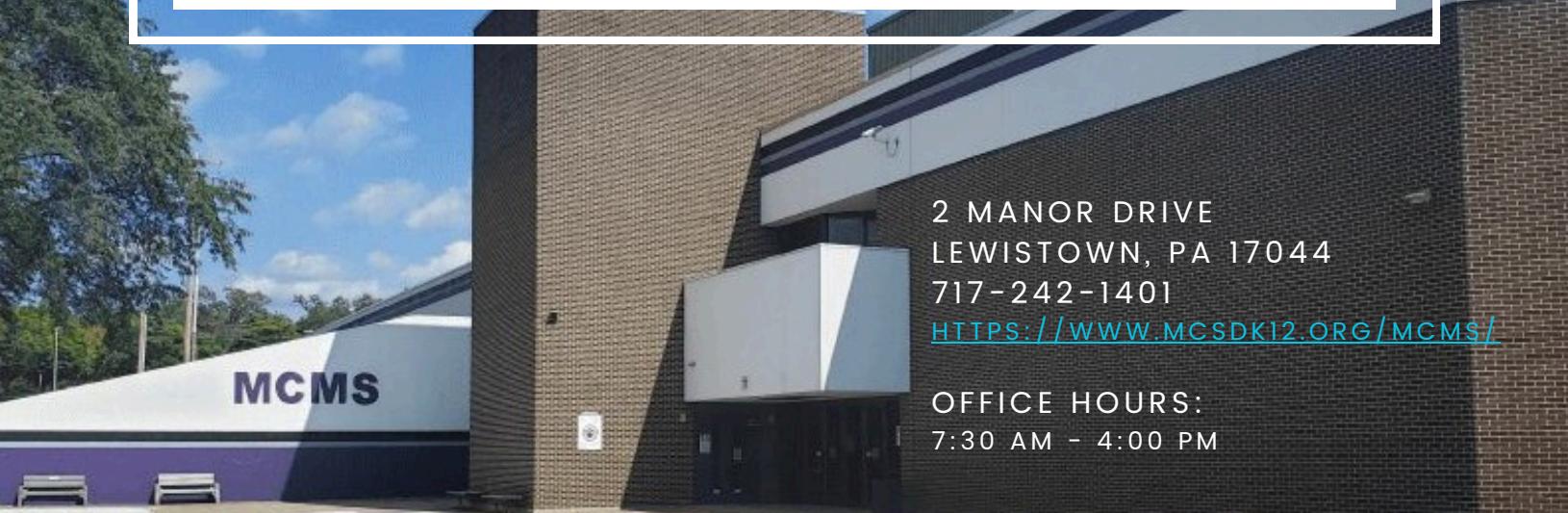


PACK POST

MIFFLIN COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



2 MANOR DRIVE
LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
717-242-1401
[HTTPS://WWW.MCSDK12.ORG/MCMS/](https://www.mcsdk12.org/mcms/)

OFFICE HOURS:
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM

DEAR MCMS PARENTS/GUARDIANS,

Happy New Year! Welcome to this edition of the *Pack Post*, where you'll find highlights from the Student Council Glow Dance, Career Week, and a raffle supporting our Home and School Association, plus more great news from around MCMS. Be sure to check out pages 5–7 for photos showcasing students engaged in meaningful classroom learning and giving back to our community.

REMINDER FROM THE SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER

Reminder: Students who are being transported to/from school by parents/guardians should be dropped off and/or picked up in the cafeteria parking lot. Students should **NOT** be dropped off along Manor Drive or in the auditorium parking lot as this disrupts morning bus traffic. For a visual, see the map [at this link](#).

ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK NOW

Don't forget to order your yearbook. Pre-orders are being taken until March. Books cost \$35. To order, use the QR Code or visit: <https://jostensyearbooks.com/?REF=AO1129946>



FOLLOW MCMS ONLINE AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 12, 2026
6:30 p.m.

