



Menomonie Middle School Newsletter

March/April 2019



Mark Your Calendar

March 10: Daylight Savings Time
March 12: BINGO @ Stout Ale House 7-9 pm
March 15: 7th Grade Music Trip
March 18: Tasha Schuh Assembly
March 19: State Testing Begins
March 19: Family Night
March 21: Orchestra "Pop"
March 25-29: Spring Break! No School!
April 2: Parent/Guardian Alliance Meeting, 5:30 pm
April 5: Spring Pictures
April 6: 8th Grade Music Trip
April 11: Instrument Rental Night 4-7 pm
April 15: Band-A-Rama @ High School
April 19: No School!
April 25: 8th Grade Choir to Large Group Festival
April 26: Earth Day Activities
May 13: Orchestra Concert
May 16: MMS Play at Mable Tainter
May 16: Band Concert
May 22: Retirement Mixer
May 23: Choir Concert
May 27: No School!
May 30: European Fair
June 7: Last day of school! (tentative)

*Please note – Some dates have been changed due to snow days. Please be sure to watch for rescheduled events.

GREETINGS FROM PRINCIPAL BOETTCHER!

Welcome to a Winter Wonderland!

"Oh..... The weather outside is frightful but the halls of the Middle School are so delightful...." The weather has certainly caused a lot of disruption in our schedule but our students and staff have handled all the change very well. The students and staff have been very resilient and flexible. Please note on your calendar that we will have school on April 22 and the last day of school, as of today is June 7th. In addition, we have added 15 minutes of instruction to each school day. Classes now begin at 7:38am and the school day ends at 3:05pm.

Please call us if you have any questions or concerns.

Attitude + Effort = Success
Principal Bart Boettcher

State Testing Info



We will be State Testing March 19th – April 18th. 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.

WELCOME 5TH GRADE STUDENTS!

The transition has begun!

All 5th grade students have received a pink registration form. Each 5th grade student is to complete this form – choosing a music course for the 2019-20 school year. Registration forms are due to 5th grade homeroom teachers by Thursday, March 7. A parent/guardian signature is required on this form.

We also had an instrument tryout night where students could come to the middle school and try various types of instruments to get a feel of what they would enjoy playing.

What's next? MMS invites all 5th grade students and their families to join us on Tuesday, March 19 for MMS Family Night! At 5:30 we will begin a school-wide passport of rotations; whereby students and their families may visit each department (Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Exploratory, Music and Physical Education) to enjoy a fun activity and meet our teachers and specialists! Food will be served from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm. Prizes will be drawn at 7:15 pm.

Check your calendar! We hope you can join us for an evening of social fun and exploration!

The transition to 6th grade will continue with summer orientation to be held in August 2019! Watch our MMS website, future newsletters, and the US mail for more information about orientation! Our MMS newsletter is available online.

Several dates and times will be available for 5th grade students and their parents/guardians to attend. The purpose of orientation will be to review a middle school schedule, tour our MMS school building, practice using combination locks to open and close lockers, listen to information about middle school life, ask questions, and explore!



Registration for the 2019-20 school year has begun! Students received registration forms in CARES. The 7th grade forms are yellow. The 8th grade forms are green. All registration forms are due with parent/guardian signature by Thursday, March 7. Registration forms should be returned to your CARES teacher. Extra forms are available in the front office upon request.



FAMILY NIGHT

Tuesday, March 19 - 5:00 - 7:30 PM

**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,
explore the Pods, Gym and LMC for the rotations.**

A DJ will be playing for us from 5:00 - 7:15 PM.

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 the 5th grade through 8th
grade, parents/guardians and family members**





No School
Spring Break
March 25-29

Student Fees

All student fees must be paid in full by the end of the school year. Statements are sent out electronically or by mail 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 or call (715) 232-1673 ext. 30111.



Lost and Found

If your child has misplaced something at the Middle School, there is a *Lost and Found* table in the hallway by the office. Please encourage your child to check this location to claim lost items. The PE Dept. has their own *Lost and Found* table in each of the locker rooms. We accumulate many, many items during the year.



MMS Newsletter is Green!



Our newsletter is posted on the Middle School website and you can receive it via email if you are signed up to receive daily announcements and your email is up to date in Family Access. We do keep a few paper copies in the front office and you may pick one up if you'd like.

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 pm.

Email: MenomonieMSAlliance@gmail.com

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 2nd at 5:30 pm.



EUROPEAN FAIR!

The 7th grade social studies students will be putting on their annual European Fair on Thursday, May 30th from 3:30 – 5:00 pm in the gym. All are invited to attend.



