



MIMS Newsletter

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Welcome Back!

Welcome back to another school year. For those of you new to the Mayville Middle School, I hope you soon find yourself immersed in a new variety of educationally and socially rewarding experiences. For those returning to the middle school may this year be even better and more self-satisfying than last.

At Mayville Middle School we take great pride in offering our students a range of classroom-based activities and projects in which to get involved. Required academic work, special projects and additional extra-curricular activities helps promote and well-rounded student. These interests that develop in school often lead to lifelong hobbies. And they contribute to lifelong learning as well.

May the new school year bring new friends, new classes, and build upon the knowledge and skills you already possess. The best results will come through dedicating yourself to your studies and hard work. Your middle school experience can be the foundation and springboard to higher education and achievement. May this new school year prepare you for what lies ahead and help you reach your lifelong goals.

Important Dates

| September | October |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 19 School Board Meeting – 6:00PM | 3 School Board Meeting – 6:00PM |
| 27 No School | 7 Progress Reports Out |
| | 13 Picture Retake Day - AM |
| | 17 School Board Meeting – 6:00PM |
| | 27 No School |
| | 28 No School |

Middle School Main Office Hours

Monday through Friday: 7:00 – 3:30PM

The middle school Main Office hours have changed this year. The office will open each school day morning at 7:00AM and close at 3:30PM.

New Crossing Guard Coverage Times

The Middle School will be providing crossing guard coverage both at the beginning and end of the school day at the intersection of Henninger and Breckenridge Streets. Coverage in the morning will be from 7:30 – 7:50 in the morning and from 3:00 – 3:15 after school. This is a change from past years and may impact the time you want your child leaving for school.

Arriving to School Safely

At school, we will reinforce safety rules that students should follow when walking to and from school. As their parents and guardians, you too can have a great impact on the safety of your children. Please talk with your child about their actions and choices when moving between home and school. The Mayville Police Department in conjunction with the middle school ask you to find time to review the following points with your family.

- ◆ Students walking to school should remain on the sidewalk.
- ◆ Students should be aware of their surroundings at all times especially when preparing to cross a street.
- ◆ Students riding bikes to school should obey all traffic signs riding on the correct side of the street. They also should be aware of their surroundings at all times.
- ◆ Students coming to school on bikes, skateboards, etc. are to walk with these items when on school grounds.
- ◆ If needed, students should cross Breckenridge and Henninger Streets at the intersection staffed by a crossing guard.
- ◆ Younger students should not walk alone and should be accompanied by an older sibling or adult.
- ◆ Drivers should observe posted speed limits around schools. As a reminder please remember that school zone speed limit is 15mph. The law changed. The old law read a child must be in the school zone for the speed limit to be in effect. The new law reads if a child and or crossing guard is in a school zone the speed limit is 15mph.
- ◆ Seat belts should be worn at all times.

The Cardinal Way

Be Responsible

Be respectful

Be Safe

You have probably heard your son or daughter talk about the '*Cardinal Way*'. The Cardinal Way is the Mayville School District's name for a set of expectations we are teaching students. Those expectations are; be responsible, be respectful, and be safe. All children are being taught the behaviors that demonstrate these expectations as they apply to the different areas within the school. These areas include classroom, hallway, bathroom, cafeteria and others.

The Cardinal way comes from an approach for establishing common expectations that includes teaching all students about them. PBIS is the application of behavior analysis to achieve socially important behavior changes. Initially established as an intervention approach for individual students, and has extended to an intervention approach for the entire school.

It is not a new intervention package, nor is it a new theory of behavior. It is an application of behaviorally-based systems approach to enhance the capacity of schools, families and communities to develop effective environments that are conducive to teaching and learning. The attention is focused on creating and sustaining school environments that improve lifestyle results for all children by making the problem behavior less effective and desired behavior more functional. All of our teachers are talking to students about the Cardinal Way. They are teaching the expected behaviors and enforcing them throughout the day. This month we focused on cafeteria behavior. Cafeteria expectations can be found at the back of the newsletter. Please use the charts to review what is expected in the cafeteria with your child.

