



Mifflin County Junior High



Husky News

April 2026

Academic Growth in Action

Spring is a time of growth, and we are proud of the progress our students have made so far this year. April provides an opportunity to refocus, set goals, and continue striving for excellence both academically and socially. Our focus remains on strong instruction and preparing students for end-of-year assessments and learning milestones. This is a critical time to reinforce skills and maintain consistent attendance.

Let's continue to support one another, strive for excellence, and "Run with the P.A.C.K" as we take on the school year ahead—together.

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.

Important Dates

- April 3-** Good Friday- No School for Students
- April 6-** School Now in Session
- April 18-** Spring Fling Dance
- April 21, 22, & 23-** ELA PSSA
- April 28 & 29-** Science PSSA
- April 30 & May 1-** Math PSSA
- May 11 & 12-** Algebra Keystones
- May 14 & 15-** Biology Keystones
- May 21-** Art Show (4:30- 6:30)

[Full 2025-26 School Calendar Click Here](#)

MEDICATION POLICY

“Over-the-Counter Medication forms will be handed out to students. This form must be completed and signed by a parent/guardian for students to receive medication from the school nurse. If your child does not submit the Over-the-Counter Medication form to the Nurse's Office, your child will not receive medication at school. Forms are available 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 else that is used for medicinal purposes. Any medication required to be taken at school MUST be transported to school by a parent/guardian or designated adult and accompanied by a physician's order. Parents and guardians are required to sign medications into the nurse's office at drop-off. If your child requires an inhaler, a new physician order must be submitted to the school nurse EACH school year before your child can carry an inhaler on their person. Failure to do so is a violation of the MCSD Medication Policy.”

Nurse Hours and Contact Info

All student medications must be dropped off with a nurse present.

Mrs. Abigail Allison, aek38@mcsdk12.org

Monday-Friday 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Mrs. Carrie Baumgardner, clb46@mcsdk12.org

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

7:45-3:15

**MCJH on Social Media
Click Icons for link**



[mifflin_county_jh](#)

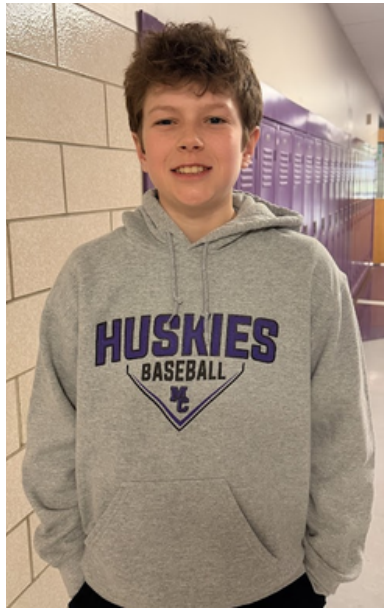


**Find us on
Facebook**

[Mifflin County Junior High School -
@MifflinCountyJH](#)

Students of the Month

Crue Kochenderfer



Dominic Altamuro



Grace Yoder



Chelsea Noerr

Leaders of the Pack

Blake T. Yoder



Shawn Lindemuth



Haylee Dunn



Ayden Long



Run with the P.A.C.K.



Be ResPonsible

Act SAfely

Have Character

MaKe a Difference

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Community Members,

Thank you for another amazing month! March was an awesome month full of great moments. This April, we are looking to have some even better moments! Throughout March, the student team has been preparing for our upcoming Spring Fling on April 18th. We also began to recognize students across the school for showing respect! These students will be recognized in the showcase outside of the gymnasium. PBIS also sold mystery Easter eggs in the PBIS store, selling out over 50 eggs before March ended!

Here's a look at what's happening this month:

Important Dates & Events

- April 18th – Spring Fling
- 3/25 - End of year - Inflatable Kayak, \$100 Amazon Gift Card, Laptop, JBL Bluetooth Speaker

This Month's PBIS Focus: Have Character: Throughout April, our school-wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program is emphasizing Responsibility. Families, please join us in reinforcing this value at home by encouraging students to take ownership of their actions, schoolwork, and commitments. We are looking forward to a successful April filled with teamwork, school spirit, and positive energy. Thank you for your ongoing support in helping our students "Run with the Pack"!