HSA Meeting in Cafeteria

Friday, January 16, 2026
6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

Student Council Glow Dance

Monday, January 19, 2026 -
Friday, January 23, 2026

Career Week Themed Dress-up Days

Monday, January 19, 2026
School in Session

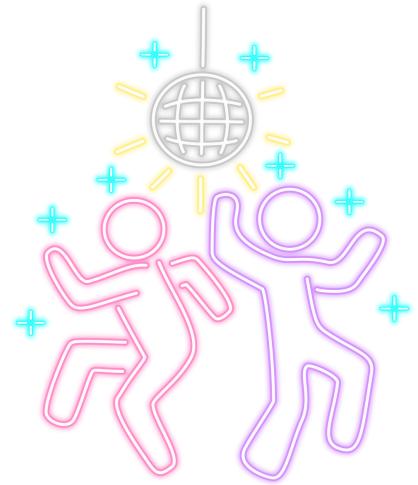
Make-Up for Snow Day 12/2/25
Second Marking Period Ends

Wednesday, January 28, 2026
Report Card Distribution

Friday, January 30, 2026
Act 80 Day - No School for Students

STUDENT COUNCIL GLOW DANCE - JANUARY 16

Student council will be having a glow dance on **January 16, 2026, from 6:30 to 8:30** in the MCMS cafeteria. The cost will be \$2.00. Each student will get a glow item upon entrance to the dance. There will also be glow games to play, and there will be additional glow items for purchase. Our concession stand will also be open. Dress is casual.



CAREER WEEK 2026

During the week of **January 19-23**, MCMS will be holding "Career Week." Sixth and seventh grade students will participate in career lessons using the Xello app. The school counselors will provide instruction, and the computer teachers will facilitate the lesson in their computer classes during the corresponding six day cycle. The career lessons will consist of an interest inventory and career exploration, which aligns with the Pennsylvania Academic Standards for Career Education and Work. To supplement this, our Morning Meetings will reflect career topics and we will have the following theme days:

Monday, January 19 — Run Towards the Future —
wear sweatpants/sneakers

Tuesday, January 20 — Dress for Success — dress up for the career you want

Wednesday, January 21 — Your Future is Bright —
wear bright colors

Thursday, January 22 — Teamwork Makes the Dreams Work — wear matching sports/club gear

Friday, January 23 — Oh! The Places You'll Go —
wear a shirt with college/technical school/military logo/business logo



****No costumes permitted.**

HEART & SOLE (FORMERLY GIRLS ON THE RUN)

Heart & Sole is a club at MCMS intended to help girls strengthen their mind, body, and spirit through interactive lessons, physical activity, and team discussions on relevant topics.

Each season, Heart & Sole participants learn:



How to embrace who they are, both on the inside and outside



Strategies to become independent and critical thinkers



Skills to write their own stories



Tools to find inner strength through physical activity

MIFFLIN COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADES 6-8

Registration opens January 21

Season Starts: Week of 2/23/26

Practices: Wednesdays, 3:00-5:00 PM

5K Celebration: 4/25/26 at the Lewisburg YMCA

QUESTIONS?

Heart & Sole Contact at Mifflin County Middle School

Mrs. Lori Mowery



LMM46@mcsdk12.org

For more information and to register, visit www.gotrmidstatepa.org

GAME ZONE ANNOUNCEMENT

The Game Zone meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month in the MCMS library from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. This after-school club provides students with a fun, engaging environment where they play board and card games, solve puzzles, and enjoy time together while challenging each other. Students can stop by Ms. Fosselman's classroom for more information if they wish to join.



MCMS HOME & SCHOOL ASSOCIATION RAFFLE

The MCMS Home & School is kicking off our first-ever online raffle to raise funds for our amazing students! Funds raised will go toward school assemblies, PBIS rewards, and fun events & surprises for our students!

PRIZE: A Husky YETI tumbler + a cozy Husky blanket — perfect to show off your school spirit this winter! Only 50 chances available at \$5 each — once they're gone, they're gone! We'll draw a winner as soon as all spots are sold, so don't wait!



BUY YOUR RAFFLE TICKET HERE [🔗](https://square.link/u/xCellaNy) CLICK TO PURCHASE → <https://square.link/u/xCellaNy>

💡 Pickup: Winner can collect their prize at the Middle School office during school hours.

ATTENDANCE RAFFLE

FOR THE END OF THE SECOND MARKING PERIOD

ALL STUDENTS WITH 3 OR FEWER ABSENCES WILL BE ELIGIBLE!



WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED
ON JANUARY 23RD DURING OUR
PBIS ASSEMBLY

GRAND PRIZE
JBL PartyBox
Speaker

MCMS HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE RESULTS

Our annual Holiday Food Drive wrapped up with an incredibly close finish and an amazing display of generosity from our students and families. After counting every item, 6th grade narrowly edged out 7th grade with **678 donated items to 675** — a difference of just three items!

