



STRODES MILLS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Frank Miller, Principal
fwm28@mcsdk12.org

Julie Yoder, Building leader
jap36@mcsdk12.org

UPCOMING EVENTS

8/25..... First Day of School
8/29..... No School- Act 80 Day
9/1..... No School- Labor Day
9/9..... Title 1 Parent Engagement
Meeting @5:30
9/9..... PSA Meeting @ 6pm
9/16..... Open House- 5:30-7pm
9/22..... Picture Day- KG & 1st gr
9/24..... Picture Day- 2nd & 3rd gr
10/13..... No School- Act 80 Day

SCHOOL DAY

7:30 am
Early bird drop-off
8:20
School day starts
10:50 – 11:20
3rd grade & Dill/Foose Lunch
11:25 – 11:55
Kindergarten Lunch
12:00 – 12:30
1st grade & Yoder/Gulick Lunch
2:35
Dismissal

NEW FACES

Mrs. Fox
Custodian
Mrs. Fultz
Paraprofessional
Mrs. Nulton
School Psychologist
Miss Knode
Kindergarten teacher
Mrs. Mills
Music teacher
Officer Elder
School Resource Officer

PBIS (POSITIVE BEHAVIOR INTERVENTIONS & SUPPORTS)

We are excited to continue our PBIS initiatives, with a new spin!

Students will continue to earn paw tickets for being respectful, responsible, ready, & safe. Instead of weekly whole school bucket prizes, students can choose to turn their paws in to their teacher for a classroom prize or they can save them for the paw wall prize.

More details will be shared with students soon!

DRILLS



In order to be as prepared as possible, we will be practicing safety drills throughout the school year. We will be providing instruction to your student on protocols for fire, evacuation, severe weather, & intruder drills (lockdown). During this instruction, teachers will lead students through a series of steps so that they are as prepared as possible in the event of a real-life situation.

SMES plans to conduct a lockdown drill during the month of September. We will invite local Emergency Management and PA State Police to participate in our security drill so they can provide us with valuable feedback on our safety drill procedures.

Safety is our top priority, and we want to reassure families that we are doing everything we can to maintain security in all district buildings. If you have any questions or concerns about our school's safety and security, please do not hesitate to contact us.

185 CHESTNUT RIDGE RD, MCVEYTOWN
717-248-7154 717-242-5145



SCHOOL BUS REMINDERS

KINDERGARTEN FAMILIES:

- All kindergarten students require a parent/guardian at the bus stop.
- Parent/guardians should be at the bus stop waiting for their student in the PM.
- If they do not get off, ask the driver to call out for them. Often times, younger students fall asleep.

ALL FAMILIES: talk with your students about safe bus behaviors:

- Talk in a quiet voice using kind words
- Stay seated at all times
- Keep hands to yourself
- No eating or drinking
- Do not damage the bus



CAFETERIA

SMES is an approved CEP (Community Eligibility Provision) school allowing students to receive a free breakfast and lunch.



Students will be charged for extra meal items.

Packers can buy milk for 70¢.

PARENT PICKUPS

If your student will not be riding the bus, a written note must be sent with your student in the morning. Please include the student's first and last name, date, and who will be picking up.

Calls will only be accepted for emergencies and should occur prior to 2:00 pm.

SKYLERT MESSAGING

MCSD uses Skylert messaging as its main form of communication with parents- weather delays, cancellations, early dismissals, transportation alerts, etc.

Notify SMES of any changes of address, phone number, email address, etc to continue receiving these messages.

ATTENDANCE & TIMELINESS

As we kick off a brand-new school year, one of the best ways to set your child up for success is simple, but powerful: showing up, every day, on time. Remember:

- School starts at 8:20am. Students arriving after 8:20 are tardy.
- Students arriving or leaving between 9:30 & 2pm will receive a 1/2 day's absence.
- Excuses must be submitted within 3 days of an absence. They can be sent in your child's folder, emailed to Mrs. Peterson at alp35@mcsdk12.org, or entered in Family Access.
- Students can use up to 5 education trip days per school year. A form must be submitted prior to the trip, and a 1 page report must be submitted following the report.

What you can do? Set a consistent bedtime and morning routine. Plan ahead for transportation and make sure your child knows what to expect each morning. Schedule vacations and appointments outside of school hours when possible.

Reach out if you need support—we're here to help! Every day counts, and every student matters!

SATISFACTORY

0-6 days



WARNING

7-9 days

Dr. excuse warning letter mailed

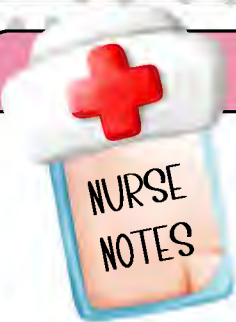


TRUANT

10+ days

Dr. excuse required letter mailed





Over-the-Counter Medication forms were handed out to students on the first day of school. This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian in order for students to receive medication from the school nurse. If your child has not submitted the Over-the-Counter Medication form to the Nurse's Office, your child will not receive medication at school. Forms are available online and in the nurse's office.

As a reminder, students are NOT permitted to carry any medications on their person during school hours. This includes cough drops, medicated creams, eye drops or anything used for medicinal purposes. **ANY MEDICATION THAT IS REQUIRED TO BE TAKEN AT SCHOOL MUST BE TRANSPORTED TO AND FROM SCHOOL BY A PARENT/GUARDIAN OR DESIGNATED ADULT AND ACCOMPANIED WITH A PHYSICIAN'S ORDER.** Parents and guardians are required to sign medications into the nurse's office at drop-off. Failure to do so is a violation of the MCSD Medication Policy.

