



Menomonie Middle School Newsletter

February/March 2024 Newsletter

Mark Your Calendar

Tues. Feb. 6: Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4-7:30pm
Wed. Feb. 7: MHS Music Tour at MMS during CARES
Thurs. Feb. 8: 8th Grade Trip to Mamma Mia
Fri. Feb. 9: No School!
Mon. Feb. 12: No School!
Tues. Feb. 12: 6th & 7th grade received registration forms
Thurs. Feb. 15: Parent/Teacher Conferences 4-7:30pm
Thurs. Feb. 15: Encore Term 3 Ends
Fri. Feb. 16: Encore Term 4 Begins
Fri. Feb. 16: Current 6th & 7th graders return registration forms.
Wed. Feb. 21: Current 7th grade register for 2024-25 during WIN
Thurs. Feb. 22: Current 6th grade register for 2024-25 during WIN
Fri. Feb. 23: 7th Grade Sno-Tubing Trip
Fri. Feb. 23: Music Teachers Visit 5th Graders
Tues. Feb. 27: Spring Pictures
Tues. Feb. 27: Instrument Tryout Night
Wed. Feb. 28: 6th Grade to MN Orchestra
Tues. March 5: MMS Pops Fundraiser Concert
March 11 – March 15: No School – Spring Break!
Thurs. March 21: Orchestra Concert
Thurs. March 28: Term 3 Ends
Fri. March 29: No School!

Greetings from Principal Boettcher!

Attitude + Effort = Success!

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

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

- **Contact your CARES teacher** – Our CARES program provides a teacher mentor for each student and parent/guardian. When tricky issues arise, communicating with your CARES teacher is usually the first step as we discover solutions.
- **Contact a teacher.** All teachers and staff members are ready, willing and able to help students and parents/guardians to explore ideas and solutions to support you. Many teachers offer academic support for students during lunch and/or after school.
- **Contact your guidance counselor.** Ms. Haugle(6th grade), Ms. Harrison(7th grade), and Mr. Mountin(8th grade) have potential solutions for every problem! Don't hesitate to consult with our counselors. Success with learning and achievement at school is an important part of our job here at MMS!
- **Contact your principals.** Meeting the needs of students and parents/guardians is extremely important to us. Students and parents/guardians are encouraged to visit with one or both of us. You may visit in person or communicate by telephone or email.
- **Explore our MMS website and MMS Team pages.** Many teachers use Chromebook technology to provide helpful blogs, spaces, and educational links to help students and parents/guardians understand learning standards and assignments.
- **Review the weekly progress reports provided via email or have students show you on their chromebook.** Students are able to complete missing assignments during WIN each Wednesday.

- **Utilize Family Access.** Skyward Family Access is an online grading tool that enables students and parents/guardians to view grading practices per course. Typically, grades are recorded on a weekly basis. Viewing Family Access regularly avoids a grading surprise at report card time. Parents/guardians must acquire a password code to access this tool. Password codes can be acquired by calling the Technology Department at our district Administrative Center – 715-232–1642. If you do not have a computer, you may also use your smart phone or students Chromebook to access Family Access.
- **Get Involved** - Students who participate in extra-curricular activities often find a natural support group of friends and adults to support academic and emotional needs throughout the school year.
- **Boys and Girls Club:** The Boys & Girls club is a tremendous asset to our students. The Club provides a safe, out-of-school space with high quality programming that enhances the academic and behavioral success of our students and advances school goals during critical out-of-school time. If you would like more information on how to enroll your student, please contact Cheyanne at ccatua@cvclubs.org with questions regarding programing or enrollment information.
- **Have a growth mindset.** “I might not be able to do it yet, but with the right attitude and effort, I will achieve success!”