Given how close the competition was and the outstanding effort from both grades, all 6th and 7th grade students earned a popcorn reward to enjoy during their holiday movie afternoon.

Thank you to everyone who donated and helped support our community this holiday season. The photos below highlight just how full our collection bins became and the big impact our students made together!



MCMS INSTRUMENTAL FOOD DRIVE HAS BEST YEAR YET

The MCMS Instrumental Ensembles collected donations for Mother Hubbard's Cupboard from November 17-December 9, in conjunction with their winter concert. The group collected over 300 items from family and friends, along with generous donations from First Quality, Giant Foods, Walmart, and Weis Markets.



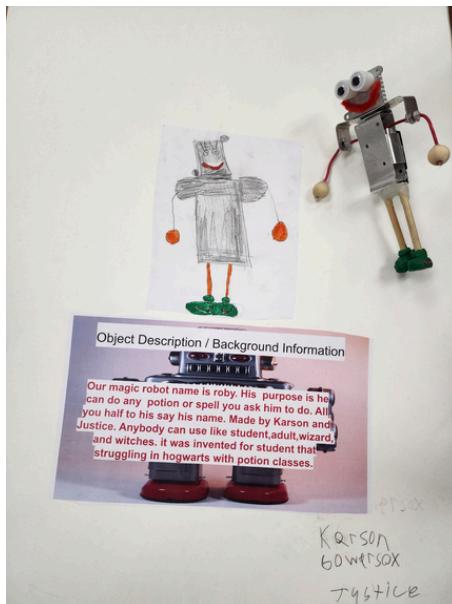
MCMS ENSEMBLES SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER

This winter, members of the MCMS jazz band and small ensembles traveled to three nursing homes to perform for residents: Greenwood Village, Valley View, and Brookline Manor. Students played a variety of songs from their concert, along with two new songs, bringing cheer to residents of each nursing home.



CLASSROOM SPOTLIGHT: MRS. KRATZER'S 7TH GRADE ELA

Students in Mrs. Kratzer's 7th grade ELA classes worked collaboratively to design and build original magical objects inspired by the Harry Potter wizarding world, using materials from the Makerspace. They then wrote about each object's purpose, history, and impact, demonstrating their understanding of fiction plot elements and storytelling techniques from *The Prisoner of Azkaban*. The finished projects were displayed in the library throughout December for the school community to enjoy.



HUSKIES OF THE MONTH: DECEMBER

Congratulations to the December Huskies of the Month! These students were nominated and voted on by their teachers. HOTM is a program to recognize students with strong work ethic, good grades, no discipline referrals, and positive character. In other words, HOTM honors students who try their best every day!



December Huskies of the Month, from left, Brooks Druckenmiller (7th grade), Parker Sherlock (6th grade), Jonas Kochenderfer (7th grade), Wyatt Hassinger (6th grade), Ella Eckenroth (7th grade), Prima Zook (6th grade), Nicole Harrop (6th grade), and Coraline Williams (7th grade).

LEADERS OF THE PACK: DECEMBER

Congratulations to the December Leaders of the Pack! These students were nominated and voted on by their teachers. Leaders of the Pack are students who model PACK expectations and positive character traits. The second marking period's character trait is **honesty**.



December Leaders of the Pack, from left, Jayden Rocha (7th grade), Mia Kuhns (6th grade), Aiden Wible (7th grade), Julian Altieri (6th grade), Aubree Lauver (7th grade), Duke Peachey (6th grade), and Gabriella Williams (7th grade). Hailey Fike (6th grade) was absent from the photo.



