

Macomb Junior High School

www.district185.macomb.com/~mjhs

1525 South Johnson Macomb, IL

Dear Macomb Jr. High School Students and Parents,

The new school year is off to a good start. Lockers are opening with only a few problems. Students have found classrooms and established a routine that helps them be on time for class. Back to School Night last week was well attended. Thank you for being proactive in meeting your child's teachers and learning the expectations for the school year. Teachers can be contacted in multiple ways – email, phone, notes, website, and/or leaving a message with office personnel. Home and school working together is our goal to help your child succeed in school.

Students' completion of homework is key to their success. When homework is not complete, we have a routine established to help students finish the assignment before going home. This helps students remain current with daily assignments. The routine is:

- 1) Student does not complete homework.
- 2) Student calls parent/guardian to say they must complete homework before leaving for the day.
- 3) If they complete and hand-in the homework before 3:00 p.m., they do not have to stay after school.
If they do not complete and hand-in the homework by 3:00 p.m., they will stay after school to complete it.
- 4) Completed assignments are put in teachers mailboxes.
- 5) Student calls parent/guardian to pick them up OR the principal (if available) will take the student home.

This procedure helps students be responsible and complete homework as assigned. No one wants to stay after school. Coaches/sponsors excuse students from practice to complete homework after school or serve a detention. There should be no consequence for being late for practice.

The Jr. High's School Improvement Plan in 2009-2010, will focus on the middle school concept. Each year the Jr. High staff revisits and affirms our mission statement. Each year we review and endorse the program components that are meeting our students' needs. This year we will do a more indepth review of current research related to the needs of young adolescent children. Updates of our school improvement activities will be provided during the course of the year.

Welcome to Macomb Jr. High School we look forward to working with each of you during this school year.

Sincerely,

Dana Isackson
Principal, Macomb Jr. High School

Dana Isackson, Principal
E-mail–
isacksond@mcusd185.org



Volume 8, Issue2

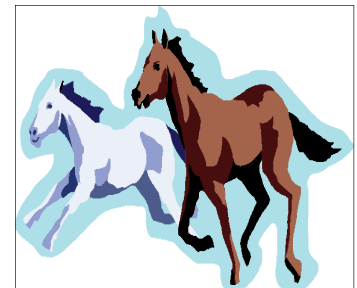
September 1, 2009

Features

- MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL
- DROP OFF/PICK UP INFORMATION
- FEES/SCHEDULES
- GENERAL INFORMATION
- SPECIAL EVENTS
- PTO INFORMATION

OFFICE HOURS & PHONE NUMBERS

Macomb Junior High
School Office
833-2074 (Grades 7-8)
7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



Illinois State Learning Standards

This Newsletter notes information regarding the IL State Learning Standards. Identified below are Language Arts, Goals 1-5, with the Standards that go with each Goal. These Goals and Standards apply to early elementary grades through late high school.

Language Arts

Goal 1: Read with understanding and fluency.

- Standard A Apply word analysis and vocabulary skills to comprehend selections.
 Standard B Apply reading strategies to improve understanding and fluency.
 Standard C Comprehend a broad range of reading materials.

Goal 2: Read and understand literature representative of various societies, eras and ideas.

- Standard A Understand how literary elements and techniques are used to convey meaning.
 Standard B Read and interpret a variety of literary works.

Goal 3: Write to communicate for a variety of purposes.

- Standard A Use correct grammar, spelling, punctuation, capitalization and structure.
 Standard B Compose well-organized and coherent writing for specific purposes and audiences.

Goal 4: Listen and speak effectively in a variety of situations.

- Standard A Listen effectively in formal and informal situations.
 Standard B Speak effectively using language appropriate to the situation and audience.

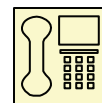
Goal 5: Use the language arts to acquire, assess, and communicate information.

- Standard A Locate, organize, and use information from various sources to answer questions, solve problems and communicate ideas.
 Standard B Analyze and evaluate information acquired from various sources.
 Standard C Apply acquired information, concepts, and ideas to communicate in a variety of formats.

MJSHS TELEPHONE

A new phone system has been put into place for the entire district. Each teacher will have their own phone number so that you may dial a teacher direct without going through the office.

Teachers phones will be able to receive voice mail all day long but teachers will not be able to answer the phone during their teaching times.



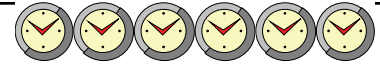
INFIRMARY

Parents/Guardians:

If your want your student to use Tylenol or ibuprofen at school, please bring your own bottle (to be left in infirmary) with a signed note.

Junior High School Hours

School hours for **Macomb Jr. High School** are **8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**
 Macomb High School hours are 8:05 a.m.-3:05 p.m.



