



Menomonie Middle School Newsletter

May/June 2018

Greetings from Principal Boettcher!

Mark Your Calendar

May 10 & 11: Spring Play
May 12: Spring Swing
May 15: Band Concert
May 21: Orchestra Concert
May 28: No School!
May 29: Choir Concert @ HS
May 31: European Fair
June 7: 8th Grade Graduation
– 10 am
June 7: Last Day of School!

The 2017-18 school year is almost complete. Planning is well under way for the 2018-19 school year. Please check the MMS website to stay informed about information and the many exciting opportunities next school year.

- 6th grade orientation Aug. 13 and 14
- Student schedule release Aug. 15
- Open house Aug. 30th (Chromebook checkout)
- First day of school Sept. 4th

I would highly encourage students to get involved in summer school courses or some of the many opportunities the parks and recreation department offers. The public library also offers a number of exciting opportunities for our students during the summer. Encourage your son or daughter to continue reading during the summer. Establishing a reading routine is very important for brain development. We hope you have a safe and enjoyable summer. We are very excited about all that is happening at MMS next school year.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email at bart_boettcher@msd.k12.wi.us or phone (715) 232-1673 ext. 30104.

Attitude + Effort = Success
Principal Bart Boettcher



5th Grade Parents/Guardians

Parents/Guardians of current 5th graders will be receiving this newsletter in the mail. Please note: Our newsletters are typically found online. We do not mail out newsletters. You can visit our website and sign up to receive newsletters/daily announcements online. More information on that will be available at our 6th Grade/New Student Orientation in August. Please be sure to look through this newsletter for important information for the 2018-19 school year.

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 - Cindy Beaupre—ext. 30103

- Student is sick and would like to leave school
- Questions regarding medications and plans

Food Service - Julie Neubrand - (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 in Grade 6 and Grade 7 - Silver Side

Guidance Office - Nancy Horner - ext. 30112

- Questions regarding students in Grade 7 - Gold Side and Grade 8

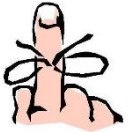
Main Office - Tina Liestman—ext. 30111

- Have a question about your student's fees—tech, print fee, athletic/club fees, 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 7:43 am to 2:54 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.



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 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.





Student Fees

All student fees must be paid in full by the end of the school year. Statements are sent out electronically monthly 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.



8TH GRADE GRADUATION CELEBRATION!

We will say a fond farewell to our 8th graders this year at our 8th grade graduation celebration scheduled for Thursday, June 7th, at 10:00 am. Parents and guardians are invited to share the joy and respect of this transitional event! Refreshments will be served in the cafeteria immediately following the ceremony! Students are welcome to go home with their parents/guardians after the ceremony as long as the permission slip has been turned in by the due date.

2018-19 Scheduling Requests

Student schedules are generated randomly within our Skyward scheduling program. In other words, we do not schedule students one by one. Rather, the program mass-schedules each grade level into pods and classes. However, some compelling or unique circumstances require individual attention. **If you have a compelling or unique circumstance you wish for our MMS scheduling team to consider, please submit your information and request to Mr. Mountin via email: jason_mountin@msd.k12.wi.us.** It is best to submit your request and information by Friday, June 1, 2018. Our scheduling team works ambitiously in June, July and August to meet the scheduling needs of all students while balancing class sizes each year.



6th Grade / New Student Summer Orientation

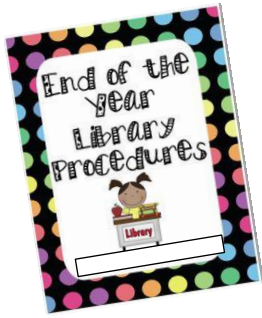
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

6th grade orientation and new student orientation will be held in August. This is an important informational event for parents/guardians and students. It is one of the first opportunities for families to meet teachers, staff, and administration and begin a partnership to strengthen the capacity for ALL students to learn and achieve at high levels. There is no need to register in advance, just select the date and time that works best in your family calendar and come! –

- Monday, August 13 – 3:00 pm OR 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, August 14 – 9:00 am OR 6:00 pm

All orientation sessions will be approximately 1 ½ hours in duration with time to mingle, explore, and ask questions!

