

# Monthly News Letter August

## Mifflin County Middle School

2 Manor Drive Lewistown, PA 17044

<https://www.mcSDK12.org/mcms/> T: 717-242-1401



Dear MCMS parents/guardians,

We would like to welcome your students back to school. We understand that these are uncertain times. The MCMS newsletter has been created to share important information and to keep you up-to-date on events and activities.

## Important Dates 2020

- September 2 – Teacher Inservice Day – No School for Students
- September 3 – Teacher Workday – No School for Students
- September 4 – Act 80 Day
- September 7 – Labor Day – No School for Students
- September 8 – First Day of School for Students
- September 14 - Picture Day
- September 18 - Act 80 Day - No School for Students
- September 25 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- October 2 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- October 9 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- October 16 - Act 80 Day - No School for Students
- October 23 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- October 30 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- November 6 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- November 16 - Picture Retakes
- November 9 - Parent Conferences 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
- November 10 - Inservice Day - No School for Students
- November 11 - Veterans Day - No School for Students
- November 13 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- November 25 - Early Dismissal for Thanksgiving Vacation at 1:15
- November 26 through November 27 - Thanksgiving Vacation - No School
- December 4 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- December 11 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- December 18 - Remote Instruction Day for Students
- December 24 through January 1 - Christmas Vacation - No School for Students

## Upcoming Events

### August 19

Orientation Video will be live.

### August 24

Students can access Skyward.

### September 8

First Day of School

## Important Announcement

**Attendance is required on Remote Learning Days.**

- On Remote Learning Days (beginning Friday, September 25), students will be expected to log into Skyward Family/Student Access on their accounts using the mobile app, a laptop or a desktop computer between 5:30 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.
- After logging into Skyward Family/Student Access, the student will be required to navigate to two areas in Skyward Family/Student Access (ex. Click on Grades then click on Attendance).

# Student Drop Off/Pick Up/Walkers

Before and after school students should be dropped off and/or picked up in the Cafeteria Parking Lot. Student drop offs and walkers will enter through the doors at Entrance #17.



## Student Pick Up During School Hours

Parents/guardians do **not** need to enter the office to sign their student in or out when he/she is returning or leaving for an appointment. Simply send an excuse in with the student. When you arrive at the school, call the main office (717-242-1401 Ext. 6500) or ring the buzzer. Students will sign themselves out. They may also sign themselves in when returning to the building from an appointment or if tardy to school.

If you must enter the office, masks are required and you will be asked to complete a health form stating that you have no symptoms of illness.

## Family Access

Family Access is an excellent resource to keep up to date on your student's academic progress and we encourage you to access it regularly. **You will need to access it to see your child's schedule and bus information beginning on August 24th.** If you need login information, please call Mrs. Hesketh, the guidance secretary, at 717-242-1401 extension 6506 for assistance.

Bus information can also be accessed using Stopfinder, an easy-to-use parent app that enables registered users to see their child's bus schedule and to get push notifications with schedule changes such as a late bus. To ensure that you are able to take advantage of this free service, the transportation department will be using the primary parent/guardian email address that is on file for each student. To add/update your email information, please contact our office or go to Family Access and add/update it.

## Guidance

Mr. Andy McCardell and Mrs. Jane Foor are the MCMS guidance counselors. Mr. McCardell is the 6<sup>th</sup> grade counselor and Mrs. Foor is the 7<sup>th</sup> grade counselor. The counselors stay with their cohort of students for two years so they can get to know their students and families. Please contact them if you have any concerns throughout the school year.

### Guidance



Mrs. Foor  
7<sup>th</sup> Grade



Mr. McCardell  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade

# Electronic Devices

The following rules and regulations will be followed at all times:

- The use of cell phones/electronic devices are prohibited during the instructional day. All cell phones must be turned OFF.
- Students are permitted to use their cell phones in the morning prior to homeroom and at the end of the instructional day.
- Students may NOT use electronic devices to call home when they are sick without permission from the school nurse.

Electronic Device violations will be dealt with in the following manner:

- An Electronic Device that goes off (student receives a text, call, alert or notification during class and the device is not off) will result in disciplinary measures including but not limited to a warning, parental contact, detention, or ISS with subsequent offenses.
- Use of Electronic Devices in restrooms or locker rooms may result in the loss of privileges for the remainder of the school year.

# Attendance

Attendance at school is key to a student's success. Students must bring an excuse written and signed by their parents/guardians within three (3) school days from the last date of the absence or it will result in the absence(s) being recorded as unlawful or unexcused. **Attendance is required during Remote Learning Days.** Students must follow all procedures outlined in the MCMS Remote Learning Attendance Plan.

According to Act 138 of 2016, the school is required to notify the parents/guardians at the following times:

- Third Unlawful Absence Notice - Sent after the third unexcused absence
- Invitation to School Attendance Improvement Conference (SAIC) - Sent after the fourth unexcused absence
- Doctor's Note Warning Letter - Sent on the seventh day of cumulative absence
- Doctor's Note Required Letter - Sent on the tenth day of cumulative absence
- Truancy Elimination Plan (TEP) – Referral to Raystown Developmental Services/C&Y when a student has accumulated 6 or more unlawful absences.

# Tardy

Students must be in homeroom by 8:07 a.m. or they will be considered tardy. After three tardies to school, students receive a warning. Subsequent tardies will result in assignment of detention(s) and/or suspension(s).

BELL SCHEDULE	
Homeroom	8:07 - 8:15
Period 1	8:18 - 9:06
Period 2	9:09 - 9:57
Period 3	10:00 - 10:48
A LUNCH	10:51 - 11:21
Period 4	11:24 - 12:14
Period 5	12:17 - 1:06
Period 4	10:51 - 11:23
B LUNCH	11:26 - 11:56
Period 4	11:59 - 12:14
Period 5	12:17 - 1:06
Period 4	10:51 - 11:41
Period 5	11:44 - 11:59
C LUNCH	12:01 - 12:31
Period 5	12:34 - 1:06
Period 4	10:51 - 11:41
Period 5	11:44 - 12:33
D LUNCH	12:36 - 1:06
Period 6	1:09 - 1:57
Period 7	2:00 - 2:50

# PBIS

PBIS is our school wide positive behavior initiative. This program is one way for us to recognize students who demonstrate positive character traits within our school. We are about to launch PBIS Rewards, a new program to track student points. Points may be used to purchase items in our school store or to win prizes of choice in our “PACK” buckets. The premise behind PBIS is to teach students proper behavior/expectations as you would teach them how to do math or how to read. It is our belief that it is of utmost importance to recognize students in a positive manner and to build a climate where students enjoy being at school.

## Important Websites

### MCSD Health and Safety Plan

<https://www.mcscdk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/07/MCSD-Health-and-Safety-Plan-7-27-2020.pdf>

### MCMS Re-Opening Plan

<https://www.mcscdk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/MCMS-Re-Opening-Plan-2020.pdf>



Check out  
PBIS on  
Instagram  
@mcms\_pbis