Jr. High classes begin at 8:00 a.m. Outside doors are unlocked at 7:30 a.m. Students arriving before 7:50 a.m. should go to the Commons. Students are dismissed from the Commons at 7:50 a.m. to go to their lockers, restroom, and/or get a drink. Students need to be in their seats for their first hour class at 8:00 a.m. Buses arrive between 7:35 and 7:50 a.m.

Breakfast is served at 7:30 a.m. Jr. High students should budget their eating time daily, so they are not late for their first hour class at 8:00 a.m.

Drop Off/Pick Up Locations & Procedure

Safety is our main concern in creating procedures for drop off and pick up. With safety in mind, please follow procedures noted below:

CAR

Parents who drop off/pick up their child should do so in the circle drive at the Jr/Sr High School. The circle drive is located by the football field on the northwest side of the building.

Students who ride with high school sibling/students should enter the building closest to where the high school student parked and then go to the Commons, if it is before 7:50 a.m. High school students sometimes forget Jr. High classes begin at 8:00 a.m., not 8:05 a.m. and do not arrive in time for the Jr. high student to be seated on time for their first hour class. Tardies result. Please make a plan that prevents your Jr. High child from being late.

WALK

Students who walk to/from school should enter/leave the east side of the building by the tennis courts. They are advised to walk on the grass, not through the parking lot. Anxious, hurried drivers are maneuvering cars in the parking lot. Walking on the grass is the safest location.

RIDE A BIKE

There is a bike rack on the southeast side of the building. Students should park AND LOCK their bikes at the bike rack. They should enter/leave the building in the Commons.

Caution.....bikers riding through/near the parking lot should be **very alert**.

Drivers are often in a hurry and may not see the biker. Defensive biking is advised.



BUS

Students riding a bus will be dropped off and picked up on the southwest side of the Commons. At dismissal, students should go directly to the Commons and wait to be dismissed to board their bus.

Registration fees of \$70.00 per student were due the first day of school. If you forgot this payment, please contact the Jr. High School immediately. If you are making quarterly payments on the fee, the second payment is due on October 9, 2009. The third payment will be due on January 08, 2010. If you applied for free/reduced lunch and were approved for reduced lunch prices then registration fees of \$70.00 will need to be paid. The \$30.00 activity fee needs to be paid for each activity (up to \$90.00) regardless of your free/reduced status.

GENERAL FEES

Registration Fee	
7th-12th.....	\$70.00*
Band Instrument Rental.....	\$75.00
Participation Fee.....	\$30.00 per extracurricular activity
	(\$90 maximum Participation Fee per student)

Participation Fees are to be paid prior to the beginning of the extracurricular activity.
 Registration Fees must be paid in full or an approved current payment plan in place
 before Participation Fees for any extracurricular activities will be accepted.

*If you wish to pay on a quarterly basis, please contact the main office.

DAILY SCHEDULE 7th Grade 2009-2010 School Year

Announcements....	8:00 - 8:05 a.m.
1st Hour.....	8:00- 8:42 a.m.
2nd Hour.....	8:46- 9:27 a.m.
3rd Hour.....	9:31- 10:12 a.m.
4th Hour.....	10:16 - 10:57 a.m.
Advisory	11:00—11:08
5th <u>LUNCH</u>	11:10- 11:45 a.m.
6th Hour.....	11:49- 12:33 p.m.
7th Hour.....	12:37 - 1:22 p.m.
8th Hour.....	1:26 - 2:11 p.m.
9th Hour.....	2:15 - 3:00 p.m.

DAILY SCHEDULE 8th Grade 2009-2010 School Year

Announcements....	8:00 - 8:05 a.m.
1st Hour.....	8:00 - 8:42 a.m.
2nd Hour.....	8:46- 9:27 a.m.
3rd Hour.....	9:31 - 10:12 a.m.
4th Hour.....	10:16 - 10:57 a.m.
5th <u>LUNCH</u>	11:00 - 11:35 a.m.
Advisory	11:37 - 11:45 a.m.
6th Hour.....	11:49 - 12:33 p.m.
7th Hour.....	12:37 - 1:22 p.m.
8th Hour.....	1:26 - 2:11 p.m.
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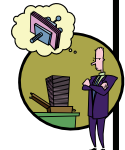
SCHOOL PICTURES SEPTEMBER 10, 2009 (During PE classes)



MATH QUESTION OF THE MONTH

A reflecting pool at an enclosed shopping mall is square in shape. The area of the pool is 144 square feet. What is the length of one side of the pool?

- A: 12 feet
- B: 14 feet
- C: 72 feet
- D: 288 feet



TELEPHONE CALLS

We encourage parents and children to communicate before he/she arrives at school. This provides a sense of security for students throughout the day. They know what's going on with family.

