Monthly Newsletter

September 2022 | Issue 1





From the Desk of MS. Holliday Mexico Middle School PrinciPal

Dear Mexico Middle School Students and Families,

Welcome to the 2022-2023 school year! All students engaged in our Code of Conduct Assemblies today in which we reminded everyone that rules are established to keep everyone safe! We also discussed the Dignity for All Students Act which seeks to provide the State's public elementary and secondary school students with a safe and supportive environment free from discrimination, intimidation, taunting, harassment, and bullying on school property, a school bus and/or at a school function. We explained to students that when someone says or does something *unintentionally* hurtful and they do it once, that's **RUDE**. When someone says or does something *intentionally* hurtful and they do it once, that's **MEAN**. And, when someone says or does something *intentionally* hurtful and they keep doing it – even when you tell them to stop or show them that you're upset – that's **BULLYING**. We expect a climate of kindness and respect at Mexico Middle School and when that is not happening, we encourage our students to report it. DASA forms are available in the main foyer, and in the main office, for students to report bullying.

Students have received laptops and school supplies. Please let your student's teacher know if you are missing anything. We have opened our Kindness Closet (previously known as Rachel's Closet) again this year and students may shop free for gently used clothing, shoes, coats, etc. and for brand new personal hygiene products as needed. Please see Mrs. Hayes or Mrs. Burdick if you are interested in shopping at the Kindness Closet.

This year, school breakfast will cost \$1.75 for a full breakfast and \$1.50 for just an entrée. The full lunch price is now \$2.90. The free/reduced lunch application can be found on our school website and needs to be submitted by October 1st. (The application can be found on the right hand side tool bar of the Food Services page of the MACS website: https://www.mexicocsd.org/domain/47)

All parents/guardians have access to SchoolTool to daily monitor student's assignments, grades and attendance. If at any time you need to update your information or have a new password sent to you, please contact Ms. Rupracht in Student Services for help (either by phone at 315–963–8400 ext 4206 or email at krupracht@mexicocsd.org). If you need help signing in or using the Parent Portal, visit the Student Services page of the MS MACS webpage to view a handy user guide (https://www.mexicocsd.org/Page/111)!

Once again, welcome to the new school year! If you have any questions, please call 315-963-8400 ext 4200.

All About 🎓 i-Ready

Our school will again be using a Mathematics and Reading program called I-Ready. I-Ready is an online program that will help us determine your child's strengths and areas for growth, personalize their learning, and monitor their progress throughout the year. I-Ready allows us to meet your child where they are and provides us with data to inform the instruction. The I-Ready Diagnostic is an adaptive assessment that adjusts its questions based on student responses. Each item a student receives is based on their answer to the previous question. For example, a series of correct answers will result in slightly harder questions, while a series of incorrect answers will yield slightly simpler ones. The purpose of this is not to give your child a score or grade, but to determine how to best support their learning. To help prepare your child for I-Ready Diagnostics, encourage them to: get a good night's sleep and eating a full breakfast the day of the assignment; try their best on each question and try not to rush; try not to worry about questions they do not know-remind them that it is expected they will get only about half of the questions correct; and to be respectful of other students who may take longer to finish. To support your child's online lessons, you can: discuss your child's progress; celebrate their learning and growth; and if your child's teacher encourages them to use I-Ready lessons at home, reference the Fridge Tips section of the I-Ready website for more tools to support your student. https://i-readycentral.com/familycenter/

WELCOME TO MMS

Mrs. wahl is our new school counselor for last names starting with G-M! she loves her three kids and her Australian cattle Dog, charlie. She loves to laugh and fip up her house. She likes to garden but isn't the best at it?

Mrs. saldo is new to our 5th Grade and is teaching Math

Make sure you introduce Yourselves to our new staff this year and welcome them to Mexico Middle School! Ms. Fresch is dur new 6th Grade Science + Social Studies Mrs. Snigder is our new teacher! 5th Grade ELA SPED

teacher. She loves

camping, coffee and

beaches! She has visited

48 states!!!

Ms. wills is new to our oth Grade and is teaching ELA + social studies

Ms. Starusnak is new to our 6th Grade and is teaching Math?

Ms. Proto is new to 7th Grade and is teaching Math! she loves hiking, the beach, her family and cats. She also really enjoys travelling and has been to 7 different countries ...

