



Indian Mound Middle School

June 2009

Newsletter



David Witte, Principal

608-838-8980

Greetings from Dave Witte..... Reflections on a Fabulous School Year!!!

Wow!!! It's summer time and school is almost out. Time surely flies when you are having fun and learning a lot. It is hard to believe that it is already June and summer vacation is just days away. As I think about the 2008-2009 school year, I am amazed at how much we, as a school community, accomplished in only 180 school days (and three snow days). It often can be so easy to focus on the day-to-day, week-to-week tasks that must be accomplished but when you take a moment and reflect on all the wonderful experiences, activities, and opportunities that both our students and staff have been involved in this year, we, as a school community, are truly a lucky group of people. I have created a list below to remind each of you of the many wonderful events that have occurred throughout the school year. I recognize that my list is not even close to covering all of the amazing events and accomplishments of our staff and students, but it will allow you to take a moment to remember many of the exciting times that make Indian Mound Middle School a wonderful place to come to school each and every day. Have a great summer and enjoy reflecting on all of the various events from this past school year. They are:

- Banner Day
- Wacky Olympics
- Corn Maze field trip
- 8th grade class bowling trip
- Celebration Days
- The creation of the new "IMMS Honor Code"
- "Use Another Word" campaign to make IMMS a safe school for everyone
- Timber-Lee for 6th grade students
- School-wide assembly with guest speaker Mike McGowan
- The UW-Whitewater Wheelchair Basketball team assembly
- The IMMS Talent Show
- The annual grade level track meets
- IMMS Drama production - "Seussical Jr."
- Boys and Girls Basketball, Volleyball, Track, Cross Country, Ultimate Frisbee
- Forensics, Math Meet, Yahara River Writers, Math 24, Oratorical Contest, Spelling Bee, Yearbook, WCATY
- Poetry Jam
- WAGS school-wide assembly in March
- Choir and Band Concerts
- Real World Day
- Penny Wars
- Art Fair at the McFarland Public Library
- Student Council sponsored school dances
- School-wide quarterly community service projects
- Student of the Month Assemblies
- "IMMS Messenger" school newspaper
- 7th grade Political Convention
- 7th grade field trip to the IMAX and the Henry Vilas Zoo
- 6th grade Market Days, Boat Regatta, Money Unit and Auction
- 8th grade picnic
- End-of-the-year class trips
- Tug-of-war competitions
- Kickball tournaments
- MHS Blue Notes singing at the December Student of the Month Assembly with our students

As you can see, we accomplished and experienced a lot during the 2008-2009 school year. Wishing you a safe and relaxing summer and we will see you again in August!

Sincerely,
Dave Witte
IMMS Principal

Calendar at a Glance.....

June 9, 2009 End of Year Trips:
6th & 7th Grade: Kalahari [8:45-6:00 p.m.] Pick up will up
will be at McFarland High School

8th Grade: Great America [7:15 a.m.—5:30 p.m.] Pick up
will be at McFarland High School

June 10, 2009 **8th Grade Recognition Ceremony** — [7:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m.]

Dance [8:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m.]

June 11, 2009 **Last day of School K-12 (1/2 day release)**

8th Grade Early Dismissal with parent permission
(8th grade dismissal at 10:00 a.m. - form is due by 9:00
a.m. on June 9th).

Coming Soon. Save the Date.....

August 12th Registration for the 2009-2010 School
Year

10:00 A.M. until 6:00 P.M.

A reminder from the IMMS health office:

All medication (prescription and non-prescription) kept at school must be retrieved by a parent/guardian within 10 days of the last day of school. Medication will NOT be sent home with students. Any medication left at school will be discarded after the 10 days.

Please note for the 2009-10 school year:

If your child will require medication to be kept at school for the upcoming school year, you will need to complete a new medication consent form. This form needs to be updated **each** school year. Additional forms are available in the school office. Any prescription medication kept at school will require written instruction and consent from the prescribing physician as well as a parent or guardian signature. Please indicate on the form if your child will require this medication on half days. Non-prescription medication requires consent only from a parent or guardian.

