



East Lansing Public Schools

MMS MATTERS

March 9, 2018



TIME TO SPRING FORWARD

Daylight Savings Time begins this Sunday, March 11. Don't forget to set your clocks ahead one hour Saturday evening. Unfortunately, this is where we lose an hour of sleep but the good news is we will gain an extra hour of sunshine at the end of the day.



WALKOUT OF CLASS

On March 14 MMS students will be having a Walkout of Class for school safety. This event is going to take place at 10:00 a.m. for 17 minutes in honor of the victims in the Parkland, FL school shooting.

Mrs. Martin met with our 7th and 8th grade student leaders regarding the details of the event. For those who would like to participate, you will report to the following designated areas during your passing time between 2nd and 3rd hours:

- 8th grade – Auditorium
- 7th grade – Old gym
- 6th grade – New gym

If you do not want to participate you will have the option of going to a designated classroom during this time. There will be no consequences whether you chose to participate or not. However, for safety and security reasons all students will remain inside the building.

Students who choose to walkout of class and feel passionately about school safety may submit a speech, poem, song or any form of literature that is 2 to 3 minutes in length to Mrs. Martin. Four of the performances will be chosen in each grade to present during the walkout.



FINAL CALL FOR ALL TAKE APART ITEMS

Mr. Voigt's Design and Build class will be starting their Take Apart week on March 12. Their collection center is still low and they do not have enough items for the students to use for their projects. We hope you will consider looking around your home or office for items to contribute. The collection center is set up just inside the cafeteria where you may deposit your items through March 12. The list of acceptable and unacceptable items is included with this newsletter.



PARENT CONFERENCE DINNER

The Parent Council is hosting dinner for our teachers during conferences on March 22 and they need your help. It is easier than you think! They will be ordering dinner from McAlister's so they are not looking for you to make anything or drop it off. However, they are asking for monetary donations to help cover the cost of the meal. Please [click here](#) and you will be directed to the MMS donation page or click the link to sign-up via Sign-Up Genius. These kinds of events wouldn't be possible without amazing families like yours, and it is SO APPRECIATED. <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f0549a9af2ea75-mmsteacher3>



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

As parent teacher conferences quickly approach (**March 20 and March 22**), it is time to use the online scheduling system to schedule conferences. Parent teacher conferences are important in keeping communication open between teachers and parents.

To schedule a conference with your child's teachers, click on this link: <http://www.myconferencetime.com/macdonald/>. You can also find the link on the MacDonald Middle School website found at elps.us - schools - MacDonald Middle School.

Please note that you will need an email address that you can receive emails from the scheduling system. If you do not have an email, please contact Kelly Hocquard, kelly.hocquard@elps.us for assistance in scheduling parent teacher conferences. Also, in order for teachers to see as many parents as possible, we ask that one conference time be scheduled per child.

TRACK & FIELD

MMS TRACK AND FIELD

MacDonald Middle School along with the City of East Lansing is offering Track and Field for 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls. Open practice will be held on March 12 and 13 from 3:10 p.m. – 5:30 p.m. in the new gym at MMS. There will be a parent meeting on March 14 at 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria. In order to attend open practice, potential participants must register in the office from March 1 – March 9. A student must have no E's in any classes to be eligible to participate. They must maintain this standard throughout the season. Please see the attached flyer with more information regarding Track and Field.



EIGHTH GRADE TRANSITION TO HIGH SCHOOL

Parents and guardians of 8th grade students are invited to attend the Parent Night in the Performing Arts Center at the high school beginning at 6:30 p.m. on March 27. The evening is open to students as well. The agenda for the evening will be:

- 6:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. – General information about ELHS from Principal Wells in the Performing Arts Center
- 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. – Information about high school courses from department/curriculum chairs in the Student Union

If you have any questions or concern, please contact the ELHS Administration or Student Services.

Due to the change in the parent meeting, freshman course request forms are now going to be due on March 29. This will give parents a chance to attend the meeting and listen to the high school staff before having to make decisions regarding classes next year.

Also, looking ahead – our 8th grade students will be attending Move Up day at the high school on June 5 from 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Students will go to the high school to meet coaches, get a tour and experience lunch in the ELHS cafeteria.



