



# Menomonie Middle School Newsletter

December/January 2022-23

## Mark Your Calendar

Thurs. Dec. 8: Winter Daze Parade

Tues. Dec. 13: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert, 5:30pm

Tues. Dec. 13: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert, 6:30pm

Tues. Dec. 13: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Band Concert, 7:30pm

Thurs. Dec. 15: Grades 6-8 Orchestra Concert, 7pm

Fri. Dec. 16: Math Counts Meet at MMS

Tues. Dec. 20: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade & Bel Canto Choir Concert, 6:00pm

Tues. Dec. 20: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choirs Concert 7:00pm

**Fri. Dec. 23 – Sun. Jan. 1: No School, Winter Break!**

Mon. Jan. 2: School Resumes

Mon. Jan. 9: Bridging Brighter Smiles Dental Clinic

Tues. Jan 10: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Mustang Preview Night at MHS, 5:30pm

Fri. Jan. 13: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade to "Hairspray"

Mon. Jan. 16: No School, PD Day

Fr. Jan. 20: Term 2 Ends

Mon. Jan 23: Term 3 Begins

Mon. Jan. 30: Band-A-Rama @ HS, 7pm

## Greetings from Principal Boettcher!

Welcome to a winter wonderland. I want to remind everyone to use caution and be careful as you enter and exit the parking lot as it can be slippery. Our maintenance staff works hard to keep up with the snow and ice. Please continue to use the entire drop-off area to keep traffic flow moving.

One of the Middle School goals is that each student will achieve grade-level expectations. Some of our students need a little extra help to achieve grade-level expectations. We are very fortunate to have a reading and math specialist to help our students. For example, students who need some extra help with reading comprehension or fluency will now get the help they need. This will be like a six-week personal training session for reading or math.

Thank you,

Bart Boettcher - Principal  
*Attitude + Effort = Success!*

## Winter Clothing Drive

will be held from

**November 28th - December 9th**

**Please put items in the bin by the office**

**We will accept new, gently used, or un-worn**

**coats**

**gloves**

**hats**

**boots**

**snow pants**

**The winter clothing will be donated to the C-3 Center**



December 1, 2022

Dear MMS Families,

Are you planning a family trip for the holidays? As you think about your arrangements, we want to stress the importance of sending your child to school every day possible. Every year, absences spike in the weeks before and after the winter holiday as families squeeze in a few more vacation days. It's time to break that cycle. We know that just a few missed days here and there, even if they're excused absences, can add up to too much lost learning time and put your child behind in school. Put simply, too many absences at any age can affect a student's chances for academic success and eventually for graduation.



We recognize that holidays are an important time for reconnecting with families far away. But please keep in mind the costs to your children's education if they miss too much school -- and the message you will be sending about the importance of attendance. Even if you've got a homework packet from the teacher, it doesn't make up for the interaction and learning that happens in the classroom. Our MMS teachers will be teaching, and our students will be learning, right up until vacation starts and the first day back. You can help us convey that message. This holiday season, give your children the gift of an education and the habit of attendance.

Sincerely,

Bart Boettcher  
MMS Principal

Mark Anderson  
MMS Assistant Principal



## *Student Drop Off*

We appreciate your assistance in keeping the traffic flowing during morning drop off. By driving as far forward in the drop off lane as possible and exiting the vehicle along the entire drop off zone, we are able to keep a better flow to the traffic. Recently, we were able to have "drop off" zones painted along with right/left turn lanes as you exit the middle school to turn on 21st Street. We hope this helps to limit the backlog of vehicles leaving the middle school.

Most importantly, please use caution when dropping off your children. Unfortunately, we have had a couple of close calls recently as people accelerate through the open lane. People are using the open lane as they have either already dropped the students off or they are attempting to get to the front of the drop off line. For the safety of our students and staff, we ask that students are dropped off in the right lane next to the sidewalk.