All medications need to be in their original bottles with the following information included on the form:

- Students name and current grade level
- Medication name and dosage
- Time and duration for administration
- Parent/guardian consent
- Prescribing physician's instruction and consent (prescription meds only)
- Parent/guardian contact information

NOTE: Be sure to update any home, cell or work phone numbers throughout the school year as necessary. Please call Alison Potter RN or Michelle Sondreal at 838-4500 ext. 4849 if you have questions.

Thank you and have a GREAT summer!

Health Services

05-09 MS

"Cash For Trash"

Our last "Cash for Trash" competition was collected on Friday, May 29th and our top three prime times were: Mr. Kinnaman with 1113, Mrs. Shank with 648 and Ms. Neal with 593! Congratulations!

The top two, Mr. Kinnaman and Mrs. Shank's, prime time will receive a pizza party for all of their hard work! We collected over 8300 pieces of trash that will support IMMS!

We have turned in over \$1000.00 worth of box tops! Keep up the good work and please continue to collect over the summer!!

We would also like to thank our parent volunteers that helped out through each competition and counted all of the trash for us! They were: Karen Riese, Carol Sam and Chris Riese! Thank you for all of your time!

Our parent support is wonderful and without you our schools would not be what they are today!!!



G. Y. M. Corner

Get Yourself **PEDALING** this summer. Simple as that ! Life is about the CHOICES we make. This summer choose to go by BIKE for your health, for the world and for our future: (facts taken from *1 WORLD-2 WHEELS.org*)

Facts for your Health: * The average person loses 13 lbs. their first year commuting by bike.

*Just three hours of bicycling per week can reduce your risk of heart disease and stroke by 50%.

*A 140 pound cyclist burns 508 calories while pedaling 14 miles per hour.

Facts for the World: * The U.S. could save 462 million gallons of gasoline a year by increasing cycling from 1% to 1.5% of all trips.

* Each U.S. rush hour auto commuter spends an average of 50 hours a year stuck in traffic

* In 2003, cars stalled in traffic wasted 5 billion gallons of fuel.

Facts for our Future: * In 1964, 50% of kids rode a bike to school and the obesity rate was 12%.....in 2004, 3% rode to school and obesity rate was 45%.

FOR 2 Miles Or Less-FACT: * 60% of the pollution created by automobile emissions happens in the first few minutes of operation, before pollution control devices can work effectively.

* 25% of all trips are made within **a mile** of the home, 40% of all trips are within **two miles** of the home and 50% of the working population commutes five miles or less to work.

Get Yourself Moving.....

Which of the trips you take can you **GO BY BIKE** ????

SUMMER SCHOOL IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER!

Our first session of classes begins in less than a month, and we're looking forward to an exciting summer. For answers to frequently asked questions, please review the Summer School Handbook. Go to the district website at www.mcfarland.k12.wi.us, and select 2009 Summer School Handbook under Top Links. Here are just a few reminders:

Payment of Fees

Thank you to all those families who have already paid their fees. If you have not yet paid, your prompt attention to this matter would be greatly appreciated. **We will remove your child's name from the roster if we have not received payment by June 11 (the last day of school).**

Dropping a Class

If you wish to drop a student from a class, please contact Kathy Smith at 838-4500, x. 5469. Refunds will automatically go into the student's lunch account, or a check will be issued for those without a lunch account. No refunds or credits will be given for cancellations occurring less than 7 days before the start of the class unless the cancellation is due to a medical or family emergency.

Adding a Class

Online registration will remain open all summer **for browsing only**. You will be able to log in at any time to review your child's schedule. Also, since the system will update daily, you will be able to check on classes that may have reopened for your child's current grade level. If you would like to register your child for any of them, please call Kathy Smith at the number above.

Getting Ready for the First Day of Classes

If you have a chance during the week before classes begin, it would be helpful for you and your children to visit the schools they will be attending and locate the classrooms where their classes will be held. Also, be sure to send along a copy of your children's schedule with them on the first day so we can easily help them find their classes.

Arrival Time/Attendance

Children should not arrive before 7:50 A.M. There is no adult supervision indoors or outside before this time, nor is there supervision for children not attending classes. If your child will not be attending on any given day, **it is extremely important to report the absence** by calling the appropriate summer school staff person:

CEELC	Betty Kalhagen	838-3146
MPS	Donna DeLacy	838-3115
MHS	Cheryl Ackley	838-4505

If any child has been absent for 2 days in a row and there has been no contact from the parent, that child will be dropped from his/her classes.