Meet Your Nutritious Friend:
Brown Rice Besties

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 1 | 2 |
| Alternatives: Week 1: Grilled Chicken Sand Week 2: Deli Turkey Sand Week 3: Pulled Pork Week 4: PB&J | | | | |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Turkey & Cheese Melt on a Croissant | Chicken & Cheese Quesadilla | Grilled Cheese Sandwich | Pasta & Meat Sauce | Bagel Pizza |
| Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) |
| FEATURED VEGGIES Mashed Potatoes Steamed Corn Day 3 | FEATURED VEGGIES Lettuce & Tomato Black Beans Day 4 | FEATURED VEGGIES Steamed Broccoli Tomato Soup Day 5 | FEATURED VEGGIES Peas Caesar Side Salad Day 6 | FEATURED VEGGIES Green Bean Side Salad Day 1 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Chicken Nuggets | Beef Soft Tacos | Pancakes & Sausage | Corn Dog | Cheese Pizza |
| Chef Salad with Dinner Roll | Chef Salad with Dinner Roll | Chef Salad with Dinner Roll | Chef Salad with Dinner Roll | Chef Salad with Dinner Roll |
| FEATURED VEGGIES Tater Tots Side Salad Day 2 | FEATURED VEGGIES Lettuce & Tomato Peas Day 3 | FEATURED VEGGIES Corn Tots Day 4 | FEATURED VEGGIES Curly Fries Baked Beans Day 5 | FEATURED VEGGIES Green Bean Side Salad Day 6 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Sloppy Joe on Brioche Roll | Walking Taco with Pretzel Stick | Cheesesteak on a Roll | Pasta & Meatballs | Hot Dog |
| Turkey & Cheese Wrap | Turkey & Cheese Wrap | Turkey & Cheese Wrap | Turkey & Cheese Wrap | Turkey & Cheese Wrap |
| FEATURED VEGGIES Oven Fries Baked Beans Day 1 | FEATURED VEGGIES Lettuce & Tomato Corn Day 2 | FEATURED VEGGIES Tater Tots Baby Carrots Day 3 | FEATURED VEGGIES Steamed Broccoli Celery Sticks with Ranch Day 4 | FEATURED VEGGIES Fries Cucumber Slices Day 5 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Cheeseburger on a Bun | Nachos Grande | French Toast Sticks & Sausage | Macaroni & Cheese (V) | Act 80 Day No School Day 4 |
| Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | Garden Salad with Goldfish Crackers & Dinner Roll (V) | |
| FEATURED VEGGIES Fries Baked Beans Day 6 | FEATURED VEGGIES Lettuce & Tomato Golden Corn Day 1 | FEATURED VEGGIES Tri Patty Taters Carrot Sticks Day 2 | FEATURED VEGGIES Celery Steamed Broccoli Day 3 | |
| Your Team Bob DuFour--Food Service Director 717-248-0148 ext. 2514 ma1134@metzcorp.com or rd02@mcsdk12.org | | | | |
| Meal Prices Student Lunch \$3.10 Reduced Lunch \$.40 | | | | |
| What is a Meal? Students must choose at least 3 of the 5 components available for the school lunch price. - Choice of Whole Grain - Choice of Protein - Choice of Vegetable - Choice of Fruit - Choice of Milk A minimum $\frac{1}{2}$ cup serving of fruit or vegetable must accompany a reimbursable lunch. | | | | |
| Choice of Vegetable Hot vegetable, leafy salad, composed bean salad, seasonal fresh vegetables | | | | |
| Choice of Fruit Seasonal fresh fruits, canned fruit in light syrup, 100% fruit juice | | | | |
| Choice of Milk 1% white, fat-free white, fat-free chocolate, fat-free vanilla, fat-free strawberry | | | | |
| Daily Alternates Fresh Entree Salad of the Week Craveables Weekly Cold Cut Sandwiches & Wraps | | | | |
| (V) Vegetarian These items do not contain meat, poultry, or seafood, but may contain dairy and/or egg (VG) Vegan These items do not contain any animal products | | | | |
|  Metz <small>CULINARY MANAGEMENT ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES</small> | | | | |

MCMS ACADEMIC HELP 2025-2026

Need help with homework and studying?

Check out Early Bird or the Husky Homework Huddle!

Both of these programs are available for homework help all year long!



| | | |
|---|---|-----------------------|
| Before School Early Bird | Monday through Friday Library Mr. Hetrick and Mrs. Haines | 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. |
| After School Husky Homework Huddle | Tuesday and Thursday Room 203 Mr. McKelvey | 3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. |

FOLDERS AT MCMS - COLOR-CODED

To help everyone stay organized, MCMS uses color-coded folders for each subject area:

- Social Studies - Red
- Science - Green
- ELA - Yellow
- Math - Blue
- Health - Light Blue
- Music - Purple
- Chorus/Band - Black



Sticking to these colors helps students (and teachers) quickly find what they need.