Bus Safety

"As children begin preparing to return to school, it's important for parents and children to go over school bus safety tips together," says Susan Laurence, injury prevention coordinator, Trauma Services at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. "This will help ensure a safe, enjoyable start to the school year for everyone."

According to the National Highway Traffic and Safety Administration, an average of 19 school-age occupants of school transportation vehicles and pedestrians die in school transportation-related traffic crashes each year.

According to Laurence, many injuries happen when children are boarding or exiting the bus. "A blind spot extends about ten feet in front of the bus, obstructing the driver's view," she said. "Often, children are not aware of this blind spot and might mistakenly believe that if they can see the bus, the bus driver can see them," she said.

Laurence offers the following suggestions to parents to help ensure their child is safe before, during and after their school bus ride.

- Make sure your child arrives at the stop at least five minutes before the bus arrives.
- Encourage your child to avoid horseplay while waiting on the bus.
- Remind your child to remain seated while on the bus, face forward at all times and keep the aisles clear.
- Remind your child not to shout while on the bus or distract the driver unnecessarily.
- Make sure your child knows to keep his head and arms inside the bus at all times.
- Remove loose drawstrings or ties on your child's jacket because they can snag on bus handrails.

When boarding or leaving the bus, parents should instruct their child to:

- Always walk in a single file line and use the handrail to avoid falls.
- Look before stepping into the street to make sure there are no cars passing the bus.
- Cross the street at least 10 feet (or 5 giant steps) in front of the bus.
- Wait until the bus comes to a complete stop before exiting.
- Always exit from the front of the bus.

- Ask the bus driver for help if anything is dropped while entering or exiting the bus.

Student Services

The middle school has a new school psychologist and her name is Mrs. Michelle Sievers. We are fortunate to have many caring people at MMS dedicated to helping both students and families. Like all of our educators, Mrs. Sievers provides support to our school community. Here, she describes her role so that you can know her and what she does.

Dear Parents,

I want to introduce myself as the new School Psychologist of the middle school. I am very excited to work at Mayville and have already observed what a positive place it is. I will be working close to 50% as I also work at the Erin School District. I've been at Erin for 17 years so I am hoping that my experience will be beneficial in fostering the learning of the students at Mayville.

Some of my responsibilities include;

- Consulting- with parents and teachers with respect to child development, and respective barriers and aids to behavior and learning.
- Assessment (Special Education and Regular Education)- Identify cognitive strengths/weaknesses, academic functioning, attention difficulties, behavior and emotional functioning, giftedness, and learning styles
- Intervention/Prevention-
 - work with a team of teachers, parents, and administration to coordinate the implementation of interventions to assure academic and social-emotional success. (Response to Intervention/RtI is a term you might be hearing)
 - assist students in setting goals to improve behavior and/or motivation if needed.

If your child is experiencing any difficulty in their school life, I hope that I can be of assistance to you and your child. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. Attached is some information that I hope you find helpful. Have a wonderful school year!

Sincerely,
Michell Sievers, M.S. Ed.
School Psychologist

Pets at School – A New District Wide Policy

It is the intent of the Mayville School District to provide a comfortable, safe, and healthy learning environment for all students. This includes times and areas associated with the arrival and departure of students to school, during regular school hours, and spectator events after school hours.

The presence of animals in and around schools is a controversial subject given the unique relationship between people and their pets in general and the interest students have for animals in particular. While the school appreciates this inclusion into the family, and values pet ownership

as an educational experience, it also acknowledges other families (and individuals) can find contact with animals stressful, even frightening. While there are benefits to be derived through the interaction between children and animals, we also need to be aware of the risks associated with the presence of animals on school grounds.