Students entering kindergarten are required to have a physical and dental exam.

Students entering 3rd grade are required to have a dental exam.

All immunization exclusions must be submitted by 9/3/2025.

Please contact the Nurse Yoder (jsy43@mcSDK12.org) or Nurse Ritchey (alr17@mcSDK12.org) with any questions.

LIBRARY

The library is a wonderful place where students can explore new worlds, learn amazing facts, and discover the joy of reading. We love seeing our students excited to borrow books and want to make sure everyone has a great experience.

Remind your students to take good care of their library books:

- Keep them safe, away from food, pets, & water.
- Return books on time so others can enjoy them too.



If a book gets lost or damaged, families are responsible for paying the replacement fee. These fees follow students and can impact Graduation!

Together, we can make sure every student enjoys the magic of books!

MCSD WEBSITE

www.mcSDK12.org

The MCSD website contains lots of valuable information. The Students/Parents tab is home to useful resources such as the school calendar, cycle calendar, Family Access login, Forms & Flyers, lunch menu, nurse info, student handbook, tech tutorials, and visitor & volunteer information.

Take a moment to explore!

FORMS

If you haven't already, please complete and return all forms that were sent home during the first week of school.

Let us know if you need another copy.

OPEN HOUSE

We are so excited to welcome our students and families to Open House on Tuesday, 9/16 from 5:30pm to 7pm. This will be a chance for your child to show you their classroom and for you to meet their teacher. Specials and title teachers, our school counselor, and our principal will also be present and our school secretary will be available with volunteer information. There will also be a Resource Fair with agencies who provide services in our area.

POLICIES & NOTICES

RIGHT TO KNOW

As a parent of a student attending a school that is receiving Federal Title I dollars, you have the right to know the professional qualifications of the teacher(s) & instructional paraprofessional(s) who instruct your child. Federal law requires every Title I school district to comply & to provide you with the requested information in a timely manner. We are happy to provide this information to you. At any time, you may ask:

- Whether the teacher met state qualifications & certification requirements for the grade level & subject he/she is teaching,
- Whether the teacher received an emergency or conditional certificate through which state qualifications were waived, &
- What undergraduate or graduate degrees the teacher holds, including graduate certificates & additional degrees, & major(s) or area(s) of concentration.

You may also ask whether your child receives help from a paraprofessional. If your child receives this assistance, we can provide you with information about the paraprofessional's qualifications.

The Every Student Succeeds Act which was signed into law in December 2015 & reauthorizes the Elementary & Secondary Education Act of 1956 includes additional right to know requests. At any time, parents & family members can request:

- Information on policies regarding student participation in assessments and procedures for opting out, &
- Information on required assessments that include subject matter tested, purpose of the test, source of the requirement (if applicable), amount of time it takes students to complete the test, & time & format of disseminating results.

Our staff is committed to helping your child develop the academic knowledge & critical thinking he/she needs to succeed in school & beyond. That commitment includes making sure that all of our teachers & paraprofessionals meet applicable PA state requirements.

If you have any questions about your child's assignment to a teacher or paraprofessional, please contact me at SMES at 717-248-7154 or email me at fwm28@mcsdk12.org.

We look forward to the upcoming school year, and together we will make a difference in your child's life.

MCSD POLICY 105.1

MCSD School Board Policy 105.1 requires annual notification to parents/guardians & students that parents/guardians & students have an opportunity to review instructional materials & have access to information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials and assessment techniques. Requests to review instructional materials & access information about the curriculum, including academic standards to be achieved, instructional materials & assessment techniques should be made by submitting a written request to the building principal.

TITLE I SCHOOLWIDE PLAN

» September 9TH @ 5:30pm in the SMES cafeteria «

You are invited to a meeting to learn about the SMES Title I Schoolwide Plan. We will discuss how our Title I schoolwide funds support our elementary focus statements, a Multi-Tier System of Support (MTSS), curriculum development, ongoing professional development for our teachers, Positive Behavior Interventions & Support (PBIS), Camp on Your Way to Kindergarten, supplemental resources, & evidence based interventions.

At the meeting, we will also solicit feedback to update our Title I home school compact & Title I building parental engagement policy. We would also encourage all to come with ideas of how to engage SMES parents in future parental involvement events.

We look forward to seeing you at the Title I schoolwide planning meeting! There will be a SMES Parent School Association (PSA) meeting immediately prior to the Title I meeting.

To access the Title I Schoolwide Plan, visit www.mcsdk12.org, Students/Parents, Federal Programs, Schoolwide Plans, Title I- SMES.



Be prepared with CHIP.
Free or low-cost healthcare
for Pennsylvania kids and teens.

CHIP COVERS

- Routine check-ups
- Prescriptions
- Hospitalization
- Dental
- Eye Care
- Eyeglasses
- Behavioral care
- Specialty care
- More

CHIP covers uninsured kids up to age 19 in Pennsylvania. It doesn't matter why your kids don't have health coverage right now; CHIP may be able to help. Most kids receive CHIP for free. Others can get the same benefits at a low cost.

CHIP is brought to you by leading health insurance companies who offer quality, comprehensive coverage.

There is no limit on income. If your income is below CHIP guidelines, your child may be enrolled in Medical Assistance.

APPLY/RENEW

CHIPcoversPAkids.com • 800-986-KIDS



MCSD POLICY 906

MCSD School Board Policy 105.1 requires annual notification to parents/guardians & students that it welcomes inquiries, suggestions, and constructive criticism from parents/guardians, district residents or community groups regarding the districts programs, personnel, operations and facility. The Board adopted Policy 906 to establish procedures for general public complaints.