Attitude + Effort = Success
Bart Boettcher

Cell Phone/Electronics Usage Policy Reminder

Menomonie Middle School strongly discourages students from bringing any cell phones or electronic devices to school. MMS does not assume responsibility for articles that are lost, stolen or damaged. If you bring an electronic device to school it should be turned off and stored in your locker prior to the start of the school day. Unless directed by a teacher/staff member, you cannot use an electronic device during the school day. (7:43 - 3:00)

Cell phone use/guidelines:

1. Cell phones are allowed in the commons before and after school.
2. Cell phones must be turned off and placed in their school assigned pod locker from 7:43-3:05.
3. After the bell rings at 3:00pm, students may use their cell phone; however, cell phone use is not permitted in locker rooms or bathrooms.

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

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

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



Student Fees

All student fees must be paid in full by the end of the school year. Statements will be emailed out or mailed if your email is not up to date. Please check your student's fee under fee management in Family Access. Fees not paid by the end of the school year will roll over to the next year. If you qualify for free/reduced meals some of your fees may be waived, but paperwork must be filled out. Only current year fees can be waived. Some fees do not apply to the waiver.



Please contact Tina at tina.potter@msd.k12.wi.us or call (715) 232-1673 ext. 30111 with questions.



AM drop off:

We appreciate your assistance in keeping the traffic flowing during the morning drop off. Vehicles should pull up as far forward as possible and when the vehicles stop everyone should exit along the sidewalk area in front of the school. Students should not be dropped off in the front parking lot.

PM pick up

All students should be picked up in front of the school. Please use the pick up line or park in the front parking lot. The back of the school is reserved for buses only. Please do not park along the road or in the back of the school.

Thankfully, the large majority of you exercise caution, patience, and proper protocol each day to keep our students safe. We appreciate your cooperation.

Report Cards

Report cards have been sent home with students. Please check with them if you haven't received it. You can also view report cards online in your Family Access account.



Spring Picture Day **Tuesday, February 27**

Spring pictures will be taken during CARES and 1st hour. Money envelopes must be turned in at the time your photo is taken. You can pick one up in the front office. You can also order ahead of picture day online at mylifetouch.com using Picture Day ID: EVTCTT8BJ

Parent/Teacher Conferences



Tuesday, February 6

&

Thursday, February 15

4:00pm – 7:30pm

INVITATION: PARTY IN THE LIBRARY!

Who: Students and their Families

When: Tuesday, February 6th & Thursday, February 15th

Time: 4:00 - 7:30 (Stop in after your Parent Teacher Conference)

Activities:

- Library Scavenger Hunt
- Family Book Club Start Ups
- Helpful hints for Parents of Teens
- Raffles (get your raffle tickets from your cares teacher)

Party Gift: water Bottle Stickers!

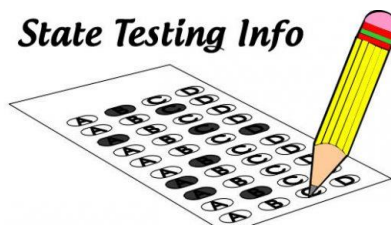


**No School
Spring Break
March 11-15**



We will be State Testing April 2nd – April 10th.

Information will be sent home 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.



Incoming 6th Grade Registration

On February 23rd, your student should be bringing home a 6th Grade Registration form. Please fill out your choice of music. Our music department teachers will be in the elementary schools on February 23rd to explain each course. We will also hold an instrument tryout event on Tuesday, February 27th in the Middle School commons. More information will be sent out in the near future regarding that event. Be sure to list your instrument choice for band and orchestra students. These forms should be returned to their teacher. Please have the form turned in by Friday, March 1st. Not every instrument request can be honored, but we will do our best to get students their first choice when possible. Please make sure you return this sheet to save your spot in the music class of your choice. Students that do not return forms will be placed by our scheduling staff.

Incoming 7th & 8th Grade Registration

On February 13th, your student should be bringing home a registration form for next year. Please fill out your choice of music. Be sure to list your instrument choice for band and orchestra students. These forms should be returned to their CARES teacher. Please have the form turned in by Friday, February 16th. Not every instrument request can be honored, but we will do our best to get students their first choice when possible. Please make sure you return this sheet to save your spot in the music class of your choice. Students that do not return forms will be placed by our scheduling staff.