Recently, we have had an increased number of people choosing to drop off students in the staff parking lot. We do not encourage this practice as it results in students crossing through the traffic lanes. This has become even more dangerous as the people in the right lane have to look over their left shoulder anticipating traffic accelerating from behind. Their eyes should be focused ahead on the pedestrians crossing from the staff parking lot. This becomes even more dangerous as the mornings grow darker and roads turn snow covered and slippery. We also have more students being dropped off in the winter versus walking and riding bikes. Thankfully, the large majority of you exercise caution, patience, and proper protocol each day during drop off. We appreciate your cooperation.

## Notes from the Front Office:

### RE: Student Bus Passes, Student Appointments, Student Messages



Middle school students are busy young people!

The MMS front office assistants are available to support families and students when the need for a bus pass, pass from class, or student message occurs. To better serve you and to minimize classroom interruptions, keep the following guidelines in mind:

- ✓ Students can be notified at lunch about messages or deliveries.
- ✓ Students cannot be paged during the school day: 7:43 am through 3:05 pm.
- ✓ Bus passes must be requested by students/families in writing. Text messages are not accepted.
- ✓ Students can be released from class to attend appointments by securing a Classroom Pass Release from the front office. A Classroom Pass Release requires a written excuse from a parent/guardian. This excuse must include the following information: date, time of pick up, and general reason. The time listed on the excuse will be minutes prior to the anticipated parent arrival time.
- ✓ **Written excuses are preferred rather than parent/guardian phone calls to avoid unnecessary interruptions to the classroom. Please try to avoid showing up to pick up students at the last minute.**
- ✓ Students released from class during the school day must wait in the front office reception area for a parent/guardian to arrive. Parents are not required to come to the office prior to leaving the school building.
- ✓ Students returning to school after appointments must check in the front office before returning to class. Students will get a pass back to class upon their return. Parent/Guardians are not required to come into the building. If you get a note from the doctor, your student can turn that in upon arrival.
- ✓ Please do not text students during class as students are not allowed to use their cell phones during the school day. Try to make arrangements prior to the beginning of the school day.

Thank you for supporting our MMS front office.

## **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.



**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 – Taylor Cobian —ext. 30103**

Student is sick and would like to leave school

Questions regarding medications and plans

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

Food Service is located at the High School

Questions about lunch accounts

#### **Dean of Students/Guidance Office – Jason Mountin - ext. 30110**

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

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

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

#### **Guidance Office – Adrianna Harrison - ext. 30108**

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

#### **Main Office - Tina Potter—ext. 30111**

Have a question about your student's fees—device insurance, athletic/club fees, etc.

Email: [tina\\_potter@msd.k12.wi.us](mailto:tina_potter@msd.k12.wi.us)

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### **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.



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### **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.



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### **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 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.*
- **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!**

### Dental Clinic at MMS



Bridging Brighter Smiles, Inc. provides preventative dental care right at school! Services offered include, oral screenings, dental cleanings, sealants, fluoride varnish applications, and referral assistance. Visits are held throughout the school year. This program is open to all students in the district 4K through 12th grade.

To enroll your children, simply go to [enrollment.bbsmiles.org](http://enrollment.bbsmiles.org) to complete an enrollment form right online.

Questions? Call Bridging Brighter Smiles at (262) 896-9891, or visit them on the web at [www.bbsmiles.org](http://www.bbsmiles.org).



