

MCMS NEWSLETTER

September

Mifflin County Middle School

2 Manor Drive Lewistown, PA 17044

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



Upcoming Events

Tuesday, September 7, 2021

First Day of School for Students

Tuesday, September 28, 2021

Back-To-School Night 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 30, 2021

Picture Day!

Friday, October 15, 2021

Act 80 Day - No School for
Students

Dear MCMS parents/guardians,

As we continue to prepare for the start of the 2021-22 school year, we will do our best to provide up-to-date material related to MCMS events and activities. We are looking forward to welcoming our students back to school on Tues., September 7th!

MCMS Lockdown Drill

MCMS is scheduled to conduct a building lockdown DRILL on Friday, September 24th, during 3rd period classes. Our drills are conducted multiple times per year to prepare students and staff in the event of an actual emergency situation that would require a lockdown.

Local administration and authorities will be invited to attend the drill.

Student Pick-Up/Drop Off/Tardy to School

- During school hours (after 8:10 a.m.) students should be dropped off and/or picked up on Manor Drive (8:30-2:30 p.m. **only**) or in the cafeteria parking lot. Students are able to sign themselves in or out with an excuse from a guardian. If a student has an early dismissal, a parent/guardian should call the school when they arrive and your child will be permitted to leave the building.
- Prior to the start of school (8:10 a.m.), students should be dropped off and/or picked up in the cafeteria parking lot. The morning bell rings at 8:00 a.m. and students are expected to be in their homerooms by 8:10 a.m. or they will be marked as tardy. Four or more tardies will result in disciplinary action.

Important Announcement

- Doors will be open for student access beginning at 7:30 a.m.
- Students should **NOT** report to school any earlier than 7:30 a.m.
- Upon entering the building, students will choose to wait in the auditorium, eat breakfast in the cafeteria, or attend an early bird academic session in the library.

Attendance

The key to attendance is to establish good habits early. Students must submit an excuse within three (3) days from the last date of the absence or it will be recorded as unlawful or unexcused. Excuses can be written, emailed, or submitted through Family Access as outlined in the MCMS Attendance Guidelines. According to Act 138 of 2016, the school is required to notify parents/guardians at the following times:

- Third Unlawful Absence Notice
- Invitation to School Attendance Improvement Conference - Sent after 4th Unexcused Absence
- Doctor's Warning Letter - Sent on the 7th cumulative absence
- Doctor's Note Required Letter - Sent on the 10th cumulative absence



Student Badges

New to Sixth Graders at MCMS. All students will be issued a student identification badge and a lanyard to be used with a dual purpose. Students will use their badges to purchase lunch in the cafeteria as a cashless system has been implemented. Teachers will also be able to scan badges to award points to students when they observe students:

Being Responsible
Acting Safely
Having Character
Making a Difference

Points can then be used to win numerous prizes throughout the school year as part of our PBIS program.



Box Tops for Education



Attention Parents: Our school will no longer physically collect box tops for education, however, you can still use box tops to earn money for our school! It's easy! Download the box tops app. Follow the prompts and

select Mifflin County Middle School as your school. Every time you shop, just scan your receipt and any earnings will automatically be added. Use the links below for complete directions on downloading the app and scanning receipts. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hh94b2BvFK4>

<https://www.boxtops4education.com/>

MCSD Health and Safety Plan

For more detailed information about the MCSD Health and Safety Plan, please check the MCSD website at mcsdk12.org



What is the Student Assistance Program? SAP identifies students having difficulty in school because of problems related to substance abuse or emotional difficulties. SAP has many resources that can help students overcome difficulties, improve their outlook, and decrease barriers to learning.

Who can be referred? Any student who you think may be having problems. Students can even refer themselves.

Who can make referrals? Teachers, Counselors, Principals, Parents, Guardians, Relatives, Students, Community Members, Anyone Who Cares.

How do you make a referral? Drop a referral form in the SAP referral box or contact a SAP team member.

SAP IS...an identification, intervention, and referral team.
SAP IS...confidential.
SAP IS NOT...a counseling, treatment, or discipline team.


Dental Clinic

The Pennsylvania School Code requires that all children of school age upon **original entry to school**, while in the **3rd grade**, and **7th grade (or while in 6th grade)** be given a dental exam. It is preferred that your private dentist does the exam. We will be offering the Smiles Program at Lewistown Elementary School October 18th and 19th, 2021. Students will be escorted by a school nurse to the clinic who opt to go from the middle school. You will be receiving a letter from Nurse Sheetz with an attached permission form in the near future. Or you can register your child online at:


<https://www.myschooldentist.com/31732>



SEE IT. REPORT IT.

  **MOBILE APP**

 **1-844-SAF2SAY**

 **SAFE2SAYPA.ORG**

What Is SAFE2SAY Something?

Safe2Say Something is a youth violence prevention program run by the Pennsylvania Office of Attorney General. The program teaches youth and adults how to recognize warning signs and signals, especially within social media, from individuals who may be a threat to themselves or others and to “say something” BEFORE it is too late. With SAFE2SAY Something, it’s easy and confidential to report safety concerns to help prevent violence and tragedies.

Help for the Homeless



If you know of a family who has school-aged children and is currently homeless, please let them know that there is help available. Each school in the Mifflin County School District has a school counselor who can direct the family in the right direction.

A student is considered homeless if he/she is lacking a fixed, regular, or adequate nighttime residence. Families may become homeless for a variety of reasons. Our concern is for the health and well-being of the family unit and the education of the children. With that in mind, the Mifflin County School District has received countless boxes of donations of clothing, toiletries, school supplies, and other items. Our school counselors have access to those items.

Homelessness is a sensitive subject; therefore, we are asking that those who may need assistance reach out to Mrs. Foor or Mr. McCardell, our school counselors. They can make sure the needs of the students and family are met. They also may know of other resources through the community that would be of help to the family. If you know someone who is homeless but does not attend MCMS, please encourage him or her to reach out to the school counselor at their child's school. Our goal is to make an unfortunate situation tolerable for the family.