Volunteers

Parents are welcome to volunteer for playground supervision during recess times at CEELC and MPS. You are also welcome to help out in non-remedial classes if help is needed, although not necessarily in your child's classes.

(continued next page)

Class Lists & Room Assignments

Class lists will be posted during the last week of school at CEELC, MPS, and MHS. If you registered online, your confirmation page includes the location and room number for your child's classes. Room assignments for remedial and special education classes are listed below:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Building</u>	<u>Room</u>
Early Childhood	CEELC	102, 103
Adventures in Learning K-2	MPS	102
Adventures in Learning 3-4	MPS	236
Adventures in Learning 5	MPS	238
Structured Learning K-3	MPS	132
Structured Learning 4-8	HS	143
Kindergarten Readiness	CEELC	105, 107
K-1 Math Academy	CEELC	106
K-1 Reading Academy	CEELC	104
1-2 Math Academy	MPS	122
1-2 Reading Academy	CEELC	104
2-3 Math Academy	MPS	122
2-3 Reading Academy	MPS	120
3-4 Math & Reading Academies	MPS	232
4-5 Math & Reading Academies	MPS	234
5-6 Math & Reading Academies	HS	146
6-7 Math Academy	HS	180
7-8 Math Academy	HS	180
6-8 Reading Academy	HS	148
READ 180	HS	171
Getting Ready for 1 st Grade Math & Reading	MPS	122
Getting Ready for 2 nd Grade Math & Reading	MPS	120
Getting Ready for 3 rd Grade Math & Reading	MPS	118
Getting Ready for 4 th Grade Math/Reading/Writing	MPS	232
Getting Ready for 5 th Grade Math/Reading/Writing	MPS	234
Getting Ready for 6 th Grade Math/Reading/Writing	HS	182
Middle School Math	HS	180

PARENTS:

We would like to thank the following volunteers that helped out with our March Market Day:

Karleen Mack-Brandt
Brett Brandt
Quinton Brandt

We would also like to thank our babysitters - Eva Radomski and Alanna Pahnke

We would like to thank the following volunteers who helped out with our May Market Day:

Karleen Mack-Brandt
Brett Brandt
Preston Brandt
Quinton Brandt
Austin Brandt
Mary Kopp

Also a big thank you to our dedicated babysitters:

Eva Radomski
Alanna Pahnke

Your help every month is greatly appreciated!!!

*******Reminder*******

***** MCFARLAND CURFEW TIMES/RULES*****

Under 16 -- Curfew is from 10 pm to 5 am, Sunday through Thursday; 11 pm to 5 am Friday and Saturday.

16 & 17 year olds -- Curfew is from 11 pm to 5 am, Sunday through Thursday; 12 midnight to 5 am Friday and Saturday.

Curfew applies to being in public places such as roadways and parks.

So, FOR EXAMPLE: If they are in a friend's yard after curfew, they are not in violation. However, if they leave the yard (including walking or driving home) before curfew expires (5 am), unaccompanied by their legal guardian, they ARE in violation of the curfew.

There are four notable exceptions to curfew:

- If the minor is running an errand for their legal guardian. "Guardian", as referred to in the ordinance, is not meant to be the parent of a friend with whom a child is spending the night. It generally refers to the person who has full-time legal custody of the child.
- If the minor is on their own premises.
- If the minor's employment makes it necessary for them to be out (driving to, from or during work).
- If the minor is returning home from a school, church, or civic function.

If the minor claims any of these to be the case, the police will confirm!

****Note: Town of Dunn is the same except the cut-off age is 15 instead of 16.**

If you have any further questions regarding McFarland's curfew, feel free to contact Officer Mike Klementz at 838-4500 x4720.

McFarland High School—Athletic Registration Fall Sports—Parent Meetings

School Year 2009-2010



(Mark your calendar.)