**See you on January 2, 2023!**

**No School!**

**Friday, December 23  
through  
Sunday, January 1**

# IT'S CONCERT SEASON!

## 6th Grade Band

**Date:** December 13th

**Student call times:** 5:00 pm

**Concerts starts at:** 5:30 pm

**Location:** MMS Gym

**Performer attire:** nice concert clothes

## 7th Grade Band

**Date:** December 13th

**Student call times:** 6:00 pm

**Concerts starts at:** 6:30 pm

**Location:** MMS Gym

**Performer attire:** Black bottoms, white top

## 8th Grade Band

**Date:** December 13th

**Student call times:** 7:00 pm

**Concerts starts at:** 7:30 pm

**Location:** MMS Gym

**Performer attire:** Concert black (all black)



## MMS Orchestra

**Date:** December 15th

**Student call time:** 6:15 pm

**Concert starts at:** 7:00 pm

**Location:** MMS Gym

**Performer attire:** All grades- All black or black and white

## 6th Grade & Bel Canto Choirs

**Date:** December 20th

**Student call time:** 5:30pm

**Concert starts at:** 6:00pm

**Location:** MMS Gym

**Performer attire:** Dress Up!

## 7th & 8th Grade Choirs

**Date:** December 20th

**Student call time:** 6:30pm

**Concert starts at:** 7:00pm

**Location:** MMS Gym

**Performer attire:** Choir robes

## MHS Mustang Preview Night



### **A night to welcome incoming 9th graders and families.**

This night is designed for current 8<sup>th</sup> grade families to learn about what we offer and the different opportunities we have before they register for 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

**January 10th, 2023 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM**

5:30-5:55 PM- Auditorium

Welcome & Introduction to Menomonie HS.

5:55-7:00 PM- Commons

Curriculum and Activities Fair

# Boys and Girls Club



Hey Menomonie! We are Celebrating! Our Middle School Club is open! Clubs prepare young adults for the future, help them be their best selves, and reach their full potential. There is a Middle School teacher on site to help with homework or academic support.

You must register and space is limited. Registration forms are available in the MMS front office.

Learn more at: <http://ow.ly/6RGo50Lrq2z>

## Smart Girls Rock!

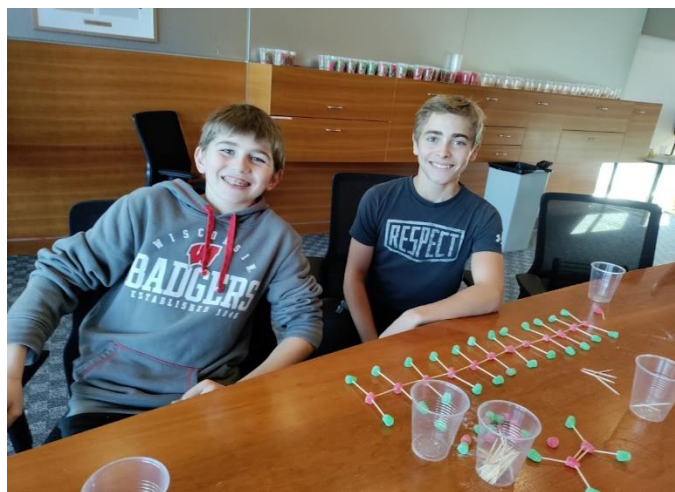


The event Smart Girls Rock! took place at Menomonie Middle School on Tuesday, November 8, 2022, in its first year back since 2019. Smart Girls Rock! is a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) event meant to encourage interest in STEAM careers among middle school girls. Women continue to be underrepresented in the sciences, making up only 27% of the science and engineering workforce (US Census Bureau, 2019). In its sixth year, 209 sixth through eighth-grade girls explored 20 different STEAM careers and met 35 women from those careers in Dunn County. They were able to ask questions about what high school or college classes to take, what got them interested in that career, and what is their favorite and least favorite part. Girls were also involved in hands-on activities such as taking lab samples, practicing CPR, or using a blacklight to find glue in windows. Women professionals from the Menomonie Police Department, 3M, Phillips Medisize, AgSource, Red Cedar Dentistry, Anderson Windows, Mayo Clinic Pediatrics and Physical Therapy, Nursing, Big Dot of Happiness, EMS and First Response, Menomonie School District Technology Services, and departments from UW-Stout Entrepreneurship, Anthropology, Art Education, Mathematics, Interior Architecture and Game Design, Wildlife Biology, Learning Information Technology, and Digital Marketing Technology.



# Cardinal Glass/Phillips Medisize

Eighth grade students went on a field trip to Cardinal Glass and Phillips Medisize on the morning of November 22nd. They got a glimpse into some of the manufacturing that occurs right here in Menomonie and all of the science that is involved in the process. Both places were great examples of how useful elements and minerals are to society!

