

## SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

PERSONAL RESPONSIBILITY

RESPECT

INTEGRITY

DISCIPLINED

ENGAGEMENT

1700 Woodside Road  
Muskegon, MI 49441  
231-759-8506  
[www.monashores.net](http://www.monashores.net)

September 2017

# Mona Shores Middle School

## SAILOR P.R.I.D.E.

## News

Sailor Parents and Families,

**WELCOME SAILORS** to the 2017-2018 school year! I trust that this email finds you gearing up for another amazing year at Mona Shores Middle School. While we may have a new exterior look, a new safe and secure entrance, and some beautiful new tile lining our hallways, MSMS will continue to stay dedicated to being the highest performing middle school in the county, state, and nation; we will stay committed to being the **best** middle school in America! We will stay committed to being our **best** selves, as adults and students. This focus and dedication will not waiver.

As we strive to reach these goals, we must challenge each other to be the **best** version of ourselves that we can possibly be, our **best** as students, educators, parents, friends, and community members. No matter what role we assume in the education of our students, we must make a conscious effort and strive to be our **best** every day, regardless of ability, situation, or circumstances. I believe that if we embrace this collective responsibility and focus, Mona Shores Middle School will be the **best** middle school in America. Through a relationships-first mindset, academic success, high-character, positive behavior, and in creating a memorable middle school experience for our students, MSMS will reach the high expectations we have set for ourselves!

Moving into September, our monthly character trait is **Ownership**. Later this week and throughout the month, our students will hear myself and teachers speak about taking **ownership**, or responsibility. We will challenge students to take **ownership** of their words, actions, education, behavior, and choices. Mrs. Butterfield will have a lesson for them to complete during Encore next week, all connected to **ownership**. Please take a moment to discuss **ownership** at home, what might it look like, sound like, and feel like. Together, we can have a greater impact on our students and who they become.

In looking towards the 2017-2018 school year, I want to say how grateful and honored I am to have your students at Mona Shores Middle School. Not only do I believe that we have a truly phenomenal group of students and parents, but the high quality educators that work with your children are the **best** around! This relationship is what makes MSMS the **BEST** Middle School in America.

With SAILOR PRIDE,  
**Doug Ammeraal**  
Principal  
Email: [ammeraad@monashores.net](mailto:ammeraad@monashores.net)  
Facebook: Mona Shores Middle School  
Twitter: @msms\_sailors  
Twitter: @dougammeraal

## CALENDAR

### SAILOR SALUTE @ H.S.

Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> (Fri.) - Gates open - 4:30pm  
Football Game - 7:00pm

### MEYER INSTRUMENT RENTAL MTG.

Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> (Tues.) - 7:00pm

### LATE START DATES (9:40am)

Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)

### CHOIR PARENT INFORMATIONAL MTG.

Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> (Wed.) - 7:00pm

### PICTURE MAKE-UP DAY

Sept. 14<sup>th</sup> (Thur.)

### MIDDLE FIDDLES

Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) - 9:00am - 10:00am

### SPIRIT WEEK

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> (Mon.) - Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> (Fri.)

### DRAMA INTEREST MEETING

Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> (Tues.) - 3:00pm - 4:00pm

### LATE START DATES (9:40am)

Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)

### HOMECOMING/MSMS PEP ASSEMBLY

Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> (Fri.)

### LATE START DATES (9:40am)

Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> (Wed.)

### MIDDLE FIDDLES

Sept. 30<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) - 9:00am - 10:00am



Sailors have ownership, engagement, gratitude, service, respect, compassion, attitude, disciplined, integrity & success.





## BOX TOPS



The science department is collecting Box Tops for Education. Please have your student give their box tops to their science teacher to be entered into a contest.

Rewards are as follows:

10=one ticket into drawing for pizza party.

100=candy bar (+10 tickets into pizza party drawing)

500=\$10 gift card to Cinema Carousel Theater (+5 candy bars and 50 tickets into pizza party drawing).

Tickets accumulate throughout the year so you have until the end of the year to collect 500. If you ask neighbors, grandparents, and other relatives to collect them for you, you will have no trouble collecting 500! CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS and Tyson Chicken Project A Labels are collected in the front office.



## 6th Grade Math:

Just a reminder that all 6th grade students need to know their basic multiplication facts. You can study flashcards or play online games (see below) to help you learn/master. See Mrs. Shaffer or Mrs. Cooper if you need a set of flashcards to borrow.

<http://freerice.com/category>

<https://www.thatquiz.org/>

<http://www.multiplication.com/quiz/multiplication-self-correcting-quizzes>



Attention Seventh Grade Parents:

The seventh grade team is excited to work with your students! We are planning a year-end celebration that will be purposeful and memorable for all of them.