THURSDAY, JULY 23, 2009

Cross Country — 6:00 p.m.—Library
Football — 6:00 p.m.—Auditorium
Golf (Girls) — 5:00 p.m.—Room 110
Soccer (Boys) — 7:00 p.m. —Library
Swimming (Girls) — 6:30 p.m.—Room 110
Tennis (Girls) — 5:00 p.m.—Library
Volleyball — 5:00 p.m.— Auditorium

When you come to registration, be sure to have the following forms ready to turn in:

PAGE 15 OF ATHLETIC CODE: Signed Emergency Information, Informed Consent and Student Pledge (Signed by both student-athlete and parent.) These forms are on page 15 of the Athletic Code of Conduct and replace the WIAA Alternate Year Card. This page must be filled out.

PHYSICAL CARD: If you need a physical, the green physical sheet must be filled out and signed by the physician. (For 2009-2010 eligibility the physical must be dated after March 31, 2008.)

Sports Fee—\$80.00

The Athletic Code of Conduct and green physical sheet form are available in the high school office. Please have all forms completed when you come to registration. **PLEASE NOTE:** A listing of students who DO NOT NEED a physical is in the high school office and Room 132.

**.Beginning FALL SPORTS Practice Dates - 2009
McFarland High School**

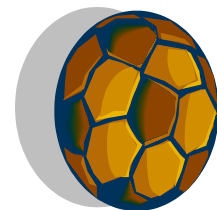
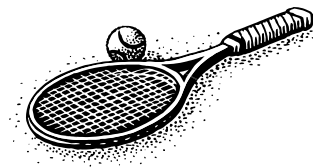
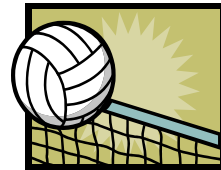
Sport

Beginning Date

Cross Country	Monday, August 17
Football (9-12)	Monday, August 10 (Equipment & Timing)
Golf – Girls	Monday, August 10
Soccer - Boys	Monday, August 10
Swim - Girls	Tuesday, August 11
Tennis - Girls	Tuesday, August 11
Volleyball	Monday, August 17

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL AND SOCCER CAMPS

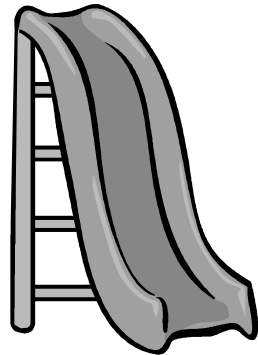
PARENTS PLEASE NOTE: To be eligible for WIAA contact days, football and soccer players must have athletic registration forms and their sports fee in before they can participate in these camps.



Reading
Study Skills
Writing
Spelling
Phonics



Math
SAT
PSAT
ACT



Stop Summer Slide!

For many students, the lack of consistent educational stimulus during June, July, and August leads to regression that creates a competitive disadvantage at the next grade level. After a long, hectic school year, every student deserves a little down time, but it is important for your child to stay sharp and advanced. Think of Huntington as an educational achievement summer camp! Huntington Learning Center provides individualized curriculum that takes a holistic approach to your student's specific areas of need. Our approach recognizes that all students learn differently. Our certified teachers will enhance your child's verbal, phonetic, math, reading comprehension, writing, test taking, and study skills. We will conference with you, the parent, on a regular basis to communicate your child's progress. Starting with a four-hour diagnostic evaluation and a one-hour initial conference, we are able to provide, by drawing from Huntington's curriculum, methods, and 32 years of experience, a prescriptive approach to help your child attain a new level of academic success, which will help build confidence to become independently motivated to learn for life.

The Huntington College Exam Preparatory Program offers college-bound students the opportunity of one-to-one skill set building to optimize success for the PSAT (for National Merit Scholarships), ACT, and SAT. Our highly-trained tutors work one-on-one with each student to provide the personalized attention they need to not only master test-taking strategies, but to develop the problem-solving and skill sets necessary to succeed at the college level. The first step is to arrange for a three-hour test time which will be followed by a two-hour initial conference. This conference includes a review of the test, an analysis of the results, and a presentation of the individualized program developed with your student's aspirations and increased test scores in mind. Better scores mean better choices!

Please take the first step to make this your child's best school year ever—call 223-1953 today. Our goal is “to give every student the best education possible”.