Schedules will be available for pick up on Wednesday, August 15th. The office will be open from 7am – 3:30 pm.



End of the Year Library Dates:

Here are some important end of the year dates for the library:

May 11: Last check out day

May 25: All books need to be returned

6th Grade Last Day of School

Sixth graders will be traveling to the high school the morning of June 7th to celebrate the last day of school. We will be having fun in the pool and fieldhouse as well as having some humorous entertainment by James Wedgewood, ventriloquist. Parents are invited to join us for the ventriloquist and to take your student home following the entertainments. Exact details are still being worked out. Watch for a note that will be sent home in the next couple of weeks explaining our day.



Summer Academy 2018

2018 Program Location: Menomonie High School

Session 1: June 18-21, June 25-28: Monday – Thursday, 8am – 1pm

Session 2: July 9-12, July 16-19: Monday – Thursday, 8am – 1pm

Field Trip Fridays: June 22, 29, & July 13, 20

There will be no school the week of July 2 – July 6, 2018

Daily Schedule of Approximate Times:

7:30 am

8:00 am -1:00 pm

1:00 pm

Students arrive at Menomonie High School

Students participate in scheduled class

Students dismissed from Menomonie High School to return home after lunch

Bus Service

Bus service is provided at no cost.

A complete bus route is printed in the Summer School Booklet 2018

You may call Menomonie Transportation at 715-235-4995 to inquire about your child's bus assignment.

Summer Food Service Program

The summer food service program will continue to offer a FREE breakfast and lunch during all sessions of summer school, Monday through Thursdays at River Heights Elementary and Menomonie high School for students 18 years and younger. Hours: 7:30 – 8:30 am and 10:45 – 11:30 am. Fridays – breakfast and a bag lunch is offered at River heights ONLY.





7th Grade

European Fair

Please join us Thursday, May 31st from 3:30 – 5:00 pm as we showcase our European Fair. Students have been working hard to complete their projects. There will be food samples, fun and games. **This is a free event and open to all.** It will be held the middle school gymnasium.



Music Notes



Congratulations to all 8th Grade Choir students on your performance at the State Capitol on March 23rd!

Congratulations to all students who performed at Solo & Ensemble festival on April 7th!

Congratulations to all Band students for performing at Large Group Festival at Memorial on April 27th!

Good Luck to all Choir students on your performance at Large Group Festival at Menomonie High on May 15th!

Thanks to Ms. Braun on all she has done this year student teaching with MMS Choir students - Good luck on all your future holds!

Many, many thanks to Mr. Farnlof for all he had done for the MMS Band program over the past 11 years! We hope Colorado treats you well!

Thank you for another wonderful year of music-making! As things begin to wrap up, please double check calendars for end of year concerts, and contact music teachers if you have any questions or concerns.

Tuesday, May 15 - 6-8 Band Concert in MMS Gym at 7:00pm (6:30 call for students)

Monday, May 21 - 6-8 Orchestra Concert in MMS Gym at 7:00pm (6:30 call for students)

Tuesday, May 29 - 6-8 Choir Concert in MHS Auditorium at 7:00pm (6:15 call for students)

****Please note this is a change from the beginning of the year calendar****



Science Fiction Showcase
Monday, June 4 - 4:00 to 6:00
at Menomonie Middle School



ALL ARE WELCOME –

Come be taken to another planet, the future or an altered Menomonie

The eighth grade language arts department is sponsoring its first Science Fiction Showcase. Students have worked in groups to create science fiction worlds, addressing such issues as history, technology, science, and inequality. Students will share their created worlds and creative stories in an open format. Come explore their what if questions and see how they predict the future world's problems, issues and how new science and technology makes their invented world better or worse.