With appreciation,

Mifflin County PBIS Team

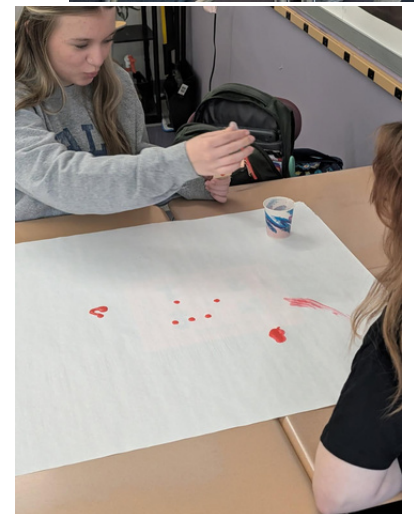
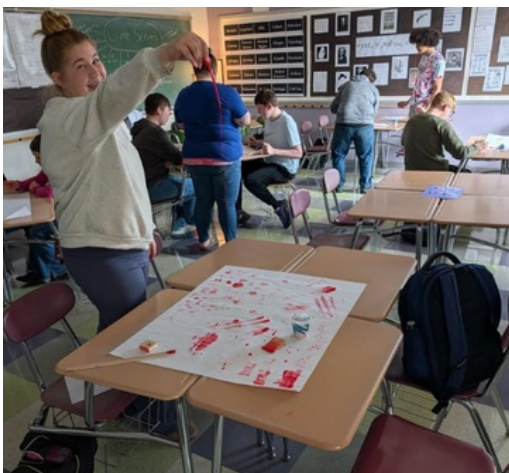
Mystery and True Crime Literature Activities

Every year, Officer Hamler, the MCJH Resource Officer, agrees to come into our Mystery & True Crime class to share with students how he has used fingerprints as evidence in cases, and to show students how to lift fingerprints off of various objects. Students practice “dusting” for prints and get to “lift” their prints off various items.



Mystery and True Crime Literature Activities

While reading about blood evidence in Mr. Chila's anchor text, students took a day to practice creating and identifying three main types of blood stains found at crime scenes.



Mystery and True Crime Literature Activities

For the third year in a row, the Mifflin County Coroner, Andrea Alcalde, has come to MCJH to speak to students taking the Mystery & True Crime Literature elective. She has discussed the role of a coroner in an investigation, the different types of evidence she has encountered, and the day-to-day experiences she has in her job.



School Fundraiser

Ayden Kohler (8th Grade) and Emily Dorsey (9th Grade) each won a \$50 gift card to Walmart for being the top sellers of Butter Braids/Cake Rolls for our school fundraiser!



Get More Math March Madness

The winners of Mrs. Adamire's GMM March Madness tournament were:

Period 1 - Xaidyn Garlock

Period 2 - Charlotte Rhodes

Period 4 - Mackenzie Resto

Period 5 - Josie Sunderland

Period 6 - Grayce Napikoski



HUSKIES



HUSKIES

Media Club

Mifflin County Junior High School celebrated its first-ever video morning announcements on Friday, March 27.

The MCJH Media Club, advised by Mrs. Leonard, worked hard to turn this vision into a reality.

The announcements were broadcast on Smart TVs in each classroom, replacing the traditional format. In addition to standard announcements enhanced with presentation slides, students created special segments, including a sports feature with footage from boys' and girls' soccer, a "Meet the Teacher" segment with Mr. Mattern, and an "Around the School" question feature.

The inaugural broadcast featured anchors Rylee Peterson and Ashtyn Yorks, sports reporter Nick Legg, reporter Aliyah Kumpf, videographers Ryan Bair and Emalynn Baker, and contributor Jaxi Frazier.



Art Project

Eighth graders Aimeelynn Navarria and Annabella Chambers recently completed an art project to enhance the glass cabinets in Mrs. Leonard's classroom. Inspired to brighten the space, they incorporated plants and outdoor scenes, using their artistic talents to bring their vision to life.



State Testing- Electronics Guideline and FAQs

Please see the attached guidelines for electronics and several other frequently asked questions pertaining to PSSA and Keystone testing on the following pages.



