



July 27, 2023

Parents and Guardians,

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back for the 2023-2024 school year. I am happy to make my way back to Mattoon Middle School, where I started my career over 20 years ago and look forward to working with our amazing students, parents and staff. Whether your child has been with us for a few years or you are a brand new member of our Wildcat family, we want you to know how excited we are about getting our year kicked off on August 16th. As I write this letter, our teachers and teams are busy planning to provide the best learning experience possible for our students. I encourage you and your child to review and familiarize yourself with the student handbook, found [here](#). Throughout the year, information for families will be shared via Schoology. If you have not already done so, I would encourage you to set up email notifications through Schoology so you can stay up to date all year long. School supply lists can be found here: [6th Grade](#), [7th Grade](#), [8th Grade](#)

Over the last few years, MMS has embarked on a journey with Leader in Me where students gain agency and ownership in their learning through increased leadership opportunities. We are excited to continue to help each student find their strengths and talents and expand their potential in the 2023 - 2024 school year.

With online registration wrapping up soon, we still have a number of students who need to register. Please click [here](#) to begin that process. You can call 217-238-5800 if you have any questions or stop by the school office between 7:30 am and 4:00 pm for assistance. Student schedules will be finalized on August 10th at 4:30 pm. Please know anything found on Schoology or Skyward prior to that time is subject to change. Our student attendance day will begin at 8:30 a.m. and dismiss at 3:30 p.m.

We would also like to welcome 6th grade students and families to participate in our Discovery Day this year on August 9th, 10:00 am - 11:30 am. This is a great opportunity for students to meet their teachers, try out their locker combinations and familiarize themselves with the building while activities and information sessions are held for parents who wish to attend. Our 7th and 8th grade students and families are encouraged to attend their open house on August 17th from 5:30 pm - 7:00 pm for a chance to meet their teachers as well.

In closing, we are looking forward to the exciting year ahead as we work together to help your child learn and grow. Thank you in advance for your partnership. If there is anything you ever need please reach out to your child's teachers, team or our administrative team through the school office.

In Partnership,
Chad Arnold
Principal
Mattoon Middle School