ATHLETIC NEWS

- Senior Citizen, Active Military, and Veteran Free Athletic Passes can be obtained at the MCHS Main Office. All passes are good for life.
- **MCSD students will receive free admission to all MCSD HOME events for the 2025-2026 school year!**
- Get the most up-to-date athletic information on our [athletic website](#) and by following [ArbiterLive](#).
- Check out our [MC Athletics' Facebook page](#) and follow us on Twitter [@MCHuskySports](#) for the most up-to-date information regarding MC Athletics.
- Many sponsorship opportunities are available to support your MC Huskies! Please contact the athletic office for more information.

Geisinger is the official sports medicine and orthopedics provider of the Mifflin County Huskies. Geisinger supports the big dreams of Mifflin County athletics, and whether your dreams include playing in the pros, hiking, or just getting back on your feet, our doctors and healthcare professionals are here for you every step of the way.

Learn more at [Geisinger.org/bigdreams](#).

We support
big league dreams.
Geisinger

FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE



6th Grade Vaccinations and Physical Examination: The school nurse will accept a completed physical examination with the student's healthcare provider from up to one year prior to the first day of school or at any time during the sixth-grade year. A copy of the child's immunization record must be completed and turned in with the physical.

Students may request physical examination forms in the school nurse's office, or they can be downloaded and printed from the district's webpage (Student/Parents > Nurses > Forms & Policies > Private Physician Physical Form).

Over-the-Counter (OTC) Medication Forms: Over-the-Counter Medication forms 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 were sent home in the First Day Packet and are also available in the nurse's office.

MCSD Medication Policy Reminder: As a friendly 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. The only medications students may carry with a physician's order are epi-pens, diabetic supplies, or inhalers. Parents and guardians must deliver medications to the school nurse in the original prescription bottles or packaging along with the MCSD prescription medication form completed by the prescribing physician.

Please call Nurse Staub at **717-248-1401 ext. 6509** or email at jjs20@mcsdk12.org if your child needs to take any medication at school.

Please call or email the MCMS school nurse throughout the school year if your student has a change in his or her health status and needs any additional support or assistance during school hours. Please also keep in mind, morning meds should be given at home.

7th Grade Dental: Seventh grade students who need dental exams - please review the packet you received regarding dental services that will be provided at school in January and February. Complete either a Geisinger or a Smile Pennsylvania Mobile Dentist form and return it to school as soon as possible. The school nurse will accept a dental form dated from up to one year prior to the school start date or anytime during their seventh-grade year. It is a state requirement that every student in 7th grade must have a dental exam. Dental forms can be picked up in the nurse's office or downloaded from the district's webpage.

SECONDARY STUDENT HANDBOOK

At Mifflin County Middle School, we strive to create a safe, respectful, and engaging learning environment for all students. To support this goal, we ask that families review the Student Handbook for Secondary Education, which outlines important policies, expectations, and guidelines. The handbook can be found [at this link](#). We encourage parents and guardians to read through the handbook with their student to ensure everyone is familiar with school rules, attendance policies, and behavior expectations. Please note that as policy updates occur, there may be changes to the Student Handbook.

COMPLAINT PROCEDURES - MCSD POLICY 906

Mifflin County Middle School is committed to maintaining a positive and responsive school environment. If you have a concern or complaint about Board policy and procedures, programs, personnel, operations or facilities, concerns should be addressed directly with the teacher, staff member or administrator involved. Many issues can be resolved through open and respectful communication. More information on complaint procedures is provided in Policy 906 of [the MCSD Policy Manual](#).

REVIEW OF INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS - MCSD POLICY 105.1

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

INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES - MCSD POLICY 110

The building principal will be responsible to ensure that no student in the school is denied participation in any school program for financial reasons and that the privacy of each student is protected. The principal will use the guidelines of the free and reduced price lunch program to determine the ability of students to provide necessary school supplies. Parents/Guardians must complete the Application For Instructional Supplies and submit required documentation when requesting free instructional supplies for students. Please contact the principal for more information and to request the application.

MCSD POLICY AND SCHOOL BOARD INFORMATION

Please visit the Mifflin County School District website for information regarding Board Policies, Agendas, and Minutes. Information on this site also includes the current school board members and school board meeting dates. Please visit the following link <https://www.mcsdk12.org/school-board/>.