Art Project Donations Needed...

We are in need of wooden chairs for an art project for our classroom (no cloth seats). Currently we need 13 chairs. Chairs need to be sturdy. We will be painting them and using them in our classroom. Chairs can be dropped off at the Menomonie Middle School. Please contact Lori Brenner for more information @ lori_brenner@msd.k12.wi.us.



Gentle Reminders from the Health Office...



The health office is still seeing a number of illnesses, including GI illness and upper respiratory infections.

There have been cases of norovirus (a GI illness) and influenza in the community. Both are VERY contagious. Please do not send your child back to school until these symptoms have been resolved for **48 hours**.

Please Continue To:

- Wash your hands frequently
- Stay home if you have vomiting or diarrhea until symptoms have resolved, **medication free**, for **48 hours**
- Stay home if you have a fever, until fever has resolved for **24 hours** without fever reducing medication.
- Eat nutrient dense foods and drink lots of water
- Continue to exercise! The CDC recommends 60 minutes or more of moderate to vigorous physical exercise daily for young adults
- Remember to disinfect uncommon surfaces like keyboards, phones, steering wheels of cars, etc.
- Be up to date on immunizations. It's not too late to get a flu shot!



There have been cases of head lice in the community. Please check your child's head for nits or live bugs. Please treat your child's head with a head lice product according to the directions. If you have any questions contact your health care provider, Dunn County Public Health Department, or the school health office.

MARCH

12



BINGO

Stout Ale House
7pm - 9pm

Come support the Menomonie School District's Special Education Program with a fun night of Bingo! Proceeds will go towards field trips and community outings to help our students practice a variety of different social, community, and life skills. \$10 for a book of cards to play all night or \$1 per card per game.

**BINGO DAUBERS WILL BE
AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

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!

COLLECTION CORNER!

ATTENTION!!!

Milk Caps program is ending!

Please turn in by March 15th!!!

Thanks for your continued support collecting and bringing in BOXTOPS & MILKCAPS for our school!

The *time* and *effort* you give will help those in *Job Skills class* learn skills for the working world. Plus money for our school - it's a WIN WIN!



Go online to win [Bonus Box Tops](#) in one of the many sweepstakes they offer for our school! Boxtops are found on a lot of items in your refrigerator, freezer or pantry and much much more! **Cut them out & bring them in!!**

Kwik Trip MILK MOOLA is ending!!

Please turn in the caps and labels by March 15th!!!

Kwik Trip MILK MOOLA caps and bag top labels can earn 5¢ for each one you bring in to our school. Please rinse the marked milk caps (leave labels on milk caps) &/or **cut out the whole 5¢ strip top bag label and bring them in for our school!**

The collection bin is located in the office.

Thanks for your support!

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/Judy Olson —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 - Jason Mountin - ext. 30108

Questions regarding students with last name beginning A-L

Guidance Office - Nancy Horner - ext. 30112

Questions regarding students with last name beginning M-Z.

Main Office - Tina Liestman—ext. 30111

Have a question about your student's fees—lock fee, athletic/club fees, device charges, etc. Waiver inquires can also be made.

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 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 7:38 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 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.



Allergy Aware School



MMS Is Tree Nut / Peanut Allergy Aware

Severe allergies related to tree nuts and peanuts and other related food products are on the rise. To protect the health and safety of all students who experience this type of life-threatening allergic reaction to tree nuts, peanuts, and/or products containing trace elements of these nuts- **MMS is a tree nut / peanut aware school zone.** Students and families are reminded to refrain from the consumption or use of nuts at MMS. Your awareness and cooperation could save a human life!

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.





summer STEAM experience

JUNE 16-20, 2019

Choose from tracks in Art & Design or STEM and have the opportunity to do cross-discipline activities! Be a part of campus life and eat lunch in the cafeteria.

For students going into 8th - 12th grades

Day Camp | No Cost

Full Overnight Camp | \$150

Tracks include:

- Classical Drawing Techniques and 'Zine Making
- Video Game Design
- 3D Animation
- Board Game Workshop
- Materials & Process, Exploring Sculpture
- 3D Printing & Jewelry
- Industrial Design
- The Infinite World of Plastics:
Materials, Molds and Processing
- 3D Modeling
- Becoming a Teacher in a STEAM Field
- Human Anatomy Exploration
- Manufacturing Automation
- More to be announced

In partnership with: 
Menomonie Area

**FOR MORE
INFORMATION, CONTACT:**

Anna McCabe

mccabea@uwstout.edu

715-232-5484

www.uwstout.edu/steam

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
STOUT





SOMETIMES
THE ROAD LESS
TRAVELED
ISN'T A ROAD
AT ALL.

