

# Menomonie Middle School Newsletter

April/May 2024



## Mark Your Calendar

April 1: Term 4 Begins  
April 2 – April 11: Forward Testing  
April 6: Solo & Ensemble Festival  
April 11: WIN Rotation 4 Ends  
April 11: SOAR BINGO Fundraiser at Stout Craft Co.  
April 12: Encore Term 4 Ends  
April 12: 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir to Large Group Festival  
April 13: WSMA State Honors Auditions  
April 15: No School!  
April 16: Encore – Term 5 Begins  
April 18: Multi-Cultural Club Field Trip  
April 19: Earth Day Activities  
April 19: 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Music to Lion King  
April 24: Band & Orchestra Festival @MHS  
May 2: MMS Musical "Spamalot" 7pm at MHS  
May 3: MMS Musical "Spamalot" 7pm at MHS  
May 4: MMS Musical "Spamalot" 2pm at MHS  
May 9: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Day  
May 9: School Wide Dance  
May 14: WIN Rotation 5 Ends  
May 16: Win Rotation 6 Begins  
May 16: Band Concert @MMS  
May 20: Orchestra Concert @ MMS  
May 22: Retirement Mixer  
May 23: MMS Choir Concert at MHS  
May 27: No School!  
May 28: WIN Rotation 6 Ends  
June 4: 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Celebration @ 10am  
June 4: Last Day of School!!

## **GREETINGS FROM PRINCIPAL BOETTCHER!**

### Finish Strong:

As we head into the last two months of school, it is essential for all students to embrace finishing strong. There is a lot of learning that will take place in these last two months of school which will propel us into next year. I am so proud of our students' attitude, effort, and resiliency this year. We appreciate the support and ability to work together with parents and guardians in the education journey.

Thank you,

*Attitude + Effort = Success!*  
Principal Bart Boettcher



## **Student Fees**

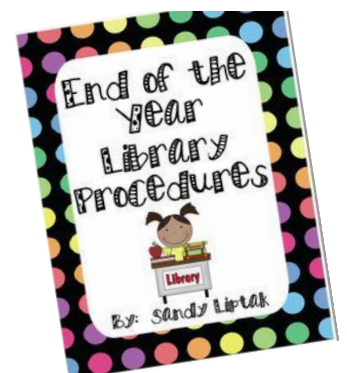
All student fees must be paid in full by the end of the school year. Statements are sent out electronically or by mail if your email is not up to date. Please check your student's fee under fee management in Family Access. Fees not paid by the end of the school year will roll over to the next year. If 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\\_potter@msd.k12.wi.us](mailto:tina_potter@msd.k12.wi.us) with questions.

## **End of Year Library Dates**

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

May 10: Last check out day

May 24: All books need to be returned



# Forward Testing Reminders...

## **Students attending school in-person test dates:**

April 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> - Language Arts for all grades 6-8.

April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> – Science for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> – Math for all grades.

April 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> – Social Studies for 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

## **WVS Students need to report to the Middle School to complete the Forward Exam.**

On April 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> students in the WVS program will come to test. On the 16<sup>th</sup>, students in grades 6-8 should meet in the library at 7:43 and should be able to go home by 2pm. On April 17<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> graders should come in at 7:43 and should be able to go home by 11am.

Parents play an important role in helping children prepare for the assessment. Some suggestions to help your child include:

- \* **Make sure your child brings their fully charged chromebook and charger to school.**
- \* **Make sure your child is in school and on time for the test dates.**
- \* **Make sure your child is well rested and eats a healthy breakfast.**
- \* **Make sure your child brings a set of earbuds.**

This is a very important time for students to be in attendance. We ask that you try to make appointments after school to avoid class interruptions. If you do need to pick up your student, please send a note with them on the day of the appointment with the time of pick up listed and the reason and have your student drop it off in the office in the morning so we can give them a pass to leave class at the appropriate time. If students are testing, we are not able to interrupt class. Thank you for your cooperation.



## **LEADERSHIP CAMP**

Whether you're involved in student council, the national honor society, the drama club, a sports team, the school musical, cheerleading, or your local FFA — our camp program is for you!

In fact, our camp programs are for anyone who wants to improve their leadership skills! We have programs for both Junior & Middle School (JAM) students and Senior High School (SHS) students.

Middle School camps are LEVELS 1, 2, and 3.

**Contact Mr. Haas with any questions.**

Find more information at [WASC Leadership Camp](#)

# 8TH GRADE FIELD TRIP MAY 9TH

On May 9th, all 8th grade students will be attending Career Venture – a career fair in Eau Claire. Students will have the opportunity to talk to employers about careers in all 16 career clusters. This is an excellent opportunity to learn about options for after high school!

*Details will be emailed home by CARES teachers.*

## 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE CELEBRATION!

We will say a fond farewell to our 8<sup>th</sup> graders this year at our 8<sup>th</sup> grade celebration scheduled for the last day of school. Parents and guardians are invited to share the joy and respect of this transitional event! Our ceremony will be held on Tuesday, June 4, 2024 at 10am in the gymnasium. Doors will open at 9:30am. More information about dismissal after the ceremony will be coming soon.



## 6<sup>th</sup> Grade / New 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Summer Orientation

### **MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

All incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders and new 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their families are asked to pick a date/time to plan on attending a one-hour preview of the middle school. During this session, families will learn about middle school expectations, schedule, and pay fees. Guidance and administrative staff will be on hand during this time to answer any questions or concerns families might have.

