

Meridian Middle School



23/24 School Year



Mindy McGuire, MMS Principal

mcguirem@meridianhawks.net

Carla Comerford, Secretary

comerfordc@meridianhawks.net

Mrs. Lucas – Athletic Director

Mr. Stielow – Technology Director

Mrs. Dalby – Social Worker

Mrs. Butler – Student Services Coordinator

Mrs. Enlow – MMS/MHS Nurse

Ms. Engle – Library Aide

MMS Teaching Staff

Science: [Mr. Bates](#) & [Mrs. Webster](#)

Math: [Mr. Britton](#) & [Mrs. Houser](#)

Literature: [Mrs. Rhoades](#) & [Mrs. Pritts](#)

Social Studies: [Mrs. Hendricks](#) & [Mr. Pekovitch](#)

English: [Mrs. S Moyer](#) & [Ms. Deckard](#)

Resource: [Mrs. Holsapple](#) & Miss Herbert

PE: [Miss Comerford](#), [Mr. Miller](#), & [Mr. Scales](#)

Computers: [Mr. O'Brien](#) & [Mr. Baumann](#)

Art: [Mrs. Perrey](#)

Band: [Mr. Clark](#)

Chorus/Music Appreciation: Mr. Anderson

RTI: Mrs. E. Moyer

Grading Scale & Core Subjects



A 100 – 90%

B 89 – 80%

C 79 – 70%

D 69 – 60%

F 59 – 0%

Core Classes

Math

Science

English

Social Studies

Literature

Electives/Additional Classes

Band

Chorus

Computers

Art

RTI/At-Risk Tutoring

PE/Health

Study Hall

***6th grade does not take semester final exams.**

Daily Schedule

1st Hour	7:46 – 8:32 a.m.
2nd Hour	8:36 – 9:22 a.m.
3rd Hour	9:26 – 10:12 a.m.
4th Hour	10:16 – 11:02 a.m.
5A Lunch	11:02 – 11:32 a.m.
5A Hour	11:06 – 11:52 a.m.
5B Lunch	11:52 – 12:22 p.m.
5B Hour	11:36 – 12:22 p.m.
6th Hour	12:26 – 1:12 p.m.
7th Hour	1:16 – 2:02 p.m.
Study Hall	2:06 – 2:30 p.m.



General Information & Concerns

- Door are unlocked for students at 7:25 a.m.
- Upon arrival, 6th grade students will report to the gym & 7th/8th grade students will report to the cafeteria.
- Use the restroom, visit lockers, and get breakfast prior to reporting to homeroom.
- 1st Hour begins at 7:46 a.m. (Tardy Bell); Students should be at school no later than 7:40 a.m.
- Students are expected to be to class on time
 - consequences may apply for tardiness.
- 3 “free” tardies to school each semester
 - Lunch detention issued for 4+
- Organization is important
 - Lockers & Multiple Classes/Teachers
- Different teachers have different expectations & approaches to instruction.
- MMS is a part of a secondary school campus with shared staff.
- Most classes begin with bell ringer/jumpstart activities
- A list of [school supplies](#) is available on the MMS webpage.
- Students are required to dress daily for PE. The dress code includes green or black shorts and a Meridian shirt (or plain gray, white, or black). Failure to dress for PE will negatively impact the daily grade.

If your child is absent and you would like homework sent home, please let the office know first thing in the morning.

MMS/MHS Student Services Coordinator

What are Restorative Practices?

- **An individualized plan set for students who are experiencing emotional and/or behavioral concerns over a period of time.**



Responsibilities Include:

- **Peer Mediation**
- **Circle Activities**
- **Time on Task Observations**
- **Informal Behavior Plans**
- **Contact Logs**
- **Mentor Program**
- **Attendance/Behavior/Academic Reports**
- **Suspension Restorative Conversations**

Student Services Coordinator Information -

Mrs. Butler - butlerg@meridianhawks.net

(217) 764-3367 Ext. 138

Lockers

- **Students will be issued a hall locker & a PE locker**
 - **It is very important that students secure personal belongings in the locker during the school day!**
- **Students are encouraged to come to school to practice the locker combination prior to school starting.**
- **Book bags with wheels & large trappers/binders may not fit in the locker.**





If you call the office in the morning and no one answers, please leave a message as we may be on the other line.

