



East Lansing Public Schools

# MMS MATTERS

September 22, 2017



## BAND AND ORCHESTRA CHICAGO TRIP MEETING

There will be a parent meeting on Tuesday, September 26 for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade band and orchestra Chicago trip. The meeting will take place in the MMS Auditorium from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kroth, [patricia.kroth@elps.us](mailto:patricia.kroth@elps.us) or Mr. Rosin, [david.rosin@elps.us](mailto:david.rosin@elps.us).



## TAKE APART WEEK

Mr. Voigt's Design and Build class will be holding a "Take-Apart-Week" during October. Students will explore how to use tools to take apart appliances and investigate how machines work through the process of reverse engineering.

To make the "Take Apart Week" a success, however, they need your help with the collection of all types of take-apart machines and "upcyclable" materials. These items are important since they serve as the "raw material" of study and springboard for re-creation of new projects. Attached with the newsletter is more information regarding this upcoming week as well as a list of acceptable Take-Apart and Upcyclable items. Please note the list specifies acceptable and unacceptable items.

We hope you will consider looking around your home or office for items to contribute. A collection center will be set up just inside the cafeteria where you may deposit your items any time school is open.

Thank you so much for your help. We are excited to see the students' creations.



## LATE BUS

The late bus will begin this coming Monday, September 25 and will run every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. The bus company requires students to be placed on the list or they will not be allowed to ride. Teachers and staff will place the students on the list. Students staying after school for club meetings, working with a teacher, Academic Center, etc. are allowed to ride. The bus will leave MMS at approximately 4:05 p.m. and will go to all the neighborhoods to drop students off.



## STUDENT DROP OFF

As a reminder, please make sure your child is using the crosswalk from the parking lot when being dropped off or picked up from school. Also, students must walk slowly (no running) and look both ways before crossing the drop off loop.

We are still in need of 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. If you are interested in helping please contact Mrs. Martin, [amy.martin@elps.us](mailto:amy.martin@elps.us) or Mr. Atkinson, [john.atkinson@elps.us](mailto:john.atkinson@elps.us). Thank you for considering to help in keeping our students safe in the morning.



## PARENT PORTAL

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 of 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](http://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>.



## INFORMATION VERIFICATION FORMS

Student Count Day will be Wednesday, October 4. In an effort to have information in PowerSchool correct we need all students to return the Information Verification form that was included in the student packet. We ask all parents to return the form even if everything is correct. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hocquard, [kelly.hocquard@elps.us](mailto:kelly.hocquard@elps.us). Thank you for your assistance.



## **PROOF OF RESIDIENCY**

If you have moved, please provide us with new documentation for your child's school record. The State of Michigan requires two pieces of proof of residency be on file for each student in the public school system. As a reminder, if you have moved out of the district you must complete a Continuation form and obtain a release of state aid from your resident district for your child to continue attending school at MacDonald. Please contact Kelly Hocquard, [kelly.hocquard@elps.us](mailto:kelly.hocquard@elps.us) regarding this form.



## **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 4<sup>th</sup> 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.



## 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.



## COOPERSTOWN BASEBALL TEAM TRYOUTS

The East Lansing Baseball Club will be holding tryouts for the 2018 Cooperstown baseball team on Saturday, September 23 from 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. at Patriarche Park. If you have any questions, please contact Jack Johnson, [jack.johnson@elps.us](mailto:jack.johnson@elps.us).



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

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| <b>September 25:</b> | Cross Country meet at Holt<br>Volleyball vs. Jackson Parkside – 8 home, 7 away |
| <b>September 26:</b> | MMS Parent Council meeting – 6:00 p.m. – media center                          |
| <b>September 27:</b> | Volleyball vs. Williamston – 7 home, 8 away                                    |
| <b>September 30:</b> | ELBOPA Car Wash – MMS Parking Lot  |
| <b>October 2:</b>    | Cross Country at Haslett<br>Volleyball vs. Grand Ledge – 7 home, 8 away        |
| <b>October 4:</b>    | Student Count Day<br>Volleyball vs. Haslett – 7 home, 8 away                   |

- October 11:** PSAT for 8<sup>th</sup> graders
- October 17:** Parent teacher conferences
- October 19:** Parent teacher conferences
- October 20:** No school