

PACK POST

MIFFLIN COUNTY MIDDLE SCHOOL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



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LEWISTOWN, PA 17044
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[HTTPS://WWW.MCSDK12.ORG/MCMS/](https://www.mcSDK12.org/mcMS/)

OFFICE HOURS:
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM (SCHOOL YEAR)

DEAR MCMS PARENTS/GUARDIANS,

We are extremely excited to have welcomed students back to school for the 2024-2025 school year! In this issue of the Pack Post, you'll find information regarding Back-to-School Night, the Box Tops for Education program, SAP, Safe2Say, PBIS, and other middle school news.

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Back-to-School night will be held on **Thursday, September 12, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.** Back-to-School Night is an opportunity to walk through your student's schedule as teachers share their classroom expectations with you. This evening is designed for parents/guardians only. The program will begin in the cafeteria with refreshments. You will then be dismissed from the cafeteria to your child's first period classroom promptly at 6:00 p.m. You will need to know your child's first period class and room number. This information can be learned from your child or through your Family Access account. Your child's first period teacher will then give you a schedule to follow for the remainder of the evening. You will be following day two of our six day cycle.

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA:



UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, September 2, 2024
Labor Day - No School for
Students

Thursday, September 12, 2024
6:00 p.m.
Back to School Night

Thursday, September 19, 2024
Picture Day

Monday, October 14, 2024
Act 80 Day - No School for
Students

Friday, October 25, 2024
End of First Marking Period

PBIS AT MCMS

Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is an approach schools use to promote safety and positive behavior. With PBIS, schools teach students about behavior expectations and strategies as they would teach any other subject – like reading or math. At MCMS students are recognized for meeting PACK expectations – Being ResPonsible, Acting Safely, Having Character, and Making a Difference.



PBIS Rewards is an online program where teachers can reward students with points for meeting these expectations. Students can then use their points to enter schoolwide raffles and to buy items at a teacher's store.

MCMS would like to thank the following businesses/organizations for donating items for raffle prizes this school year:

- Altoona Curve
- Burnham Borough
- Carousel Skating Rink
- Crooked Shelf Bookshop
- DelGrosso's Park & Laguna Splash
- DQ
- Dunkin'
- Dylan Cisney Racing
- East Broad Top Railroad
- East End Coffee Company
- Harshbarger's Sub N' Malt
- Hoss's Steak and Sea House
- Husky Club
- Juniata Valley YMCA
- Lake Tobias Wildlife Park
- Logan Wagner Racing
- Midway Drive-in Theater
- Mifflin County Athletic Department
- Pegula Ice Arena
- Pittsburgh Steelers
- Rita's Italian Ice & Frozen Custard
- The Square Cafe and Bakery
- Starbucks
- Twin Kiss
- Vince's Pizza and Family Restaurant

HUSKIES OF THE MONTH AND LEADERS OF THE PACK

"Husky of the Month" and "Leader of the Pack" are two programs at MCMS to recognize students who demonstrate positive character. Huskies of the Month are recognized for strong work ethic, good grades, and no discipline referrals. Leaders of the Pack are recognized for modeling one or more of the positive character traits that exemplify our PACK expectations. For both awards, students are nominated and voted on by their teachers.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SAP)

What is the Student Assistance Program (SAP)?

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 can be referred to SAP. Students can even refer themselves.

Who can make referrals?

Anyone who cares about a student can make a referral. This includes teachers, counselors, principals, parents, guardians, relatives, students, and community members.

How do you make a referral?

Drop a referral form in the SAP referral box or contact a SAP team member. Forms are in the guidance office.

SAP IS... an identification, intervention, and referral team.

SAP IS... confidential.

SAP IS NOT... a counseling, treatment, or discipline team.



WHAT IS SAFE2SAY SOMETHING?

Safe2Say Something is a youth violence prevention program run by the Pennsylvania Office of the 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.

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.boxtops4education.com/>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hh94b2BvFK4>



EARN MONEY FOR MCMS WITH WEIS4SCHOOL

SCAN HERE TO REGISTER!

weis4 school
BUILDING A WEIS FUTURE

★ Help your school earn a share of **\$500,000**

- 1 REGISTER**
your Weis Rewards card online at [weis4school.com](https://www.weis4school.com)
- 2 SCAN**
your Weis Rewards card each time you shop
- 3 EARN**
cash for your school based on your qualifying purchases

* DONATIONS MADE TO PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS THROUGH 8TH GRADE

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.

ATHLETIC NEWS

- Senior Citizen, Active Military, and Veteran Free Athletic Passes can be obtained Friday, September 6th at the Home Varsity Football game vs Mechanicsburg. Passes can be picked up at the ticket booth behind the home field bleachers beginning at 5:30 p.m. All passes are good for life.
- Mini-Thon Events:
 - September 20th - Varsity Football Game vs Shippensburg
 - September 26th – Varsity Field Hockey vs Selinsgrove
- Access the MC Stadium Project page on FB to contribute to the project and become a part of MC History!
- 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](https://www.geisinger.org/bigdreams).

REMINDERS FROM THE NURSE



6th Grade Physical Examinations: The school nurse will accept a completed physical examination from up to one year prior to the first day of school this year 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.

****Remember that exclusion day is September 4, 2024.** Any student going into 7th grade without documented TDAP and Meningococcal vaccines, an exemption on file, or a med cert (documented upcoming doctor appointment on file with the school nurse) will be excluded from school until one of these three things are obtained.

7th Grade Dental: 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. All physical/dental forms can be picked up in the main office or downloaded from the district website.

SECONDARY STUDENT HANDBOOK

The Secondary Student Handbook and the MCSD Policy Manual are accessible on the MCSD website.

To access the handbook, go to: <https://www.mcsdk12.org/student-handbooks/>

To access the MCSD policy manual, go to: <https://go.boarddocs.com/pa/miff/Board.nsf/Public>

TESTING DATES FOR 2024-2025

PSSA		
ELA	April 22, 23, and 24	April 25 Make-up
Math	April 29 and 30	May 1 Make-up

KEYSTONE		
Algebra	May 12 and 13	May 14 Make-up

CDT	
BOY ELA/Math	Testing Window September 11-October 11
MOY ELA/Math	Testing Window December 3-January 30
EOY ELA/Math	Testing Window March 18-May 20

EARLY DISMISSALS AND PARENT PICK-UP

If your child has an early dismissal, please send a written note in to the office. Do not submit early dismissals on Skyward. If a note is submitted, you may call the office when you arrive at MCMS, and your student can be sent out to your vehicle. If a note was not submitted, you must come into the office to provide a written note before your child can be dismissed. Students at MCMS are **not** required to submit a note to the office for parent pick-up.

PRINCIPAL CONTACT INFO

Mrs. Jennifer Macknair
Principal
[j3m33@mcsdk12.org](mailto:jm33@mcsdk12.org)

Mr. Luke Strawser
Assistant Principal
ljs36@mcsdk12.org