What is ACP?

Academic and Career Planning (ACP) is a process all adults at MMS help students work through. It is the process of discovering who you are, what your options are, and how do you reach your career goals. **If you'd like to see specific information about the ACP program at MMS, visit the Student Services website, linked from mms.sdmaonline.com**



We are beginning a busy music season! With trips, concerts, and a fundraiser coming up, here are some dates to keep in mind.

Feb 8th - 8th Grade Music Trip to Mamma Mia 4:30pm

Feb 28th - 6th Grade Trip to MN Orchestra & MIA during school day

March 5th - Music in Our Schools Month Performance and Fundraiser Evening (watch for details on this new event!)

March 21 - 6-12 Orchestra Concert 7pm at MHS

April 6 - Solo & Ensemble Festival & State Honors Auditions

April 10 - 8th Grade Band and Orchestra perform at adjudicated Large Group Festival during school day

April 11 - 7th and 8th Grade choirs perform at adjudicated Large Group Festival during school day

April 19 - 7th Grade Music Trip to Lion King 4:30pm

May 2, 3, 4 - MMS Spring Musical, Spamalot Young@ MHS

May 16 - 6-8 Band Concert @ MMS

May 20 - Orchestra Concert 7pm @ MMS

May 23 - 6-8 Choir Concert 7pm @ MHS

FAST FACS

FEBRUARY/
MARCH
EDITION

WHAT'S
HAPPENING?

Sewing is
SEWWWW fun
& easy!

Students in 6th grade FACS are learning hand stitching & embroidery skills! They're tasked with learning the basics like threading and knot tying, also running, whip, and button stitched. When students have mastered the basics, they begin with basic embroidery stitches like the backstitch, satin stitch, and even a lazy daisy stitch! Their final project is to design and create a bookmark showcasing all their new skills.



SHAMELESS
PLUG/BEG

Have
unused/leftover
supplies you
want to donate?
Contact Mrs.
Kellander

Students in 7th grade FACS progress to work on the sewing machines and create a pillowcase as their final project. These excellent students learn how to operate the sewing machine with confidence and successfully learn how to sew with ease and even create a french seamed case that will look professionally made! This is such a useful and fun skill for all students to learn and helps them discover how to create with their hands!



Students who complete with extra time also have the opportunity to create a patchwork bag and use the embroidery machine to stitch a design for a pillow.



Lost and Found



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

MMS IS A BULLY FREE SCHOOL ZONE

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



- **Talk to an adult you trust face to face**
Choose an adult staff member you trust and talk! We like talking with students and parents/guardians! If the adult you trust seems busy, ask to set up an appointment to share later.
- **Call an Adult You Trust**
Using the telephone to communicate is perfectly OK!
- **Write to an Adult You Trust**
If talking face to face or on the telephone is too hard, write a message to an adult you trust. Written messages can be delivered to an office or classroom. We will respond to you in a timely manner.
- **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.



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 8th grade.

Guidance Office – Paula Hagle - ext. 30635

Questions regarding students in 6th grade.

**Guidance Office – Adrianna Harrison –
ext. 30740**

Questions regarding students in 7th 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

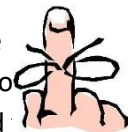
Parent/Family Online Access

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 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 3:00 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 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.

School Requirements for Immunization: 7th-12th grades

Vaccines are one of the most effective tools to keep kids healthy and in school. Some vaccines are required for Wisconsin students.*



How do I complete the Student Immunization Record?



Call your doctor or local health department and make a **vaccine visit** as early as possible.



Fill out the Student Immunization Record form (F-04020L) and then you **sign** it: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/F-04020L.htm>



Give the Student Immunization Record form to the school at the beginning of the new school year.



Call your doctor's office or local health department if you **need help** or more information.



You can track and print your student's vaccine record through the Wisconsin Immunization Registry: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/wir.htm>.

What vaccines and how many doses does my student need for school?