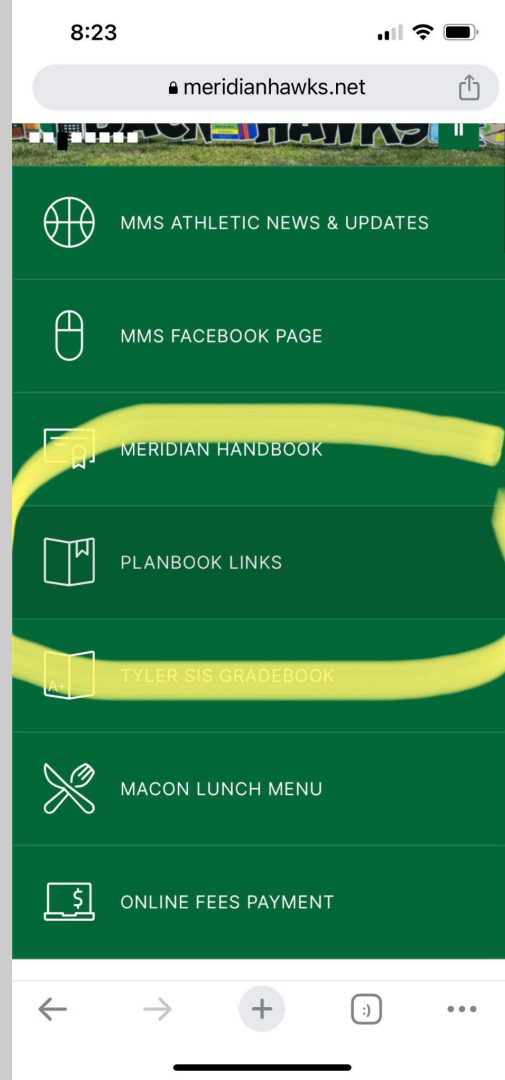
Mrs. Comerford can also be emailed at comerfordc@meridianhawks.net.

Attendance

- Attendance is very important as students progress through the secondary grades.
- Students must be at school and ready for 1st hour by 7:40 a.m. each morning.
- If possible, please provide doctor's notes for absences/appointments.
 - *Required after 10 excused absences*
- Please call your student in daily (by 10:00 a.m.) if absent and request assignments to be picked up.
 - Students can also check Google Classroom.
- Please contact the office if your child will not be in attendance.
- Pre-planned absence – Let the office know as soon as possible. A homework request sheet will be started from the office.
- Tardies: (to school) **3** excused per semester
 - 4th Tardy (and beyond) – Lunch Detention

Homework/Planbook.com

- An assignment notebook will be provided to students on the first day of school.
- Weekly & daily agendas are posted in each classroom.
- Lesson plans & assignments are easily accessible on Planbook.com.
- Information is also available on individual teacher webpages – www.meridianhawks.net
- Grades are posted weekly on [TeacherEase](#) (replacing Tyler SIS).
 - Check grades often & communicate classroom concerns with the appropriate teacher.



Home-to-School Communication

- Home-to-school communication is important for student success!
 - Please make sure we have a valid email address when you register. If this changes during the year, information should be updated in the office!
- The quickest way to communicate with teachers is through email. A list of email addresses can be found on the [MMS website](#).
- The [MMS Facebook page](#) is updated regularly with information and news.
- MMS newsletters are emailed to parents/guardians and students bi-weekly & are also [posted online](#).



Hawk Bucks

- **Student reward incentive for behavior and academic recognition.**
 - **\$5, \$10, \$20, & \$50 Bucks**
- **Students should store Hawk Bucks in a safe place.**
- **Students are asked to put first & last name on all Hawk Bucks before spending.**
- **Hawk Bucks can't be shared with other students.**
- **Hawk Bucks are only valid for one school year.**
 - **Designs change each year**
- **School supplies are available to purchase at the Hawk Bucks Store in the library.**
- **Casey's pizza drawings take place quarterly.**
- **Class auctions take place at the end of the school year with TONS of fun items.**





Meal Accounts

- All students have a meal account.
- Students use school ID to “pay” for breakfast & lunch.
- Please keep track of the account and do not get into a habit of carrying a negative balance.
- Students are not allowed to purchase an extra item or extra lunch if a positive balance is not available.
 - Please discuss what meal purchases are allow with your child.
- Cash/checks can be paid in the MMS office or placed in the drop box near the concession stand. [Online payments](#) can also be made on the district website as a one–time payment.