SIXTH GRADE FIELD TRIP

The sixth graders will be going to the Lansing Lugnuts game on May 30 for their end-of-year field trip. The cost of the trip is \$12.00 which covers the admission to the game and the cost of the bus. Students will need to bring money for their lunch. Outside food and beverages are not allowed. There are scholarships available for those needing financial assistance.

The attached permission slip with eligibility guidelines needs to be returned to their Trojan Time teacher by March 28. In order for the correct number of tickets to be ordered, students that do not return the permission slip by the deadline will not be able to attend.



MACDONALD CHESS CLUB CONTINUES

The MacDonald Middle School Chess club will be having another session beginning on March 15. The club will meet on Thursdays from 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. in ROOM 124. The cost to join is \$10.00 and financial assistance is available. No experience necessary and parents and staff volunteers are welcome! An informational flyer is included with the newsletter and can be found on the Blue Board next to the cafeteria.



ACTIVITY NIGHT

The next Activity Night will be held on March 16 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The theme is March Madness and students are encouraged to wear their favorite team's colors or jersey to show their support. There is a \$3.00 suggested donation plus a student ID and all food and beverages are \$1.00 each. There will be basketball, ping pong, board games, DJ, dancing and snacks. The MMSPC is looking for parent volunteers to help with Activity Night. Please click the link to sign-up to volunteer [Activity Night parent volunteers](#).



TROJAN YOUTH SOFTBALL CLINICS

East Lansing Softball will be holding Softball clinics for U8 - U14 on March 17 and March 24 from 2:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. in the ELHS gyms. Throwing/fielding/hitting will be on both days and pitching will be on March 24. The clinic will be run by ELHS coaches and players. RSVP to eastlansingsoftball@gmail.com.

Order a Yearbook Today!
It's Not Too Late.

Don't miss out.

YEARBOOKS STILL AVAILABLE TO PRE-ORDER

It is not too late to order a yearbook for the 2017 – 2018 school year. Yearbooks may be pre-ordered online by clicking here: [Yearbook 17-18](#) and using the Yearbook ID Code: **11190918**. The cost of soft cover yearbook is \$20.00 and additional upgrades are available. If you prefer to pay with cash or check, yearbook order forms are available on the Blue Board and may be turned into the office. Check may be made payable to Lifetouch.



SIXTH GRADE ORCHESTRA CONCERT RESCHEDULED

The sixth grade orchestra concert scheduled for March 14 has been cancelled. Mr. Rosin, the 7 – 12 grade orchestra director is working on rescheduling the concert sometime in April. The Encore Strings, an advanced high school strings, would like to do something special with the 6th grade orchestra. The concert will feature the 6th grade orchestra, Encore Strings and a couple combined pieces. Information on the rescheduled date will be sent as soon as it is finalized.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- March 12:** Track and field open practice – West gym – 3:10 p.m.
Language Exploration club – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
Jr Trojans Wrestling – Upper Gym – 6:00 p.m.
- March 13:** Track and field open practice – West gym – 3:10 p.m.
GOTR – Room 228 – 3:00 p.m.
Jr Trojans Wrestling – Upper Gym – 6:00 p.m.
- March 14:** Track and field practice – West gym – 3:10 p.m.
Language Exploration club – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
Track parent meeting – Cafeteria – 5:30 p.m.
- March 15:** Track and field practice – West gym – 3:10 p.m.
GOTR – Room 228 – 3:00 p.m.
Chess club – Room 124 – 3:00 p.m.
Sign Language club – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
Yearbook club – Room 249 – 3:00 p.m.
Jr Trojans Wrestling – Upper Gym – 6:00 p.m.
- March 16:** Activity Night – Cafeteria/Gym – 6:30 p.m. – March Madness
- March 19:** Track and field practice – West gym – 3:10 p.m.
Language Exploration club – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
Jr Trojans Wrestling – Upper Gym – 6:00 p.m.
- March 20:** Half day of school – dismissed at 11:20 a.m.
Scheduled parent teacher conferences – Gyms – 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- March 21:** Track and field practice – West gym – 3:10 p.m.
Language Exploration club – Room 134 – 3:00 p.m.
Kindergarten Parent Info meeting – Auditorium – 6:00 p.m.
- March 22:** Activities/club pictures – Auditorium – 8:00 a.m.
Half day of school – dismissed at 11:20
Scheduled parent teacher conferences – Gyms - 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.; 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- March 23:** **No School**