The School District recognizes that animals have been part of the learning experience at school and have beneficial and therapeutic effects for students including acceptance, bonding, caring, and the teaching of responsibility. Animals may be brought into the school for education purposes under the conditions established by school board policy so as to ensure the comfort, health and safety of students, staff, and visitors as well as the well being of the animal(s). Any animal on school property must be caged or leashed and in complete control by the owner at all times. The owner is responsible for its care including pick up and proper disposal of all feces deposited by the animal on school property.

Of special concern are dogs due to the strong bond and protective response they develop with their owner and family. As such, dogs are not permitted on school district property, except on sidewalks used for normal pedestrian traffic around, but not through, school district property.

Math Fun

This activity is a great way to help children with basic number sense. After each round, ask your child to figure out how many pennies are left. Younger children will need to count the remaining pennies and older children should be able to calculate the total.



Math @Home

Pennies in the Pot
Start the game with 25 pennies. Each player takes a turn rolling a single die and picking up the number of pennies he or she rolls on the die. To pick up the last pennies, however, the number on the die must match *exactly* the number of pennies that remain. When there are no pennies left in the pot, the player with the most pennies is the winner.

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Student Council is pleased to announce the elected officers for 2011-2012:

President: Kate Amerling
Vice President: Brandon Hull
Secretary: Shelby Strand
Treasurer: Tasha Henkel
Public Relations: Kayla Belfield
Historian: Taylor Mangan
Fundraising: Hannah Zipperer

We invite all interested 7th and 8th graders to join the council and be part of the action here at MMS! We meet during Jr. High lunch the first and third Thursdays of each month. Simply take a form from outside of the music room, get the needed signatures, and turn the form in to Mrs. Caspary by the end of the day, September 14th. Our first meeting will be held on Thursday, September 15th. We look forward to your enthusiasm and involvement in the MMS Student Council!!!

Earth Club News

Earth Club this year will continue to be on the third Tuesday of every month starting in October and excluding November because of conferences. Most meetings will end at 4pm with field trips going later until approximately 5pm. A sign up sheet explaining Earth Club is going home with every student Friday September 9th in the Friday Folders. This year we have many fun and exciting programs coming back along with our possible fundraiser selling Uncle Jerry's T's.

Please sign your student up and return the permission slip either to the Middle School Office or Mr. Gruett. If you have any questions about Earth Club do not hesitate to call me at the Middle School at Ext. 224 or email me at tgruett@mayville.k12.wi.us. Also advising with me this year will be Mrs. Wollersheim, Mrs. Stein, and Mrs. Paulsen.

Thanks,
Mr. Gruett

Mayville Middle School Culture Club

The MMS Culture Club's purpose is to celebrate and learn about the cultural diversity within our school, community, country and world. Members participate in a variety of activities throughout the school year that are geared towards increasing the acceptance of different cultures.

We meet during the second and the fourth Mondays of the month with the exception of a few schedule changes. Students, in grades 5-8 participate, in crafts and food projects from around the world. Other activities have included cultural field trips, interviewing foreign exchange students, decorating a holiday tree at the Avenue of Trees, food drives and the PTA Lip Sync. Activities vary from year to year.

As a member of the MMS Culture Club, students will be expected to attend meetings and participate in fundraising, in order to pay for all cultural expenses. If you want to go on field trips, you need to attend meetings. Students are responsible for checking their semester calendar for meeting dates and times. Students are expected to follow the Cardinal Way at all times by being respectful, responsible, and safe. If you are interested in participating in this club, contact Mrs. Weiglein. Her extension is 254.

The School Counselor's Corner

The start of school is an exciting time of year for all of us – students, teachers, and parents. This is the start of my 12th year as the counselor at Mayville Middle School. Each year brings new excitement and challenges for all of us.

As a parent, I know that this time of year can also be very hectic for us and our children, as we adjust to new schedules, attend or participate in activities, do homework (or help with it), etc. By working together we can help our children face their challenges and attain success.