Medical Information

6th grade students are required to have the following:

- **Current Medical Physical**
 - This physical will count as the *athletic physical for 6th grade.
- **Dental Exam – due by May 15 or appropriate waiver on file**
- **Immunizations (up-to-date) – due by October 15**
- **Eye Exam is only required for new (to the state of IL) students.**

***All Athletes – Must have a current physical each year – within the 12 month calendar before the season begins.**



Chromebooks

- All MMS & MHS students are assigned a district-owned Chromebook to take home.
- Students should ensure the Chromebook is charged each night.
- **Acceptable Use Policy**
 - No Expectation of Privacy
 - Contents and Activity can be monitored
 - Restrictions will be applied as needed
- **Gaggle software is used to monitor student Chromebooks and accounts to ensure they are used safely and responsibly.**
- **Teachers use Chromebooks for a variety of educational experiences**
 - Google Docs, Google Classroom, Quizlet, etc.
- **Loaner Chromebooks are not available for a student to use if a Chromebook is left at home.**



Chromebook expectations & policy will be discussed with students on the first day of school. Students should not play games or visit websites that aren't educational on the Chromebook!

Cell Phone Policy

- **Middle School students are not allowed to have cell phones during the school day.**
 - **Exception: Lunch Period**
- **Cell phones should be off or on silent and stored in the assigned locker.**
- **An after school detention will be assigned if a student has a cell phone out and/or in use during a class period.**
- **Airpods/Earbuds are also not permitted during the school day without teacher permission.**

If you need to get a message to your child during the school day, call the office. To help students stay focused, please refrain from texting/calling your child during the school day unless it's lunch time!

No Cell Phone Use



Thank you



Bus Riders

- Behavior expectations on the school bus are the same as at school.
- Please discuss positive bus conduct with your student.
- Expectations and consequences are provided in the [Handbook policy](#).
- If you have questions, please contact Paula at the Bus Transportation Garage.
 - rayp@meridianhawks.net or 217-764-3896
- If your child would like to ride the bus home with another student, a note must be provided and permission granted by the Transportation Dept.
- Bus riders will be dropped off at the front of MMS; Car riders should be dropped off at the MHS entrance (back of building)

Activities at MMS

- **Student Council Sponsored Dances –**
 - **Halloween Costume Dance**
 - **Valentine’s Day Dance**
- **Pack the Place Nights @ Athletic Events**
- **Student Council Spirit Days**
- **Drama Club**
- **Art Club**
- **Positive Behavior Incentives**
- **Accelerated Reader Super Reader Rewards**
- **Principal's List Breakfast**
- **Meridian Junior Honor Society**



IESA Extracurricular Activities

Baseball

Softball

Boys & Girls Basketball

Volleyball

Boys & Girls Track

Scholastic Bowl

Cheerleading

- **Mandatory parent meeting with the coach for all extracurricular activities.**
 - Outline of practice schedule, expectations, code of conduct, staffing of concessions, etc.
- **Sports at the middle school level – Coaches will determine the playing time and a player's place on the team!**



Eligibility & Participation

- **We follow mandated IESA requirements.**
- **Student athletes must be passing all classes (including electives) to be eligible each week.**
- **Eligibility is reported by 2:00 p.m. Friday afternoon**
 - **Eligibility runs Monday – Sunday**
- **If a student is listed as ineligible 3 times during one season (not consecutive), he or she is removed from the team.**



Information to Remember

August 1 – Online registration will be open for returning students to register.

**August 3 – In-person registration for new students.
*Chromebooks will also be available for those returning students who do not have a device at home to register.**

***The office will be open Monday – Thursday from 8:00 – 3:00 p.m. in August for students/parents to put supplies in lockers, practice combinations, walk through schedules, etc.**

August 14 – MMS will be open from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. for students to visit the building & drop off supplies.

**August 23 – First Day of Student Attendance
(1:30 dismissal)**

August 28 – School Pictures

**September 6 – Open House for Parents/Guardians
(6:45 p.m.)**



Follow our MMS Facebook page to stay up-to-date on what's happening at Meridian Middle School!

<https://www.facebook.com/mmshawks>