Dear Parent/Guardian:

In an era of cell phones, smartphones and other electronic devices which can easily photograph and instantly share photographs, confidential and secure test materials can be easily compromised. Not only is it expensive to replace a compromised test item, the material contained in the PSSA and Keystone Exams is copyrighted property of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Copying or duplicating the material from the assessment, including the taking of a photograph of secure assessment material, is a violation of the federal Copyright Act. Penalties for violations of the Copyright Act may include the cost of replacing the compromised test item(s) or fines of no less than \$750 up to \$30,000 for a single violation (17 U.S.C. § 101 et seq.).

In order to ensure reliable test results and to avoid the cost of replacing test items, the Department of Education requires schools to set rules and take certain steps to protect test materials. Electronic devices such as but not limited to cell phones, smartphones, smartwatches, smart glasses, E-readers, Nooks, Kindles, iPods, tablets, camera-ready devices, and any other electronic device which can be used to photograph or duplicate test materials, access the internet and/or communicate with others during the administration of the PSSA or Keystone Exams are not permitted in any testing site. Please speak with your child and let your child know that the possession and/or use of a cell phone or other electronic device during the administration of the PSSA or Keystone Exams will result in consequences.

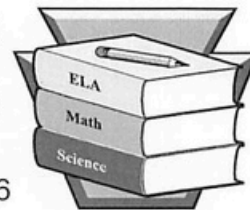
You will be contacted by the school if your child is discovered using and/or having a cell phone or other unapproved electronic device during the administration of the PSSA or Keystone Exams. Students who ignore this directive will be subject to the school's discipline policy and the Department of Education's requirement that the student's test will not be scored and the student will be required to retake the entire exam. The electronic device will be held by school staff, and the device's stored photographs and other functions will be examined with your permission. You may request to be present when the electronic device is examined. If a photograph of the PSSA or Keystone Exam is discovered or if permission to search other functions of the electronic device is refused, the device will be held by the school staff. The Pennsylvania Department of Education holds the copyright to all material contained within the PSSA and Keystone Exams, the Pennsylvania Department of Education will be contacted and further action may be taken.

If, after testing is complete, it is discovered that a student used and/or had a cell phone or other unapproved electronic device during the administration of the test, the school's discipline policy will be followed and the student's test will not be scored.

Information for Parents or Guardians

Pennsylvania System of School Assessment (PSSA)

English Language Arts Assessment, April 20–24, 2026
Mathematics and Science Assessment, April 27–May 8, 2026



GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PSSA

Which schools participate?

All school districts and charter schools participate in the assessments. Nonpublic and private schools may also participate on a voluntary basis.

Which students take the assessments?

Except for a very few students who meet specific criteria for participation in an alternate assessment, all students are included in the assessments as outlined below:

ELA & Mathematics—Grades 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8
Science—Grades 5 and 8

Who decided what the assessments should measure?

Groups of educators from all levels of education in Pennsylvania chose the areas of knowledge and skills upon which the assessments are based. The groups included teachers, supervisors, curriculum directors, and college specialists. They also reviewed, edited, and approved the test items.

Who administers the assessments?

Each school chooses the person(s) who will administer the assessments. In most cases, these are teachers in the students' building.

How are the results reported?

Two copies of the individual student report for all assessments will be sent to all schools and districts that participate for distribution to parents, teachers, school counselors, and/or principals. The state will not receive any report with individual names included.

School-level reports will be used for curricular and planning purposes. School districts and charter schools may publish the results of PSSA testing for each school. The state will also release school-by-school assessment data.

May parents see the assessments?

Yes, under one circumstance. School entities are required to have policies to ensure that parents or guardians have the right to review a state assessment in the school entity during convenient hours for parents or guardians starting two weeks prior to the testing window to the end of the make-up schedule in order to determine whether a state assessment conflicts with

their religious belief. This is the only reason allowable under regulation.

Confidentiality agreements must be signed, and no copies of the assessments or notes about assessment items will be permitted to leave the school. If after reviewing the test, parents or guardians find the test to be in conflict with their religious belief and wish their student(s) to be excused from the test, the right of the parents or guardians will not be denied upon written request to the applicable school district Superintendent, charter school Chief Executive Officer, or AVTS Director. Parents or guardians should contact their child's school to make arrangements to review the test.

Report Testing Irregularities

Parents/guardians who believe that a testing irregularity may have occurred may email ra-edirregularities@pa.gov to report the incident.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS ASSESSMENT (grades 3 through 8)

How long does the assessment take?