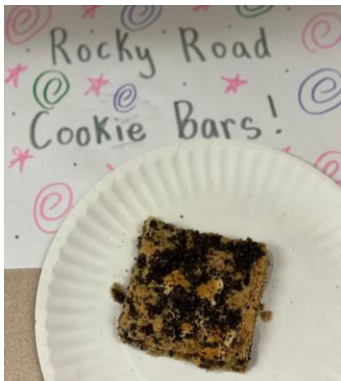




## 7th and 8th Grade CHOPPED Competition!

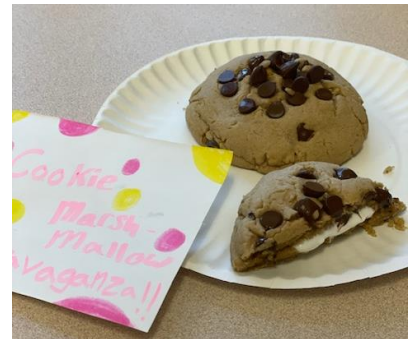
In their last few days in FACS the 7th and 8th grade students participated in a chopped lab! They were given a "basket" of mandatory ingredients including mini marshmallows, mini chocolate chips, eggs, and flour; and tasked with finding a recipe that would work for them! They needed to have all of their cooking complete in 45 minutes and they were judged by MMS staff members. Below are the winners of the chopped competition by hour!

**1st hour FACS — Oreo Chocolate Chip Cookies by Taylein, Joss, & Finna**



**2nd Hour FACS - Rocky Road  
Cookie Bars by Kitchen 5**

**5th Hour FACS - Cookie  
Marshmallow Extravaganza by Kitchen 4**



**7th Hour FACS- Marshmallow Cookie  
Sandwiches by Kitchen 1**



**Special thanks to our guest judges  
Mr. Haas, Mrs. Brown, & Ms. Yonash.**

## Title I is a Partnership

The Partnership Agreement, usually discussed and signed at fall conferences, is an agreement (compact) outlining the role of the family, the school, and the student in a learning partnership. This shared responsibility greatly increases the chance of student success.

### Students are Involved

Students create academic and social goals with their teacher and parents/guardians. Other areas students commit to in their school year success include: participating in class learning, asking for help when needed, and following school expectations.



### Parents Are Involved

Parents are their child's first and most important teachers. Children learn language by interacting with their parents. Parents influence their child's educational attitudes, work habits and interests.

In Title I, parents and teachers build a cooperative partnership with students. Parents help to plan and review their school and district Title I program.



### Teachers are Involved

Teachers design programs that involve children in a rich variety of learning experiences. This flexible programming takes place within the regular classroom and/or in a Title I classroom, as a targeted supplemental pullout program. Title I funded Intervention Specialists provide instruction to reinforce and enhance core classroom learning.

Title I programs stress positive attitudes toward learning and achievement of high academic standards. Intervention Specialists also work with families to share strategies and techniques to help their children become more successful learners.



### Title I Services

The school-wide Title I Project Schools - Downsville, River Heights, Wakanda, and Menomonee Middle School - provide supplemental support on behalf of all students in their buildings. A variety of flexible and timely support systems are implemented as needs are identified.

The Targeted Assistance Schools - St. Joseph's and St. Paul's - provide targeted, very small group services to children identified as most in need of academic support in reading and/or math, within the grade levels identified as having the most needs during the Title I Targeted Needs Assessment process each spring.

For more information, see [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov) (Type "Title I" into the site's search engine.)

*School District of Menomonee Falls*  
**Menomonee Area**

Kristin Humphrey, Title I Coordinator  
Phone: (716) 666-2131 ext. 20112  
Email: [kristin\\_humphrey@med.k12.wi.us](mailto:kristin_humphrey@med.k12.wi.us)

## Which schools and students are eligible for Title I?

Schools in which the percentage of low-income families (as measured by free- and-reduced lunch count) is at, or above, federal guidelines are eligible for Title I.