Summer Hours

Monday-Thursday	Friday	Saturday
8AM-8PM	8AM-4PM	8AM-1PM

This is not a school sponsored activity and the school districts of Monona Grove, Oregon, McFarland, Stoughton, Deerfield, Middleton, Verona, the Madison Metropolitan School District, and the Catholic Schools Diocese of Madison do not approve, support, supervise, or endorse this program/activity.

400 Interlake Drive • Monona WI 53716

(Located in the big yellow building @ Interlake Boatyard between WPS Insurance and Red Robin Restaurant)

608-223-1953 Your Child Can Learn 1-800-CAN-LEARN

madisonlearning.net

Success • Confidence • Motivation



UPDATE: CHANGE IN ELECTRONIC DEVICE POLICY AT IMMS



2008- 2009 School Year

Dear Families of Indian Mound Middle School,

In our continued efforts to create and maintain a school community that promotes academic excellence and safety for all students and staff members, we have taken some time to revisit and revise our current school policy regarding electronic devices. It is our goal through the changes to the current IMMS Electronic Device policies that both students and staff are able to focus more on teaching and learning and less on electronic distractions and issues of safety.

In the past, we have allowed students to possess their cell phones and cameras with them during the day. However, the current policy has created problems as we have seen an increase in students text messaging in class, the hallways, and at lunch and lunch recess. Students have been informed numerous times that any type of cell phone use is not permitted from the start of the school day to the end of the school day but more and more students are text messaging and/or making or receiving phone calls during the school day. As a result, a change in the current policy is required. The new IMMS Electronic Device policy states:

Cell phones, pagers, laser pointers, radios, personal stereos, MP3 players, hand-held game players, and other sound devices must be turned off and in a student's locked locker between 7:45 a.m. and 3:05 p.m. unless the device is being used for educational purposes that are pre-approved by the Principal or Associate Principal. If a student is found to be in possession of one of these devices, the device will be confiscated and returned to the student's parent/guardian. Depending upon the circumstances other consequences may be given. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

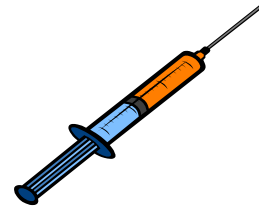
We are also concerned about students taking digital pictures of both students and staff and potentially posting the pictures on the internet without student and/or staff permission. As we continue to focus on school safety, both within the school building and what may occur outside of school as a result of actions taken during the school day, we have also changed the school policy regarding cameras and recording devices. The new IMMS Electronic Device policy states:

Students are not permitted to possess digital cameras and recording devices and the use of cell phones for pictures and for recording purposes on school grounds at any time unless pre-approved by the Principal or Associate Principal. If these items are observed at school, they will be confiscated and returned to the student's parent/guardian. Depending upon the circumstances other consequences may be given. The school is not responsible for lost, stolen, or damaged items

If your student needs to contact you, a parent or guardian, during the day, students are allowed to call from a school phone with staff permission. If you, as a parent or guardian, need to contact your student during the day, please call the IMMS main office at 838-8980 and we will contact your student directly. It is our hope, through the changes we have made with the IMMS Electronic Device policy, that students and staff will be able to focus more on their academics and achieve greater success in school.

Sincerely,

Dave Witte
IMMS Principal



2008-2009 School Year

Dear Parents/Guardians of 8th grade students:

The Wisconsin Department of Health and Family Services has proposed revisions to adolescent vaccine requirements for the upcoming 2009-10 school year. One of the proposed recommendations is that students who will be 9th graders in the 2009-10 school year will need a TDAP vaccine. The TDAP vaccine is for Tetanus, Diphtheria and Pertussis prevention. This is essentially a booster vaccine to those your child may have already had.

The reason for notifying parents now is to inform you of these anticipated requirements so that vaccines may be obtained during this school year at your child's annual physical and to request these dates be forwarded to the Health Office at **Indian Mound Middle School** when received, using the form below. If your child has already received the new TDAP vaccine, or if you wish to waive this requirement, please provide this information to Health Services using the form below. Otherwise provide the update when your child obtains these vaccines.

Please contact me for any questions at 838-4500, ext.4761.

Alison Potter, RN
School Health Service Coordinator

Name of Student _____

Date of TDAP Vaccine _____

Parent Signature _____ Date Signed _____

WAIVERS Please select one option and check the box.