The entire English Language Arts assessment takes approximately three to four hours to complete. Your school district will inform you about the assessment schedule.

What does the assessment include?

Each student completes three sections of questions for the English Language Arts assessment. Some portions will be the same for all students, and some will consist of different groups of questions.

What types of questions are on the assessment?

Students respond to multiple-choice, evidence-based selected-response, technology-enhanced, and constructed-response questions. In a multiple-choice question, the correct answer(s) is chosen from four options. Evidence-based selected-response questions have two parts, and students select one or more answers for each part. Technology-enhanced questions use interactive formats to allow students to construct answers. Constructed-response questions may include a short-answer (grade 3) or text dependent analysis (grades 4 through 8). Short-answer questions require students to compose a brief response to support their answer. For the text dependent analysis question, students analyze a text and use evidence from the reading passage to compose an essay.

How are written responses to constructed-response items scored?

The written responses for English Language Arts are scored by evaluators trained in applying an ELA-specific scoring guideline. For short-answer questions, scores are based on content only. Spelling and punctuation are not included as part of the scoring process. Responses to text dependent analysis questions are scored based on both content and writing skills.

What is assessed in English Language Arts?

The English Language Arts assessment addresses six major reporting categories as well as two text types. Students respond to standalone questions assessing language. Additionally, students read a number of passages from literature and informational genres and respond to questions about these passages that indicate both comprehension and reading skills and the students' analysis and interpretation of different types of texts.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE MATHEMATICS ASSESSMENT (grades 3 through 8)**How long does the assessment take?**

The entire mathematics assessment takes approximately two to three hours to complete. Your school district will inform you about the assessment schedule.

What does the assessment include?

Each student completes two sections of questions for the mathematics assessment. Some portions will be the same for all students, and some will consist of different groups of questions.

What types of questions are on the assessment?

Students respond to three types of questions: multiple-choice, technology-enhanced, and open-ended. In a multiple-choice question, the correct answer is chosen from the four presented options. Technology-enhanced questions use interactive formats to allow students to construct answers. Open-ended questions require students to compose their responses. Open-ended questions generally require students to provide detail in support of their answers (such as showing or describing the steps performed to complete a calculation).

How are written responses to open-ended items scored?

The written responses for mathematics open-ended items are scored by evaluators trained in applying a mathematics-specific scoring guideline. In mathematics, scores are based on content only. Spelling and punctuation are not included as part of the scoring process.

What is assessed in Mathematics?

The mathematics assessment addresses five major reporting categories across four clusters. The reporting categories assessed and the proportion of questions in each reporting category vary by grade level. As a part of the assessment of Cluster A, Numbers and Operations, students in grades 4 through 8 respond to a set of questions without a calculator. Constructed-response items may require the students to show all of their work (e.g., calculations, graphs, drawings) and/or to explain in writing how they solved the problems.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE SCIENCE ASSESSMENT (grades 5 and 8)**How long does the assessment take?**

The entire science assessment takes approximately one to two hours to complete. Your school district will inform you about the assessment schedule.

What does the assessment include?

Students in grades 5 and 8 complete two sections of questions for the science assessment. The science assessment will consist of different groups of questions on different test forms.

What types of questions are on the assessment?

Students respond to three types of questions: multiple-choice, technology-enhanced, and open-ended. In a multiple-choice question, the correct answer is chosen from the four presented options. Technology-enhanced questions use interactive formats to allow students to construct answers. Open-ended questions require students to compose their responses. Grades 5 and 8 may also include science scenarios.

What is a science scenario?

A science scenario contains text, graphics, charts, and/or tables and uses these elements to describe the results of a class project, an experiment, or other similar research. Students use the information found in a science scenario to answer multiple-choice questions.

How are written responses to open-ended items scored?

The written responses for science open-ended items are scored by evaluators trained in applying a science-specific scoring guideline. In science, scores are based on content only. Spelling and punctuation are not included as part of the scoring process.

What is assessed in science?

The science assessment addresses the four major reporting categories: Technology and Engineering, Life Sciences & Environmental Literacy and Sustainability, Physical Sciences, and Earth and Space Sciences. The proportion of items in each reporting category varies by grade level.