Please limit phone messages to emergencies, if possible. If a student needs to make a call during the school day, they should report to the Jr. High Office. A phone log is maintained. The office phone is not for making plans with friends. The main office closes at 4:00 p.m.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS???

Please notify us of any changes regarding:

- Home address
- Employer information
- Home/work/cell phone numbers
- Emergency contacts

Many parents have opted to read these monthly Newsletters on-line. For those parents receiving Newsletters by mail, the post office charges the school for Newsletters returned with the incorrect address. Please help us by contacting the office with updated information.



ATTENDANCE/PASSES/BUS PASS

If your child is absent from school any portion of the day, the parent/guardian must notify the school by 9:00 a.m. A parent may call the office anytime before 7:30 a.m. and leave a message on the answering machine. After 7:30 a.m., please call and speak with office personnel.

If a child is absent and no notification from the parent has been made, a reasonable effort by the school to notify the parent will be made. **A parental note is required on the next date of attendance. This is in addition to the contact made between the parent and school on the day of the absence.** The note should be submitted to the Attendance office or Jr. High office before the student begins classes. The Attendance office or Jr. High office will issue a pass to reenter class.

If your child has an appointment during the school day, please send a note to school with the student. The student should bring the note to the Jr. High office and a pass to leave class will be written. It is very difficult to ensure a timely response if you show up unannounced requesting a student. For example: PE classes may be hard to find so you may be late for an appointment if we are not notified in advance.

Bus drivers try to ensure safety for all students on the bus. Limiting numbers of riders is necessary to ensure safety. Therefore, if a student needs a bus pass, the student must have a signed note from the parent. We cannot accept phone calls. A written request with the parent/guardian signature is required for a bus pass.

STUDY HALL

Students have a study hall in their daily schedule, unless they are in band and chorus. Band and chorus students do not have a study hall in their schedule, however, they may utilize the daily lunch study hall (Room 101) held during the lunch period. All students are welcome.

Answer to Math question: A

HANDBOOK/SAB/HALL PASS

All 7th and 8th graders received a student assignment book (SAB) that contains the MJH Student Handbook and Writing Manual. The Student Handbook section contains rules, regulations, and procedures that are followed on a daily basis. Board policies are referenced. The Writing Manual is used by Jr. High Language Arts teachers.

The SAB also serves as each student's hall pass. Students are responsible to keep their SAB with them at all times, except lunch and PE. Staff value the SAB as a useful organizational tool serving multiple purposes.

We encourage parents to review their child's SAB. The Handbook portion is comprehensive in providing details related to rules and procedures.

The SAB is provided COST FREE to each student. IF they lose it, however, replacement cost is \$10.00 each. Reminder... it is their hall pass. They need it August through May.

DETENTIONS

Detentions are issued to students when other strategies have failed to redirect inappropriate behavior.

After school detentions are served 3:10-4:00 p.m. Parents are notified. Students are required to be in the detention room, in their seat, and quiet by 3:10 p.m. The detention will not count as being served if they fail to follow these procedures. Students must bring school work and/or a book to read. They may not go back to their lockers or the restroom after 3:10 p.m.

It is our mission to communicate desired behaviors, not emphasize what NOT to do. Detentions are a tool to redirect behaviors when all other efforts fail.

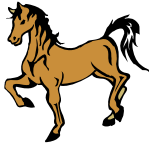
Counselor's Corner ☺

Hi, my name is Mrs. Schauble and I am the MJH counselor. I will be attending Power Skills classes soon to work with and get to know the new seventh grade students better. Please feel free to call me at extension 6202 or e-mail me (schaublea@mcusd185.org) if you have any questions or concerns about your student's progress here at MJH.

HighSchoolSports.Net

HighSchoolSports.net is on our website. This is a program that quickly, easily and automatically displays athletic events. Information will be current. In case of cancellation go to the website and the information will be updated. Check all the current schedules and locations through our website. You may also sign up to receive personal emails in case of postponements or cancellations.

Go to www.district185.com/~mjhs
Click on Athletics Page
Click on HighSchoolSports.Net



A BIG MUSTANG THANK YOU TO:



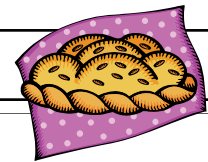
A BIG Thank You to the Parent Helpers for helping with our first days of school: Marilyn Olsen, Judy Haddix, Lynn Lotz and Garrett Hunter.

A BIG Thank You to all of the students who helped with 7th grade orientation and the Back to School night!

*****NO SCHOOL MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2009*****
LABOR DAY



JR. HIGH PTO/BOOSTER INFORMATION



BUTTER BRAIDS ARE BACK

The Jr. high will again sell Butter Braid pastries as the P. T. O. fundraiser between September 28 and October 13. These delicious pastries come in a variety of fruit and cheese flavors and sell for \$12.00. Watch for your student to bring order forms home. You can contact Shari Paisley for more information.