Miss Pasco is our new French Teacher! She loves learning, reading, writing poetry and cats! She has lived in Paris and also teaches Spanish at the High School.

Mr. yawman is our new Music Teacher! He has been a musician for 25 bears and loves taking care of his horses.

Mrs. Barry is one of our new English teachers! She loves space, reading, camping and video games! She has gone skydiving, and visited the United Kingdom over the summer! She owns two telescopes!

We will also be welcoming a new Assistant Principal and German Teacher this bear. Look for their profiles in the nept issue!!!

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Sept. 6th - First Day of School Sept. 7 - Code of Conduct Assemblies Sept. 15 - BOE Meeting Sept. 12-16 - iReady ELA Dlagnostics

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sept. 19-23iReady Math

Sept. 21 - 5th Gr. Band Night 6-7pm MS Aud





USDA is an equal opportunity and employer. If you have any questions concerning the school nutritional program, please contact Brenda Thomas at 315-963-8400 × 5071. Please keep accounts current and prepay for meals.

Free-no charge. Reduced-no charge. Paid- (\$2.65) \$50.35, (\$2.90) \$58.00

SCHOOL BUCKS PAY FOR MEALS ONLINE MySchoolBucks.com



Have you noticed your 5th or 6th Grader's schedule has them taking a class called AVID? Confused because you thought only 7th and 8th Graders that applied took that class? Have absolutely no idea what we are talking about? Don't worry! All is well! AVID is an acronym that stands for Advancement Via Individual Determination. It is an academic college prep support program for grades 4-12 whose mission is to close the achievement gap by preparing all students for college readiness and success. However, AVID isn't just for students looking to go to college! It teaches purposeful note-taking, organization, public speaking and responsibility- all skills that will help a student succeed no matter where there road leads after high school! Students will work on using writing to clarify and communicate their thoughts and understanding of materials. They will learn to ask questions that allow them to clarify, analyze and synthesize materials. Organization skills will help them retrieve and maintain materials and data with ease and reading skills will be introduced to help them analyze, question, critique and comprehend materials. AVID is a wonderful program and we are very excited to be able to offer it to all of our students at Mexico Middle!



Locks and Lockers

How to open your lock:

- 1. Spin the dial at lease three times to the right (->).
- 2. Enter your combination. Turn the dial to the right and stop at your first number. For the next number, turn the dial to the left (<-) going past zero and the second number, go past zero again and then stop on your second number. Finally, turn the dial back to the right (->) and go directly to your last number.
- Pull the lock open and remove it from the locker, lift the latch the lock is on to open your locker. 7th/8th Graders need to lift the latch inside the locker to open the compartment above lockers.
 To close your locker, shut the door, replace the lock and press it
 - closed. It is best to give the lock a spin before you leave.

Locker Rules

Please be responsible with your lockers and locks. Do not share your locker or lock combination with other students. Do not keep valuables or food items that may spoil in your locker. Do not put your lock on someone else's lf locker. you forget your combination locker or your jams/becomes stuck, please see Ms. Sokal-Davidson in the Main Office!



Coming this October to the MS: POSITIVE PUMPKIN COLORING CONTEST 2022

PICK UP YOUR PUMPKIN COLORING PAGE(S) IN THE CAFETERIA DURING LUNCH AND DESIGN THE BEST PUMPKIN WITH A POSITIVE MESSAGE THAT YOU CAN! PUMPKINS ARE DUE TO STUDENT SERVICES BY THE END OF THE DAY OCTOBER 21ST. WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUNCED THE FOLLOWING WEEK AND WILL HAVE THEIR PUMPKINS FEATURED IN THE NOVEMBER TIGER WIRE! PRIZES WILL BE REWARDED FOR MOST CREATIVE, BEST USE OF THE 7 HABITS, FUNNIEST, SPOOKIEST, STAFF FAVORITE, STUDENT'S CHOICE, AND PRINCIPAL'S PICK!



Across

3. The fearless keeper of all of our books

 She'll teach you to sew and make cookies

7. She's the boss and she loves to play basketball

- 8. The man, the myth, the school SRO
- 9. Your counselor if your last name is Smith

10. The Science teacher who has a fondness for airhorns

<u>Down</u>

1. The voice of an angel who teaches you to sing

2. A Math Teacher that coaches Football too!

5. Fifth grade teacher with a love of Star Wars

6. You can call her Mrs. but she prefers Frau