With that in mind, I encourage parents or guardians to contact me at any time throughout the school year if there is an issue or concern to address. My number here at school is: 387-7970, ext. 242. I am here to help your children be successful.

During the school year, I go into classrooms to present guidance lessons in grades 3-6, and career lessons in grades 7-8. The guidance topic for September will focus on getting acquainted and making friends. Later this semester I will be starting counseling groups for students who may benefit. Groups focus on social skills issues, dealing with family change, ADHD issues, and peer support (grades 7-8). Students can be recommended for groups by teachers, parents, or students themselves. If you have any questions about groups please contact me at the number listed above. Let's make this a great school year.

Tom Teofilo
Mayville Middle School Counselor
(920) 387-7970 ext. 242

Accessing Lunch Account Information

Parents will receive a call when their lunch account has a balance of \$5.00 or lower. In addition to the calls our computer will make to inform families of their balance, parents can access lunch account information from our web site at www.mayvilleschools.com. Access to lunch account history can be obtained from the main page of the school district's web site. At the left of the page is a button that reads 'FAMILY ACCESS'. Click on this button and you will go to another page that will allow you to enter your login and password. On left under General Information, select Food Service. This is a great way to keep track of the purchasing habits of your children.

When family lunch accounts are \$6.00 or more in arrears, access to these accounts for purchasing lunch will be denied. For our students in grades 3 and 4 who are \$6.00 or more in arrears their lunch account will be turned off after a call from the school's office on the day the notice is printed. The call is a final attempt to remind parents of our youngest students to address the lunch account balance.

For those families who are having trouble paying for school lunch, the district does have options. These families can check with school officials about applying for free or reduced lunch. For those families that are receiving free lunch, students will continue to receive lunch despite having a balance to be paid. Seconds or additional milk will not be available to these families until the balance has been paid. Anyone who has questions can call the schools.

Accessing Student Information through the School District Website

Mayville Public Schools utilizes a student accounting and records system called Skyward to manage student data. Teachers in grades 3 through 12 are using the electronic grade book feature

of this program to record and calculate student grades. A feature of Skyward is the Parent Access. This feature allows you to view your child's grades.

1. Log onto the district website at www.mayvilleschools.com
2. Click on the "Family Access" button and a second screen will appear.
3. Within this 2nd screen, enter your login and password.
**You received this information at the start of school.
4. Click on the item under General Information on the left side of the screen to access grades, attendance, schedule, food service, etc.
5. If you have more than one student you can change students by clicking on the drop down arrow on the top of the screen and select the next student.

Student Insurance

The School District of Mayville does not provide student insurance for accidents that may occur during school sponsored activities. If you do not feel your personal insurance is adequate or if you do not have insurance for your child, you may wish to purchase him/her a student accidental policy available through a private carrier. Please feel free to call the school with any questions regarding this detail.

10 Tips To Foster Your Child's School Performance

Written by Michelle Sievers, Adapted by The National Parent Teacher Association



1. Show Your Child Love And Affection

Showing your children that you love and appreciate them and creating a caring environment at home triggers better memory recall, thinking and problem solving skills. While loving your children may seem obvious, emerging research suggests that encouraging and facilitating emotional balance in young children can result in positive behavioral outcomes, which in turn enhance learning ability.

2. Feed Your Child Breakfast Everyday

Children get about one-fourth of their nutrient needs from breakfast, and research shows that skipping breakfast impairs children's performance in school. Among the effects are decreased attention span and ability to concentrate, restlessness, less energy and enthusiasm, and poor academic achievement. Research has also shown that what children eat is very important to function optimally in school.

3. Ensure Your Child Receives Nine to 10 Hours Of Sleep Each Night

To absorb core learning skills such as those required for reading, math and other tasks of memory, children require adequate sleep. Yet, research has shown that nearly half of all children under the age of 13 complain of being tired during the day. Adequate sleep contributes to several important learning, emotional, behavioral and performance-related functions.