When it comes to adventure, you just have to get your feet wet. Join Scouts BSA and learn the skills you need to make waves in the world.

[SIGN UP AT BEASCOUT.ORG](https://www.bsa-cvc.org)

SCOUT ME IN



For the first time, girls in grades 5-12 are invited to join the adventure of Scouts BSA!

Join Troop 103 for outdoor adventures such as hiking, kayaking, sailing, camping, shooting sports, and more. Earn the prestigious Eagle Scout award, joining thousands of other leaders.

Join us for a meeting to learn more, Troop 103 meets each Monday at Christ Lutheran Church at 6:45pm.

For more information, contact Matt Dienger at 715-563-3354 or mdienger@bsamail.org

Join the adventure now! Check us out online at [bsa-cvc.org](https://www.bsa-cvc.org)

Scouting is for everyone.

Join the program. Build an adventure.

www.BeAScout.org

What is Scouts BSA?

For the first time in its 100+ year history, the iconic program of the Boy Scouts of America will be open to young women.

Scouts BSA is a year-round program for boys and girls ages 11 through 17 that provides fun, adventure, learning, challenge, and responsibility to help them become the best version of themselves.

In Scouts BSA, young men and women go places, test themselves, and have one-of-a-kind adventures that can't be found anywhere else.

Why Scouts BSA?

Scouting builds character and instills values for a lifetime.



ADVENTURE

Scouts BSA is an introduction to the great outdoors for boys and girls ages 11 through 17 and, most important, a lesson about their place in it.



LEADERSHIP

Scouting builds leaders. Former Scouts serve on the boards of global corporations, walk the halls of the White House, and have been known to go hiking on the moon occasionally. Life lessons learned in Scouting will help all of its members make good decisions throughout life.



SERVICE

The Scout slogan is Do a Good Turn Daily. That means doing something to help others each day without expecting anything in return. It implies that Scouts do their part in caring for the community and the environment.



PERSONAL GROWTH

As Scouts plan activities and progress towards goals, they experience personal growth. Young men and women grow by participating in community service projects and by doing a Good Turn Daily.

NOROVIRUS



Norovirus is a virus that causes vomiting, diarrhea, and abdominal cramping. Norovirus is often incorrectly referred to as “the stomach flu”; however, norovirus illness is not related to the flu (influenza), which causes respiratory symptoms. Norovirus causes approximately 20 million illnesses each year in the United States. Anyone can get norovirus infection and become sick. There are many different types of noroviruses; having a norovirus infection once does not mean you will not get it again during your lifetime.

How is it spread?



- ▶ The virus is found in the stool or vomit of someone infected with norovirus from the time symptoms start until at least 48 hours after symptoms end, and probably longer.
- ▶ The virus can be on a person’s hands and spread to others, which is why handwashing is important.
- ▶ It can be spread by eating food or drink that has been contaminated with norovirus as well as touching objects with norovirus on them (e.g., shaking hands with an infected person, touching a doorknob that has norovirus on it) and then touching your mouth.
- ▶ Norovirus can survive on surfaces for 14 days or longer.

What are the signs and symptoms?

Symptoms usually begin 12-48 hours after becoming infected with the virus and can include:



Common symptoms:

- ▶ Vomiting (more common in children)
- ▶ Watery, non-bloody diarrhea
- ▶ Stomach cramps

Occasional symptoms:

- ▶ Low-grade fever
- ▶ Headache
- ▶ Chills
- ▶ Muscle aches
- ▶ Fatigue

What are the treatment options?



- ▶ There is no treatment for norovirus; people usually recover on their own 2-3 days after symptoms start.
- ▶ Drinking plenty of liquids is important to replace fluid loss and to make sure the body does not become dehydrated.

How can it be prevented?

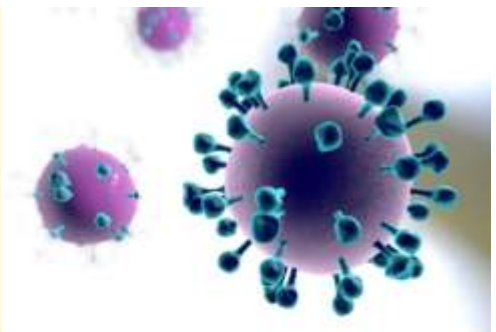


- ▶ Handwashing is the most important step to prevent the spread of norovirus. It is essential to wash hands after using the restroom and before touching food.
- ▶ Anyone with diarrhea or vomiting should stay home from work or school until symptoms are gone in order to prevent spreading norovirus to others.
- ▶ People with diarrhea or who are vomiting should not handle food, work in or attend day care centers or schools, or take care of patients in a health care facility until **48 hours after their symptoms are gone**.
- ▶ No vaccine is available to prevent norovirus infections.