Track and Field is in full swing! It is great to finally be outside. We learning about and improving our skills in sprints, distance, jumps and throws. The athletes are enjoying relays as well. We hope you come out to cheer us on at some of our upcoming meets.

Thursday, May 3rd

Home @ Menomonie HS 4:00

w/ Delong, C.F. River Falls

Thursday, May 10th

@Delong MS 4:00

w/Altoona, C.F.

Monday, May 14th

@South MS

w/C.F., Altoona 4:00

Tuesday, May 22⁻

Home @ Menomonie HS 4:00

w/NS, South, Altoona, C.F.

Thank you for donations for testing treats

Thank you to the following businesses for donating treats to our students during state exams. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

3M supplied enough Life Saver mints for the whole building (6-8) during one day of the LA test.

Fleet Farm supplied three different kinds of candy for one day of the 8th grade Science/Social Studies testing.

Dick's Fresh Market supplied enough granola bars for the whole building during one day of the LA testing.

Subway supplied two mini cookies for each child in the building during one day of the math testing.



3rd Annual Family Fun Night Success



On Tuesday night, April 24th, we held a very successful family night here at the Middle School. We had close to three hundred guests enjoy the events of the evening and we say a huge THANK YOU for joining the Middle School staff for a night of fun. Our guests started the evening with a hot dog, chip, and water dinner that included two mini Subway cookies donated just for this event. They were also able to have a Dairy Queen Dilly Bar for dessert any time during the evening.

Students and their families moved through the building following a rotation of activity stations printed on a "passport". They had fun with our PE teachers blending smoothies while pedaling a stationary bike, they took family pictures with a variety of props supplied by our Encore department, and our science staff had students making star finders and visiting our planetarium. Our language arts teachers had students and their families writing poetry with the topic being "Would you rather?" our math staff had everyone making paper footballs and playing games, and our social studies department had our guests completing a "Where in the world are you" scavenger hunt. All stations gave away items to those that participated and at the end of the night we had a large prize give away. All 5th - 8th grade students put their passports in a bucket and names were drawn for two telescopes, three "Would You Rather" baskets, a tennis racket and six practice balls, and a Qwirkle, Perplexus, and Explore the World games. There were also a dozen fiction books to choose from as well.

Thanks to the Title 1 federal funding our school receives, the meal, dessert, station supplies, giveaways, and prizes were paid for with the monies our building receives for this type of event. We are anticipating continued support for next year so keep your eyes open for the advertisement of our 4th Annual Family Fun Night to take place early next spring.

STUDENT COUNCIL

SERVE LEAD INSPIRE



Student Council hosted competitions at their State Conference this year. They spent a lot of time working after school and during school to make this a success.

The theme of the conference was "Building Leadership". They used all of the tools in their tool belt to work together! Student Council members also hosted two different sectional presentations focusing on the amazing things that we do at our school. Tali Swaenepoel won Silver in her Writing Competition, MaKenna Amundson won Gold in her Speech, and MMS won Gold on their banner largely worked on by Olivia Burstad, Maya Sample, Harvest Johnson, Quincy Cook, and Ky'Mani Hagen.



MMS Celebrates Earth Day 2018

For the 15th consecutive year, Menomonie Middle School held its Earth Day Celebration on Friday April 27. On this day ALL middle school students took part in Earth Day lessons or service activities. Here are some of the highlights:

- **15th Annual Earth Day Celebration** (supported by 3M Community Environmental Grant)
 - **7th grade guest speaker from “Nature’s Niche” Animal Exotic Animal Rescue-** a hands-on presentation that introduce the students to some of the animals of the rainforest and discusses the importance of conservation of these diverse ecosystems.
 - **7th grade-** Community park clean up on April 27th in the afternoon.
 - **8th grade** - All 8th grade students participated in Environmental Service Projects during the afternoon of April 27. Students participated in one of the projects offered:
 - Oak Regeneration Project at Bjornson Education Center (in cooperation with WI DNR)
 - Stream Restoration at Bjornson Education Center
 - Bluebird nest box construction and placement (in cooperation with Fairmount-Santrol)
 - Menomin Park trail development (in cooperation with MAMBA)
 - Red Cedar Trail clean-up (3 different sections)
 - Oak Planting at Hoffman Hills SRA (in cooperation with Optimists and WI DNR)
 - School Garden work
- **6th grade** - Multiple activities, guest speakers, field trips and outdoor activities.
 - Students learn about recycling and their impact on the environment in the morning with a number of activities, including decorating grocery bags for Dick’s Fresh Foods.
 - Students participate in a rotation of activities in the afternoon. Rotations include a service activity, a learning activity, an active learning activity, and an environmental game activity.
 - The service activities include on site clean up and landscape beautification/maintenance work
 - A group gets to travel to the Dunn County Recycling Center for a field trip and site clean up
 - Guest speakers from organizations such as: Menomonie Food Co-op, Menomonie Lake Association, Trout Unlimited, Dunn County Extension, Dunn County Waste Management/Recycling Center, County Land Conservation Dept. as well as individuals (Don Heifner & Jim Swanson)

It turned out to be a beautiful day! Thank you 3M for your ongoing support.



Health Office



Medication: Please pick up any medication in the health office on or before the last day of school. Any medication that is not picked up will be discarded. For safety reasons, we do not keep medication stored in the health office during the summer. Students may pick up their medication at the end of the school day. Thank you for your assistance!

Students with health plans will receive a mailing during the summer to update their health concerns. Please help our health services coordinator by updating and completing this information **before** the start of the 2018-2019 school year. If your child has a new or reoccurring health concern, please notify the office at (715) 232-1673 with any updates or current emergency contact numbers.

Immunizations: If you have questions about immunization requirements, please contact the office at (715) 232-1673 ext. 30103. The new requirements affect ALL incoming 6th graders for the 2018-2019 school year. **Summer is a great time to schedule an appointment to meet immunization requirements or if your child needs a sports physical. Please contact Dunn County Public Health at 715-232-2388 or your personal health care provider.**

If you have a 5th grader who will be coming to the Middle School next year, please check your child's shot record and schedule an appointment for immunizations if they are not up-to-date.

Does your child need the chickenpox vaccine? Or the Tdap booster?

All students grades K-12 will need either proof of varicella (chickenpox) vaccine or proof of immunity for the 2018-2019 school year. Students in grades 6-8 are required to have two (2) doses of varicella. A child is considered compliant with the law if either a vaccination date is provided, or date the child had the chickenpox disease. The vaccine is available at the Dunn County Health Department or you can consult with your primary health care provider. Chickenpox is highly contagious. The vaccine is recommended for young children and older children who have not had the chickenpox disease.

Tdap means adolescent tetanus, diphtheria and acellular pertussis vaccine. If your child received a dose of a tetanus-containing vaccine, such as Td, within 5 years of entering the grade in which Tdap is required, your child is compliant and a dose of Tdap vaccine is not required. **Students in grades 6-8 are required to have a Tdap booster.**

Lost and Found



Please encourage your child to check the *Lost and Found* tables in both the cafeteria hallway and the locker room. We have a collection of items that will go to a needy organization if they are not claimed before the end of the school 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. You may pick one up if you'd like.



COLLECTION CORNER!

KEEP CLIPPING & COLLECTING!!!

Thanks for your continued support by clipping and turning in your collected items 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!

The collection bin is located in the office.

BOX TOPS For Education



Found on almost every item in your refrigerator, freezer or pantry and much much more! Cut them out & bring them in!! A complete list can be found at www.boxtops4education.com. We can earn money from collecting Box Tops cut from participating products. It is an easy way to give money to our school without spending any extra money!

Milk Caps - MILK MOOLA



Kwik Trip MILK MOOLA caps and bag top labels can earn 5¢ for each one you send 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!

Thanks for your support!

If you have any questions regarding any of these fundraising projects, feel free to contact Mary Ann Hitz (maryann_hitz@msd.k12.wi.us)

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!