Children are considered for Title I participation regardless of their family's income.

Eligible schools are identified as either:

### Targeted assistance schools:

Students are selected by specific criteria to participate in Title I, or

### School-wide projects:

All students may participate in Title I services. Parents and educators decide how Title I will be used in a school-wide project.

Students enrolled in private schools who live in the attendance area of a Title I public school are eligible for Title I services.



## Menomonee Area 2022-2023 Title I Program School District of the Menomonee Area

### District Title I Coordinator

Kristin Humphrey  
Phone: (715) 665-2131, ext. 20112

### District Instructional Literacy Coach

Tera Ellison  
Phone: (715) 232-1642, ext. 10126

### District Instructional Math Coach

Michelle Dupree  
Phone: (715) 232-1642, ext. 10131

### Intervention Specialist Contact Information

#### Downsville Elementary / (715) 664-8546

Sara Holcomb  
Literacy & Math Interventionist

#### Knapp Elementary / (715) 665-2131

Laura Weber  
Literacy & Math Interventionist

#### Oaklawn Elementary / (715) 232-3798

Crystal Booth  
Literacy Interventionist  
Colette Labuda  
Math Interventionist

#### River Heights Elementary / (715) 232-3987

Mollie Patterson  
Literacy Interventionist  
Victoria Johansen  
Math Interventionist

#### Wakanda Elementary / (715) 232-3898

MeLinda Long  
Literacy Interventionist  
Nicole King  
Math Interventionist

#### Menomonee Middle School / (715) 232-1673

Kari Decker  
Literacy Interventionist  
Emily Minor  
Math Interventionist

#### St. Joseph's Elementary / (715) 232-3798

Crystal Booth  
Literacy & Math Interventionist

#### St. Paul's Elementary / (715) 232-3798

Crystal Booth  
Literacy & Math Interventionist

## School District of the Menomonee Area

Title I Coordinator  
Kristin Humphrey  
(715) 665-2131 ext. 20112



## Partnerships for School Success

### What is Title I?

A major part of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, (commonly called "No Child Left Behind"), Title I is the largest federally funded pre-college education program in the country. It provides funds to school districts in order to ensure that all children have a fair, significant and equal opportunity to obtain a high-quality education, and meet high academic achievement standards.





Dear Families,

Are you looking for a quick and easy way to support our school?

Box Tops for Education has been around for over 25 years, and it really can make a difference. In fact, the Box Tops program has helped give almost one billion dollars to schools since 1996.

The Box Tops app gives participants the ability to earn for any school across the country with just the touch of a button. Plus, the Box Tops app allows you to search for schools that could use a little extra help, so you can help give students in low-income schools the opportunity to succeed.

**HERE'S HOW IT WORKS:** Buy participating products and use the Box Tops app to scan your store receipt. The app identifies eligible products and earnings are credited to your designated school online. Even if you're shopping online or doing grocery pickup, you can still submit your digital or email receipt with the Box Tops app and earn. Twice a year, our school gets a check!

**See a list of participating products at**  
**[BTFE.COM/PRODUCTS](https://www.btfec.com/products)**

Box Tops earnings really add up, and the more people that participate, the bigger the impact we can make. So let's give our teachers the support they need and give more kids the opportunity to succeed. **Together, we can help make a big difference.**

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**DON'T HAVE THE APP YET?**  
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**LEARN MORE ABOUT**  
**BOX TOPS AT [BTFE.COM](https://www.btfec.com)**

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For over 25 years, Box Tops for Education has given families an easy way to earn for schools with products they already buy. Today, you can find thousands of participating products throughout the store — and all you need is the Box Tops app.



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brands you love.



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Use the Box Tops app to  
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### EARN CASH FOR SCHOOLS

Box Tops products are  
identified and earnings are  
credited online.



### ONLINE SHOPPERS CAN EARN WITH BOX TOPS, TOO!

Whether you order groceries for delivery or pickup, shop through your store's app, or request an email receipt at checkout, you can earn for your school no matter where you shop.

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