4. Schedule Regular Health Check-Ups For Your Child

Regular physicals, immunizations, hearing and vision screenings are key to monitoring your child's overall health. Poor health has an adverse affect on children's mental and physical performance in school and can be linked to impaired learning ability, attention deficits, hearing and vision problems, and low attendance and participation in school.



5. Take An Active Role In Your Child's Education

For many years, research has shown that parents who are involved in their children's learning enhance their children's academic success. Some direct benefits derived from a parent's involvement include higher grades and test scores, long-term academic success and positive attitudes toward learning. Reading with your child, talking about school, showing concern for your child's progress and giving time to the school through organizations such as the PTC are a few simple ways to show your child you care about learning and their academic success.

6. Dedicate 10 to 60 Minutes a Day To Your Child's Homework

Children who regularly spend time on assigned homework do better in school, especially as they move into the upper grades. Most educators agree that children in grades K-2 should spend no more than 20 minutes each school day on homework, while children in grades 3-8 should spend 30-60 minutes on homework each day. To help your children develop and maintain good study habits, make your home conducive to learning. Create a special place in your home for your child to work that is organized, quiet and free of distractions. Show your child that you think homework is important by staying involved in their assignments.

7. Set High, But Realistic Expectations For Your Child

Setting unrealistic expectations for your children can actually hinder their drive to perform well and can lead to depression, anxiety and a lack of self-esteem and confidence. The key to success is to foster a love of learning by keeping children challenged academically and setting realistic goals for their learning level. In doing so, parents will help their child achieve a greater level of confidence and academic success.

8. Encourage An Interest Your Child Loves and Feels Good About

Participation in extracurricular activities has been linked to academic achievement in children. While it is important not to overwhelm your child with an exhausting schedule of activities, focusing some of your child's free time on something that they enjoy and feel good is important to their self-esteem and confidence. This is especially true for children who do not excel in academic tasks.



9. Ensure Your Child Participates In Physical Activity Daily

Whether it's riding a bike, participating in an after-school sport or regularly attending a school physical education class, devoting an hour daily to physical activity and fitness can provide several lifelong health benefits. An emerging body of research on children also shows an association between regular participation in sports or physical exercise and improvements in self-esteem, discipline, some cognitive tasks and classroom behavior.



10. Encourage Participation In The Art, Music, And Creative Play

Arts, Music and creative playtime helps children learn and develop numerous core academic skills important for reading, writing, language development and problem solving. Encouraging activities such as drawing, playing dress-up, looking at books, painting, singing, playing an instrument, and building blocks, may help children learn to read, understand spatial relationships and develop important hand-eye coordination skills. In fact, studies have shown that children who are exposed to music training increase their spatial reasoning skills, which are important skills needed for math, science and engineering.





The Cardinal Way



| Mayville Expectations | All Settings | Lunchroom |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| Be Responsible | Follow Directions Stay in Supervised area Report bullying | Clean up table and floor area around you Wait your turn |
| Be Respectful | Treat others the way you want to be treated Care for Property: yours, others, school | Use inside voices Follow supervisor's directions Be polite-say please and thank you |
| Be Safe | Body Control | Wash Hands Body Control Enjoy you own meal |

Lunch Room Procedure

1. Single File Line to get your lunch
2. Use "Inside Voices"
3. Sit at your table and enjoy your lunch
4. Make sure your area is clean
5. Raise your hand when finished and wait to dump your tray
6. Return to your seat
7. When whistle blows FREEZE and get ready to be dismissed
8. Leave the lunchroom respectfully when your classroom is called
9. Voices are off beginning at the hand sanitizer posts
10. Line basics in hall back to classroom

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| <p>Line Basics</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Face Forward 2. Voices off 3. Hands by your side 4. Quiet Walking feet 5. Stay to the right |
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| |
|--|
| <p>Body Control</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Hands to self 2. Feet to self 3. Personal space 4. Walk |
|--|