INFLUENZA

(FLU)



Flu is an illness caused by the influenza virus. Flu goes around every year, with some years being worse than others. In the U.S. it is more common in the fall and winter. People of all ages can get the flu, from babies and young adults, to the elderly. Some people get very sick and others do not. Many of the people who get very sick are older than 65 years or have a medical condition such as: diabetes, heart disease, asthma, kidney disease, or are pregnant. People who live in long-term care facilities and children younger than 5 years of age are also at greater risk. It is important to remember that young, healthy people can also become very sick.



How is it spread?

- ▶ People with the flu can spread it to others when they cough or sneeze. The virus is found in droplets from the throat and nose. When someone coughs or sneezes, those droplets can be breathed in by people around them.
- ▶ The virus can also spread when someone touches an object with the virus on it. If that person then uses their hands to touch their face, mouth, or eyes, the virus can make them sick.



What are the signs and symptoms?

Symptoms usually start 1-4 days after breathing in flu virus droplets. Severe complications from the flu are pneumonia, hospitalization, and death.

- ▶ Fever
- ▶ Runny or stuffy nose
- ▶ Headache
- ▶ Body aches
- ▶ Tiredness
- ▶ Sore throat



What are the treatment options?

- ▶ Antibiotics do not work against the flu. Most people with the flu will get better on their own without any medicine. Taking pain relievers, getting extra rest, and drinking fluids can help lessen symptoms.
- ▶ Prescription medications called influenza antivirals can help treat the flu. These drugs can help you feel better faster and make the symptoms less intense. For these drugs to work best, they need to be started within two days after you get sick with the flu.



How can it be prevented?

- ▶ **The best way to prevent the flu is to get a flu shot each fall.** This shot is safe for those 6 months of age and older.
- ▶ Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if you do not have soap and water.
- ▶ Use a tissue to cover your nose and mouth when you cough or sneeze, and then throw the tissue away. If you do not have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your sleeve.
- ▶ Do not share anything you put in your mouth, such as drinking cups, straws, or eating utensils.
- ▶ Stay home from work or school if you are feeling sick to not spread the flu to others.



What If My Child Gets Head Lice?

If you suspect your child might have head lice, it's important to talk to a school nurse, pediatrician or family physician to get appropriate care. There are a number of available treatments, including new prescription treatment options that are safe and do not require nit combing. Other things to consider in selecting and starting treatment include:

- Follow treatment instructions. Using extra amounts or multiple applications of the same medication is not recommended, unless directed by healthcare professional.⁵
- Resistance to some over-the-counter head lice treatments has been reported. The prevalence of resistance is not known.^{6,7}
- There is no scientific evidence that home remedies are effective treatments.⁸
- Head lice do not infest the house. However, family bed linens and recently used clothes, hats and towels should be washed in very hot water.⁴
- Personal articles, such as combs, brushes and hair clips, should also be washed in hot soapy water or thrown away if they were exposed to the persons with active head lice infestation.⁴
- All household members and other close contacts should be checked, and those with evidence of an active infestation should also be treated at the same time.⁴

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Myths & Facts About Head Lice

Myth: Only dirty people get head lice.

Fact: Personal hygiene or household or school cleanliness are not factors for infestation. In fact, head lice often infest people with good hygiene and grooming habits.^{2,3}

Myth: Head lice carry diseases.

Fact: Head Lice do not spread diseases.¹

Myth: Head lice can be spread by sharing hairbrushes, hats, clothes and other personal items.

Fact: It is uncommon to spread head lice by contact with clothing or other personal items, such as combs, brushes or hair accessories, that have been in contact with a person with head lice.¹

Myth: Head lice can jump or fly, and can live anywhere.

Fact: Head lice cannot jump or fly, and only move by crawling. It is unlikely to find head lice living on objects like helmets or hats because they have feet that are specifically designed to grasp on to the hair shaft of humans. Additionally, a louse can only live for a few hours off the head.¹

Myth: You can use home remedies like mayonnaise to get rid of head lice.

Fact: There is no scientific evidence that home remedies are effective treatments.⁸ A healthcare provider can discuss appropriate treatment options, including prescription products.