Your doctor may recommend additional vaccines to keep your student healthy.

4

Polio

4

DTaP/DTP/DT/TD

3

Hepatitis B

2

Varicella**

1

Tdap

2

Measles, Mumps, Rubella

*Vaccine requirements may be waived on the Student Immunization Record (F-04020L) for health, religious, or personal conviction reasons: <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/library/F-04020L.htm>

**Varicella vaccine is not required if there is a history of varicella (chicken pox) disease.



Vaccines Recommended at Ages 11-12: What Parents Should Know



Vaccines aren't just for babies. Some of the vaccines that babies get can become less effective as kids get older. As kids grow up they may also come in contact with different diseases than when they were babies. There are vaccines that can help protect your pre-teen or teen from these illnesses.

What vaccines does my child need?

- ◆ Tdap vaccine: This continues protection against tetanus, diphtheria, and pertussis (whooping cough).
- ◆ Quadrivalent meningococcal conjugate (MCV4) (meningococcal ACWY) vaccine: This vaccine protects against infection from *Neisseria meningitidis* in the lining of the brain, spinal cord, and bloodstream. Pre-teens should get the first dose when they are 11 or 12 and a booster at age 16.
- ◆ Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine: This vaccine prevents some pre-cancers and cancers related to HPV. Pre-teens should get two doses before they turn 13 years old.
- ◆ A yearly flu vaccine: It protects against getting sick and spreading the flu virus.
- ◆ COVID-19 vaccines: Staying up to date on COVID-19 boosters will help prevent getting sick from COVID-19.

When should my child be vaccinated?

- ◆ During a yearly health checkup. Ask your doctor or nurse every year if there are any vaccines that your child may need.
- ◆ At a physical exam required for sports, school, or camp.

What else should I know about these vaccines?

- ◆ These vaccines have all been studied carefully through clinical trials to evaluate safety and how well they work before they are used with the general public. Even after they are licensed for public use, scientists continue to monitor the safety of vaccines.
- ◆ Most side effects from vaccines such as pain at the injection site are mild and go away quickly on their own. Serious side effects from vaccines are rare.
- ◆ It is very important to tell the doctor or nurse if your child has any serious allergies, including allergies to yeast, latex, or chicken eggs, before they receive any vaccines.
- ◆ If you have questions, talk to your doctor or health care provider.
- ◆ For more information, visit DHS's Immunizations: Childhood and Adolescent Vaccine Information page <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/childhood.htm>.

How can I get help paying for these vaccines?

- ◆ The Vaccines for Children (VFC) program provides vaccines for children ages 18 years and younger, who are not insured, Medicaid-eligible (or Badger Care), American Indian, or Alaska Native.
- ◆ Visit the DHS VFC web page <https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/immunization/vfc-parent.htm>.





BOX TOPICS

WINTER EDITION

Easy ways to make a difference for your school.



SHOP, SNAP & GIVE BACK



Enter for a chance to win **\$20,000 in Box Tops** for your school.

When you buy any of our 350+ participating products and scan the qualifying receipt from your purchase, you'll be entered into our spectacular Shop, Snap & Give Back Sweeps.

Every qualifying scan is another entry, so make it your New Year's mantra to "shop, scan, earn and repeat!"

5 WINNERS!

Sweepstakes runs 01/01 through 02/29.

One entry per person per day

Get all the details at BTFE.COM/GIVEBACK



GET THE BOX TOPS APP & START EARNING FOR YOUR SCHOOL TODAY!

LEADERBOARD ALERT!

Leaderboards are set up by Coordinators at your school and they keep track of the highest earning classes and grades. Check the app to see if your school has a leaderboard for the new year, then go out and buy participating products and scan the qualifying receipt from your purchase. You'll start helping your designated class reach the top of the leaderboard!



WINTER ESSENTIALS

January is the perfect time to stock up on winter essentials like Progresso™ soups, Airborne® immune support supplements, Lysol® disinfectants and more. Just don't forget to scan the qualifying receipt from your purchase to earn cash for your school!