On May 25, 2018, we will hold an entire day of workshops and activities devoted to broadening your child's horizons. We will have a keynote speaker, community service activities, and hands-on workshops.

We are in need of expanding our list of presenters for this day. Do you have a special craft or hobby that you would be willing to share in a one hour session with a small group of students? Ideas might include jewelry making, self-defense, making fishing lures, cake decorating, or whatever may seem of high interest to a middle school child.

If you want to volunteer to help with this special day, please contact Beth Prentice at [prenticb@monashores.net](mailto:prenticb@monashores.net) or Donna Cargill [cargilld@monashores.net](mailto:cargilld@monashores.net). The whole 7th grade team of teachers thanks you in advance for your support!



**Seventh graders** will launch their language arts journey with focus on using strong word choices in writing, particularly precise nouns and active verbs. We will study how mentor authors use vivid imagery and action to convey experience in writing.

**Eighth Grade Language Arts** is excited to kick off the new school year with a strong focus on Independent Reading! We will expect that students have a chosen novel at all times to delve into during and after class, and to deepen our thinking about reading strategies. Our hope is that students read an average of 20 minutes a night. Additionally, we are looking forward to jumping into our first unit on Decision Making by reading the short story "Flowers for Algernon" by Daniel Keyes.



# LMC NEWS

Welcome back to school! Ms. Hansen and Mrs. Mann are excited about a new year in the LMC! We're looking forward to serving the students and staff of MSMS!



## Did you know . . .

- LMC stands for **L**ibrary **M**edia **C**enter
- We have 8,665 books and materials available for students and staff to check out
- We had 3,977 circulations last year
- We added 254 new books to our collection last year
- We subscribe to 12 magazines for student and staff use
- Students can browse our collection and place holds online through Destiny
- We have five huddle stations for collaborative learning and planning
- We have a “Maker Space” and it is super fun!
- We are able to configure our learning environment for a variety of instructional needs. We have tables and chairs to accommodate multiple classes at one time
- We have two mobile chrome carts for teachers to reserve for their classrooms
- We trouble shoot student and staff chromebook problems and facilitate chromebook repairs
- We have vending machines for pens, pencils, mechanical pencils, gel pens, and Mona Shores erasers. We also sell spiral notebooks and earbuds.
- Students can visit the LMC before school, during lunch (with a pass), and after school. Students will also be able to visit with their Language Arts classes
- We host a Scholastic Book Fair on October 9 - 13. Families can shop during fall conferences. Stop by the LMC and into the Wild West!





Here are a few updates and reminders as we head into the new school year:

- **PORTS OF CALL** -- Thank You to all of our students and parents that attend Ports of Call and/or Open House last week. We had over 95% of our students come through Ports of Call - amazing!
- **P-R-I-D-E** -- Know that MSMS will continue to promote, teach, discuss, and hold our students accountable to our positive behavior matrix, **PRIDE** (Personal responsibility, Respect, Integrity, Disciplined, Engagement). Please have conversations with your students on what it truly means to show Sailor PRIDE.
- **PARENT PORTAL** -- This is up-and-running. If you were unable, or have not yet done so, please login and update your child's emergency contacts. Even if there are no changes, we need documentation that you have accessed your account. For the safety of your child and for communication, it is extremely important that you take this step.
- **STUDENT CELL PHONE UPDATE** -- There will be a change in how we handle student cell phones this year. Due to distractions in engagement, impact on teaching and learning, and continued time and resources being utilized in investigating lost, stolen, or misplaced phones, **ALL cell phones will be required to remain IN STUDENTS' LOCKERS, not on their person (or in hallways).** They will still be allowed to utilize them in the cafeteria at lunch time or on special/unique situations in a particular class. This was communicated to all parents and students at Ports of Call as well.
- **DRESS CODE UPDATES AND REMINDERS** -- Please be sure to read through a few dress code updates in your student's handbook; you will find some positive updates for our students. Know that we will continue to remind students that we are an **educational, learning institution and expect our students to dress as such**. We would expect dress that is **educationally (teaching and learning) supportive of success**. This expectation may look a bit different than what we might wear when hanging out with our friends, attending a football game, going to the movies, or when engaged in similar social settings. We do not see this being an issue for the majority of our students.
- **ARTICLE TO PONDER** -- Here is a great article entitled, [What Every Middle School Parent Should Know](#). It offers reminders, suggestions, and ideas as we all help your children be as successful as possible.