- Monday, August 12 – 3:00 pm OR 6:00 pm
- Tuesday, August 13 – 9:00 am

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

**Schedules will be available for pick up on Wednesday, August 14<sup>th</sup> for all grade levels.**

**The office will be open from 8am – 4:00 pm.**

# MMS proudly presents:



**Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7:00pm**

**Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00pm**

**Saturday, May 4<sup>th</sup> 2:00pm**

Held at the Menomonie High School Auditorium

Tickets: \$5, Children 4 and under are free (cash or check only)

Activity Passes will not be accepted.

Ticket sales start one hour before performance

and end 10 minutes after start time.

Doors open 30 minutes prior to start \* No late admission



## MUSIC NOTES



Thank you for a 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.

Solo & Ensemble Festival: Saturday, April 6

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Choir Large Group Festival, Friday, April 12

WSMA State Honors Auditions: Saturday, April 13

7<sup>th</sup> Grade Music to Lion King: Friday, April 19, (after school)

Band & Orchestra Concert Festival: Wednesday, April 24

Spring Swing: Saturday, May 11 at MHS

Band Concert: Thursday, May 16

Orchestra Concert: Monday, May 20

Choir Concert at MHS: Thursday, May 23

**A HUGE thank you to all who supported our music department at the Music Showcase in March! It was a huge success and we couldn't have done it without so many people donating their time, talents, and gifts. Thank you all to everyone who came and supported us! We appreciate it!**





# 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE POETRY GALLERY

8th grade English had a Poetry Gallery walk-through in the library on March 8th. Students showcased their autobiographical poetry books after reading the novel, *Brown Girl Dreaming*, by Jacqueline Woodson. Here are a few shots of our project.



## Reading Tips!

Help your student increase their word knowledge through games!

- Crossword Puzzles
- Catch Phrase
- Apples to Apples
- Scrabble
- Bananagrams
- Boggle
- Wordle
- Taboo
- Scattergories
- Word on the Street



## Math Tips!

Help your student increase their math fact fluency through games!

- Pass the Pigs
- Adsumudi
- Farkle
- Math Dice Chase
- Multiplication Splat!
- Multiplication Zoom!
- Prime Climb
- Tri-Fact-A
- Smath
- Target
- Proof!
- Yahtzee



# Summer Time!

Get the most out of your summer by:

- Limiting screen time to 2 hours per day
- Get outside every day
- Talk with family & friends
- Read books
- Get creative! (art, music, games, etc.)

**April  
11**



# BINGO

## **Stout Craft Co. Kitchen and Tap House 7pm-9pm**

Come support the Menomonie School District SOAR Special Education Program with a fun night of Bingo! Proceeds will go towards increasing the accessibility of the Environmental Site and practicing community outings to help our students grow in different social, occupational, academic and real life skills.

**\$10 for a book of cards to play all night  
Bingo Daubers will be available for purchase for \$2**

# MMS E-CYCLING DRIVE

Celebrate Earth Day by getting rid of electronics in your house!

Friday, April 19th  
in the  
MMS Drop-Off  
Line  
12:30pm - 2:30pm

## Acceptable Items and Prices

Projection & wood console TVs \$35  
CRT TVs and monitors \$20  
LCD TVs and monitors \$15  
Small-scale servers and microwaves \$10  
Laptops & Chromebooks, & Desktop computer towers \$10  
DVD, VHS, Bluray players, VCRs, DVRs, & tablets \$5  
Satellite receivers, routers, & modems, & desktop printers \$5  
Keyboards, mice, computer speakers, hard drives, & flash drives \$1

**All proceeds go to the  
Menomonie Middle School  
Positive Behavior Reward Fund**





## Lost and Found

We accumulate many, many clothing items and lunch bags/boxes throughout 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.*

**“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.





**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 – Taryn Carryl - 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 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Guidance Office – Adrianna Harrison - ext.  
30740**  
Questions regarding students in 7<sup>th</sup> grade.

**Guidance Office – Paula Haugle – ext. 30635**  
Questions regarding students in 8<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

**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 predictor of academic success. All Menomonie Middle School students are required to be in attendance from 7:43 am to 3:00 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.





# BOX TOPS

SPRING  
EDITION

Easy ways to make a difference for your school.



Make like the Easter bunny and hop on over to the store!

It's time to stock up on delicious **SPRING PRODUCTS THAT EARN**, including Trix, Very Berry Cheerios, Lucky Charms Berry Swirl, Pillsbury Easter Shape Cookies, Betty Crocker Strawberry Cake Mix, Annie's Bunny Fruit Gummies and more. Remember to scan your receipt within 14 days of purchase to earn Box Tops for your school.

SEE ALL PRODUCTS AT [BTFE.COM/PRODUCTS](http://BTFE.COM/PRODUCTS)

BUY. SCAN. EARN.  
**5**  
MAKE

With this month's incredible offers, you'll **EARN 5 BONUS BOX TOPS** when you make Betty Crocker's Make-Ahead Cheesy Southwest Chicken and Pasta Casserole. It's rich, hearty and delicious, and it'll earn extra for your school when you scan the qualifying receipt from your purchase.



FIND IT AT  
[BETTYCROCKER.COM](http://BETTYCROCKER.COM)



Can you make it to the top of your school's leaderboard?

Every time you scan your receipt, you can **GIVE CREDIT** to a specific grade or classroom so your earnings count toward your school's leaderboard! To check out who's in the lead, open the Box Tops app and tap on your school's earnings total.

GET THE BOX TOPS APP & START EARNING FOR YOUR SCHOOL TODAY! LEARN MORE AT [BTFE.COM](http://BTFE.COM)