



East Lansing Public Schools

MMS MATTERS

September 15, 2017

CURRICULUM NIGHT

Thank you to all of the families who attended Curriculum Night. We had a wonderful turnout and received many positive comments. As a reminder, if you need to contact one of the teachers or staff members you may find their email on our webpage: www.elps.us > **SCHOOLS** > **MacDonald Middle School** > **Teacher Pages**.



ELEF TAILGATE

Please join us for the sixth annual ELEF Tailgate before the ELHS home football game **TONIGHT**, September 15, 2017. The tailgate will be held on the west side of Lynn C. Adams Stadium from 5:15 p.m. – 6:45 p.m. or until the food is gone. The ELHS March Band Drum Line will provide entertainment. The menu includes a chicken wrap by Grand Grillin', chips, apple, cookie and a drink for \$5.00 a person. New kindergarten students receive a free hot dog meal.

Come and support our schools and learn more about the East Lansing Educational Foundation.



PowerSchool Parent Portal provides you with the ability to check your child's attendance, grades, homework assignments or missing homework. You also may register to receive alert notifications, review daily comments from teachers and much more. PowerSchool allows you to have one login for each or your children. You can access PowerSchool with a Web Browser or by downloading an App on your smart device.

To set up your Parent Portal account you may go to www.elps.us > **PARENTS** > **PowerSchool: Request a Parent Portal**. This form can be used to request a new parent portal account as well as parents requesting to have a password reset. If this is your first time accessing PowerSchool you will need to obtain an Access ID and Access Password from the school.

To view a tutorial on setting up the account please click on the following link <http://eastlansingpd.weebly.com/parent-portals.html>.



PARENTS NEEDED

We are looking for a parent or two to help supervise students as they walk from the parking lot to the building in the morning. We would need someone from approximately 7:45 a.m. until 8:05 a.m. This is a very busy time of day and we have a number of students being dropped off and walking across the parking lot and the drop off loop.

In addition, if your child is being dropped off in the parking lot and walking across the crosswalk, please remind them to make sure they walk slowly (no running) and they look both ways before crossing the drop off loop.



INFORMATION VERIFICATION FORMS

Information Verification forms were included in the student packets on Activities Day. This form lists all of the information we have in PowerSchool. In an effort to make sure we have current information, we are asking all parents to return the form even if everything is correct. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hocquard, kelly.hocquard@elps.us. Thank you for your assistance.



ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT MMS

As a reminder, the only time a tardy is excused when arriving late to school is when a student has been at an appointment. Please provide a slip from the doctor at the time they check in. Students may sign themselves in for school, however, we ask that if you are taking your child out of school early that you come into the office to sign them out.

Also, if your child is going to be absent please call the attendance line at 517-333-7601 to excuse the absence. The number is available 24 hours. Absences not called in will be marked as Unexcused. Parents will receive a message in the evening if a child has been marked unexcused absent or tardy.

Thank you for your assistance in marking sure your child is to school on time.



MMS PARENT COUNCIL

Each year the MMS Parent Council depends on your generosity for the one and only fundraiser. This single event hopes to raise approximately \$10,000 to fund some truly amazing opportunities such as; using math software to practice math skills, watching attention-grabbing videos in Social Studies, go on interesting and exciting field trips or possibly participating in Fit Gym, Yearbook or Math Club. Every penny that is donated goes directly to your children and their teachers. Donating is EASY! Visit <http://mmsparentcouncil.wixsite.com/mmspc> and click "Donate Now." You may also send a check payable to MMSPC to the office. Your donation is tax deductible. Thank you for supporting MMS!

Also, MMS Parent Council meetings will be held the 4th Tuesday of each month. The meetings will begin at 6:00 p.m. and are held in the MMS Media Center. We would love to have you join us.



STUDENT ACCIDENT INSURANCE

The district will again extend the opportunity for parents to secure insurance coverage for their children, which covers accidents while attending school and while traveling to and from school for regular day school sessions as well as 24-hour coverage. To see a brochure and application online, visit www.1stAgency.com.



MMS ATHLETICS

MacDonald Middle School's Volleyball and Cross County teams have started their season. Our Cross Country team participated in the Fowlerville Invitational on Wednesday, September 13 and our Volleyball teams faced Holt on Thursday, September 14. Congratulations to all of our athletes...Way to show Jr. Trojan Spirit.



M-STEP RESULTS

The M-Step results from last year (2016 – 2017) will be mailed home to families on Wednesday, September 20. Included with the results will be a letter from Glenn Mitcham, Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment regarding the M-Step. If you have any questions or concerns after receiving your child's results, please feel free to contact Mrs. Martin, amy.martin@elps.us.



EIGHTH GRADERS WILL TAKE PSAT

On Wednesday, October 11, our eighth grade students will be taking a grade level PSAT test. The purpose of the test is to give all students an opportunity to experience taking a college and career readiness test and to identify students who might benefit from advanced coursework.

It is important for students to be prepared on test day. Your student should answer all questions to his or her ability. It will also help if he or she gets plenty of sleep the night before and eats a good breakfast the morning of the test. Students must be to school on-time. The test will begin at 8:05 a.m. and will conclude by 11:45 a.m. There will not be an opportunity for students to take the test if they arrive late to school.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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| September 18: | Cross Country meet at East Lansing
Volleyball vs. Fowlerville – 8 home, 7 away |
| September 20: | M-step results mailed home
Volleyball vs. Okemos – 7 home, 8 away |
| September 25: | Cross Country meet at Holt
Volleyball vs. Jackson Parkside – 8 home, 7 away |
| September 26: | MMS Parent Council meeting – 6:00 p.m. – media center |
| September 27: | Volleyball vs. Williamston – 7 home, 8 away |
| October 11: | PSAT for 8 th graders |
| October 17: | Parent teacher conferences |
| October 19: | Parent teacher conferences |
| October 20: | No school |