For health reasons this student should not receive the following immunizations _____

SIGNATURE – Physician _____ Date Signed _____

For religious reasons this student should not be immunized.

For personal conviction reasons this student should not be immunized.

This form is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

SIGNATURE - Parent/Guardian/Legal Custodian or Adult Student Date Signed _____

PARENTS AND FAMILIES: PLEASE READ AND REVIEW WITH YOUR STUDENT(S)

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MCFARLAND
NEW PROMOTION POLICY

Dear Families,

This document details the changes in the new K-12 Promotion Policy effective for the 2008-2009 school year. In the past, students in eighth grade were required to achieve a 1.0 cumulative GPA, as well as other promotion requirements listed below, in order to be promoted to ninth grade. However, with the adoption of the new promotion policy, students in sixth, seventh, and eighth grade must now achieve a 1.7 GPA each year to be promoted to the next grade level. If you have any questions regarding the change in the promotion policy, please contact your student's guidance counselor.

The McFarland School District sets high performance standards for our students, standards that we hope motivate them to be both successful school students and productive and happy adults. School Board Policy #345.5 specifies the requirements for promotion from sixth, seventh, and eighth grade; these requirements are listed below from School Board Policy #345.5.

Academic Performance

6 – 8: Middle school students must:

earn a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 1.70 (D+) at the end of each grade (sixth, seventh, and eighth); and achieve a minimum score of “basic” on the Seventh Grade District Writing Assessment or meet the alternative requirement(s) by the end of their eighth grade year.

Communication Requirements for Fourth through Eighth Grade

The School District of McFarland is committed to helping all students successfully complete the requirements for promotion and graduation. Fourth and fifth grade students who are below grade level and sixth through eighth grade students who earn at or below a cumulative 2.0 grade point average (GPA) after second quarter will receive a letter informing both the students and parents/guardians of the student's academic status. Subsequent communication will occur between the school and the student's family to address continued academic concerns with appropriate interventions prior to the end of the school year to help ensure that all students are eligible for promotion.

Wisconsin Knowledge and Concepts Exam (WKCE) (4th and 8th grades only)

In addition to the academic performance criterion, students in grades four and eight will be expected to achieve a score of “basic” (2) or above on each of the five subtests on the WKCE (i.e., reading, language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies) or on alternative assessments, as appropriate. For students who are opted out of the WKCE, promotion decisions shall be based on the other criteria delineated in this policy.

Other Academic Criteria

If a student does not meet the above criteria, s/he will be expected to show evidence of successful completion of an alternative instructional program as determined/approved by the District to be eligible for promotion. Parent/guardian involvement is encouraged throughout the process; school personnel must document that parents/guardians have been informed as soon as the information (e.g., grades, WKCE scores) is available if their student may be required to complete an alternative instructional program. Examples of such programs include but are not limited to: summer school, extended day instruction, before/after school tutoring, small group instruction, Spotlight program, reading lab, independent study, portfolio/exhibitions, English language learner plans, and/or any other demonstration of mastery approved by the building administrator. If such a program is required for promotion, the staff review committee/designee will develop an individual plan identifying the expected learning outcomes, and the student, parent/guardian, and school responsibilities and expectations.

Staff Recommendations

If a student does not meet the academic performance or other academic criteria described above, a Promotion Review Committee will review the student's status and make a decision regarding promotion.

The committee, a sub-group of the building CARE Team, shall consist of the building administrator, a teacher from among the student's current teachers, and at least one other of the following: counselor, other student services staff person (e.g., school psychologist), other administrator. The committee may consider such information as the student's academic competencies and challenges, the student's experiential background, staff and parent references, reports from outside agencies, and performance in non-academic areas. Only academic-related information may be considered in making promotion decisions regarding students in grades four and eight.

If the Promotion Review Committee determines that the student has not met the necessary academic requirements, the student may only be promoted if the student successfully addresses the area(s) of academic deficiency through an approved alternative instructional program. The final promotion/alternative instructional program decision rests with the building administrator.

No fourth through eighth grade student may be promoted unless s/he satisfies the criteria for promotion in this policy.

Promotion determinations made at the building level may be appealed to the District Administrator. The decision of the District Administrator is final.