.8/100</b>		<b>66.0/100</b>	
English Language Arts (ELA) Growth	37.8/50		33.0/50	
Mathematics Growth	34.0/50		33.0/50	
<b>Closing Gaps</b>	<b>78.7/100</b>		<b>73.9/100</b>	
English Language Arts (ELA) Achievement Gaps	41.7/50		36.7/50	
Mathematics Achievement Gaps	37.0/50		37.2/50	
Graduation Rate Gaps	NA/NA		NA/NA	
<b>On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness</b>	<b>86.3/100</b>		<b>85.5/100</b>	
Graduation Rate	NA/NA		NA/NA	
Attendance Rate	74.2/80		74.1/80	
3rd Grade English Language Arts (ELA) Achievement	NA/NA		NA/NA	
8th Grade Mathematics Achievement	12.1/20		11.4/20	

Priority Area Weights	Percentage Weight
Student Achievement	21.0%
School Growth	29.0%
Closing Gaps	25.0%
On-Track and Postsecondary Readiness	25.0%

Note: For details about how weights are determined, see weighting calculator:  
[https://oea-dpi.shinyapps.io/overall\\_weighting\\_calculator/](https://oea-dpi.shinyapps.io/overall_weighting_calculator/)

**School Information**

Grades	6-8
School Type	Middle School
Enrollment	744
Percent Open Enrollment	1.9%
<b>Race/Ethnicity</b>	
American Indian or Alaskan Native	0.4%
Asian	8.3%
Black or African American	0.8%
Hispanic/Latino	3.2%
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	0.4%
White	81.9%
Two or More Races	5.0%
<b>Student Groups</b>	
Students with Disabilities	14.9%
Economically Disadvantaged	41.0%
English Learners	4.3%

Student Engagement Indicators	Total Deductions: 0
Absenteeism Rate (goal <13%)	Goal met: no deduction
Dropout Rate (goal <6%)	Goal met: no deduction

**Test Participation Information**

Includes Forward Exam (grades 3-8), ACT Aspire (9 and 10), ACT (11), and Dynamic Learning Maps (3-11)

Group	ELA 1-Year	ELA 3-Year	Math 1-Year	Math 3-Year
All-Students Rate	97.2%	98.4%	97.0%	98.4%
Lowest Subgroup Rate: SwD	90.3%	95.5%	90.3%	95.5%

^ denotes at least a 10-point Overall Score change in a single year when present. Wisconsin DPI considers this amount of change an outlier which may not reflect the actual magnitude of change in performance.

# Thank you for all of your hard work!



## Promoting Good Attendance All Winter Long



Every winter, bad weather — snow, slush, freezing temperatures or even heavy rains in warmer climates — can present challenges to getting children to school. So do the colds, fevers and earaches that often come with the winter months.

### WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?



#### 1. Develop back up plans for getting your children to school in bad weather.

- a. Check to see if your child can get a ride with other families who have a reliable car that can manage the snow.
- b. Form a “walking school bus” with other families to get students to school safely.
- c. Join other families in a snow shovel brigade to clear the sidewalks closest to the school.
- d. Ask if school administrators have developed plans for transporting students.

#### 2. Keep your children healthy.

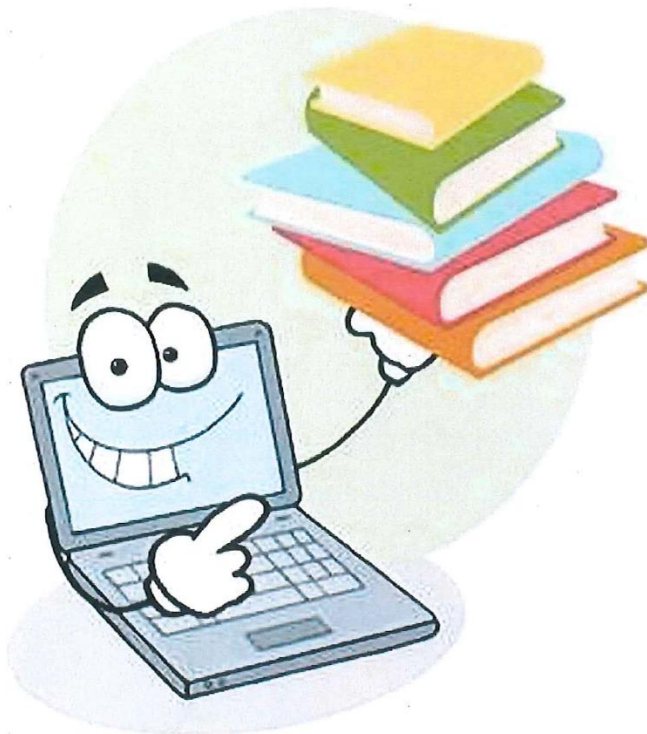
- a. Dress them warmly for the cold weather.
- b. Stress the importance of eating a good breakfast every morning.
- c. Stress hand washing, particularly in the winter months. Send your child to school with a small bottle of hand sanitizer. Research shows that something as simple as hand washing can improve attendance.
- d. Talk to your doctor or school nurse about when a sick child should come to school. Most health providers allow a child to attend with a cold, but not with a fever.