Math Lab

Tuesdays, Wednesdays,
Thursdays and Fridays

7:30-8:00 a.m.

Room 122



After School Tutoring

Mondays, Tuesdays,
Wednesdays, and

Thursdays

3:15 - 4:30 p.m.

Room 124



Yearbook

The cost of the yearbook is \$40. There is no longer an option to order personalized options. Yearbooks will be delivered to the students during the last week of school.



To Order a Yearbook Use the QR Code or click the link below:

[Josten's Yearbook Link](#)



2024-2025 TOTAL: \$1,068.29

[SCAN NEW QR CODE TO REGISTER YOUR CARD!](#)

- Points are awarded to your school every time you shop and are converted to CASH for your school.
- Please share our QR code with your friends/family so they can help us earn points!
- Eligible points from the beginning of the year will be added retroactively, so you can register anytime.
- More information is located on the MCJH website under the Assist MCJH tab.

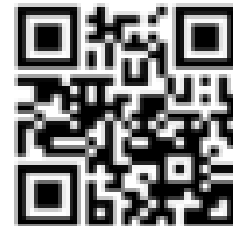
[Box Tops For Education MCJH](#)

MCJH receives rewards from Box Tops, a digital receipt-scan app that is free and available for download on the App Store or at Google Play.

More information is located on the MCJH website under the Assist MCJH tab.

**CURRENT REWARD TOTAL:
\$156.80!**

DON'T HAVE THE BOX TOPS APP YET? DOWNLOAD IT NOW:



[PBIS Student Rewards](#)

- PBIS Store will be open daily 7:30-8:00 a.m. & 3:15-3:30 p.m.
- Use rewards app to order items, then pick up items at the store.
- Keep watching for drawings that will be happening throughout the school year!

Husky Resources

At Mifflin County Junior High 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. <https://www.mcsdk12.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Secondary-Education-Student-Handbook-2024-2025-Rev-3-5-25.pdf>. 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, the Student Handbook may be revised accordingly.



Mifflin County Junior High 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 MCS D Policy Manual. <https://go.boarddocs.com/pa/miff/Board.nsf/Public#>

Husky Resources

Student Assistance Program (SAP)

The MCJH Student Assistance Program (SAP) Team is a group of professionals dedicated to helping to identify and assist students who may be struggling with life issues that are interfering with school performance. The SAP team consists of teachers, administrators, school counselors, social workers, nurses, and representatives from community agencies who have been specially trained to work with students and make appropriate referrals. This help is provided in a completely non disciplinary way. Based on the diverse needs of our students, this process may include an interview with a member of the SAP team, a counseling group, or individual counseling with the school-based therapist or social worker. Services may include academic support; behavior management; drug and alcohol education, prevention, assessment and treatment through Clear Concepts; anger management; mental health assessment through the Youth Advocate Program; conflict resolution, or involvement in community agencies. All SAP-related services are free and confidential. A parent or guardian must sign a permission for SAP services. Any student, parent, or teacher may make a referral. If you have concerns for a MCSD student in grades K12, please contact an administrator, school counselor, or school nurse.

Guidance

Ms. Kristine Johnston and Mrs. Lisa Kile are the MCJH school counselors. Mrs. Kile is responsible for students with last names A-K, and Ms. Johnston is responsible for students with last names L-Z. Please contact your student's guidance counselor if you have any concerns throughout the school year.

Mrs. Lisa Kile - lak28@mcsdk12.org

Ms. Kristine Johnston - kaj15@mcsdk12.org

MCJH Contact Info

Phone: 717-248-5441

Fax 717-242-5806

Mrs. Angela L. Manges, Principal

alp54@mcsdk12.org

Mr. Shain A. Hosterman, Assistant Principal

sah59@mcsdk12.org

Mr. Richard A. Strausburg, Assistant Principal

ras37@mcsdk12.org

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.
 - If you need login information, please call Mrs. Bulick, the guidance secretary, at 717-248- 5441 extension 7506 for assistance.
 - Tutorials for finding busing information, online attendance, etc., can be found by following the instructions below:
- Open web browser and type URL <https://www.mcsdk12.org/>
 - From the menu, click STUDENTS/PARENTS
 - Click link TECH TUTORIALS
 - Scroll to location FAMILY ACCESS

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.