## HomeNet.

*...for your homework*

Does your child or a child you know need help with internet access for schoolwork?

Well then all aboard the information superhighway! HomeNet. can provide internet access in your home during the school year for studying and homework. Limited availability, so apply with Foundation for Rural Housing for HomeNet. today!



### Qualifications:

- Must have at least 1 child in middle or high school
- Must be under the 80% county median income
- Must have access to a device that is internet accessible

Applications can be found at:

[www.wisconsinruralhousing.org](http://www.wisconsinruralhousing.org)

Please contact Emily with questions.

(608) 291-2608

[eschroer@wisconsinruralhousing.org](mailto:eschroer@wisconsinruralhousing.org)





FOUNDATION FOR RURAL HOUSING, INC.

**RELEASE OF INFORMATION**

I authorize the release of information and verification of any and all information necessary regarding my/our pension, social security, or other benefits or income received to verify income. I further authorize the Foundation for Rural Housing, Inc., to obtain verification of any and all information necessary regarding my/our: rental history, property ownership, mortgage standing, assets, gas and electric utility usage and billing information. I authorize the release of such information to the Foundation for Rural Housing, Inc.

I specifically authorize the Foundation for Rural Housing, Inc., to speak to:

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I/We understand that this information will be kept confidential by Foundation for Rural Housing, Inc. and will be used solely for the purpose of determining eligibility for participation in our grant or loan programs.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Applicant signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

**This Release of Information is valid 6 months from the date of signature. After this time a new application and release of information will be required.**

**CERTIFICATION**

I/We certify that the information provided in this application made by me and other household members and attachments are true, complete and correct to the best of my/our knowledge. I/We further understand that false statements will void this application and disqualify me from receiving any housing assistance through the Foundation for Rural Housing, Inc., in the future.

I understand if I/We qualify for any financial assistance we are eligible only once every 3 years for this assistance.

I understand that if my application is for Security Deposit assistance, that any balance of that Security Deposit when moving out will be returned to the Foundation for Rural housing.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Co-Applicant signature Date \_\_\_\_\_

FOUNDATION FOR RURAL HOUSING, INC.

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**MONTHLY INCOME**  
**WE MUST RECEIVE PROOF OF INCOME FOR CURRENT JOB**

	MONTHLY INCOME BEFORE ANYTHING IS TAKEN OUT		
<b>WAGES FROM WORK</b> Member #1	Jan. _____	Feb. _____	March _____
	April _____	May _____	June _____
	July _____	Aug. _____	Sept. _____
	Oct. _____	Nov. _____	Dec. _____
<b>WAGES FROM WORK</b> Member #2	Jan. _____	Feb. _____	March _____
	April _____	May _____	June _____
	July _____	Aug. _____	Sept. _____
	Oct. _____	Nov. _____	Dec. _____
<b>WAGES FROM WORK</b> Member #3	Jan. _____	Feb. _____	March _____
	April _____	May _____	June _____
	July _____	Aug. _____	Sept. _____
	Oct. _____	Nov. _____	Dec. _____
<b>CHILD SUPPORT Rc'd</b>	\$ _____		
<b>W2</b>	\$ _____		
<b>PENSION/RETIREMENT</b>	Member # _____	\$ _____	
<b>DISABILITY PAYMENTS</b>	Member # _____	\$ _____	
<b>SELF EMPLOYMENT</b>	Member # _____	\$ _____	
<b>UNEMPLOYMENT</b>	Member # _____	\$ _____	
<b>OTHER INCOME</b>	Member # _____	\$ _____	

- We use gross income for all programs

Are you interested in budgeting coaching? YES                      NO

If you are searching for other types of assistance, please list your current needs:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_