- PTO meets the third Wednesday of each month. Next meeting, Sept. 16 at 6:30 PM in the school library.

The Macomb Junior High PTO met on May 20 and discussed the Butter Braid fundraiser. We hope you enjoyed the samples at Back to School Night. We will have more incentives for students this year and hope everyone will participate by purchasing a few. The money is used for projects throughout the year so let's make it a BIG success. Delivery will be Nov. 3 from 5—6 p.m.

Teachers will be given \$50 from the treasury to start out the year for their classrooms.

The Booster concessions will be needing more volunteers this year. We are looking for parents to coordinate the concession stand activities for the different sports.

If you can help with any activities or events or have any questions,

Officers: Kassi Strevler- President Cindy Teel- Vice-President, Shari Paisley- Secretary; Leesa Palmer- Treasurer.

PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parents are welcome to confer with teachers at any time during the year. Messages or questions may be left on the teachers' voice mail or email: (last name)(first initial)@mcusd185.org. Ideal times for conferences are at teaming time or before/after school. A conference can be scheduled by calling the Jr. High office 833-2074. Jennifer VanWinkle is the 7th grade team leader and would schedule team conferences. Brock Bainter is the 8th grade team leader and would schedule 8th grade team conferences.

Yearly parent/teacher conferences are scheduled after the first quarter. Scheduling begins October 6 from 9:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.. The Junior High holds team conferences which are 15 minutes with all the student's teachers in a team. Conferences are:

Wednesday, Oct. 28, 5:30—8:00 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 29, 12: 00 noon—4:00 p.m. ; 5:30 p.m.—7:30 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 30, 8:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Macomb Junior High PTO/Boosters

The Macomb Junior High PTO/Boosters are dedicated to ensuring that our children have a positive and rewarding junior high school experience. We have noticed as our children get older, our opportunities for involvement decrease! So, this is one way to stay connected.

The PTO/Boosters have supported or supplied the following:

Teacher Classroom supplies

Student incentives/rewards

Teacher Appreciation Week luncheon and gifts

Magazine subscriptions

7th and 8th grade field trips

8th grade Spring Awards Assembly reception

Flat screen computer monitors

We need parental help to provide and support these activities. The PTO meets in the Library at 6:30 p.m. on Sept. 16, Oct. 21, Nov. 18, Jan. 2, Feb. 17, Mar. 24, April, 21 and May 19. The Boosters don't have separate meetings, but you can volunteer below. More opportunities are listed where you could be of help!

 help Boosters with concessions at athletic events

help with Butter Braids fundraiser

bring treats for teachers during parent conferences (Oct.)

bring treats during Teacher Appreciation Week (May)

help at 8th grade reception in the spring

Name: _____

Phone/email _____

Student name and grade _____



BAND NEWS DOUG MATTSEY



Welcome to another year at MJHS! The Junior High bands are doing great. We will spend the first few weeks reacquainting ourselves with instruments and starting the music-making process again. They all have playing exams and new notes to practice, so please keep track of your practice minutes and turn in the records.

Band website is located at www.macombbands.org. Sean O'Donnell-Brown keeps it up and running with downloads, schedules and a plethora of other interesting materials. While there, consider joining Band Boosters and supporting the music program here in Macomb. Check it out and thank Sean for a great job.

Jazz Band tryouts for new saxophones have begun and lessons will continue through the month. We will have tryouts for other instruments toward the middle of September with our first Full Rehearsal on September 29. Be on the lookout for information to come home.

IMEA (Illinois Music Educators Association) District 4 auditions are scheduled for Monday, October 12 (Columbus Day) in Petersburg at PORTA JHS. Select 7th and 8th graders will play their best in order to make the District 4 Festival Band performing on November 7th at WIU. Good luck!

Chili Supper is on Monday, October 19. This is the primary Band Booster fund raiser for the 6-8 grade bands. Consider helping out in any way you can by contacting Dee Kirwan at **(309) 837-7809**.

Keep these dates for upcoming MJHS Band performances.

Monday, October 12 – IMEA District 4 Festival Auditions (select individuals)
 Monday, October 19 - Chili Supper Concert 5-8 p.m., MJSHS Commons
 Saturday, November 7 - IMEA District 4 Festival Concert (select individuals)
 Monday, December 14 - 6-8 Grade Holiday Band Concert 7 p.m., Fellheimer Auditorium



CHOIR NOTES ERIN STEGALL



Parents, I hope that you are having a great start to the new school year! The Choir Handbook Forms and Polo Shirt Orders were due Thursday, August 27th. Please make sure that your children have turned in these forms and any money that is due. Thanks!

Macomb Choir Boosters will meet Thursday, September 3rd at 5:00 p.m. in the high school choir room. We boast the most efficient meetings around (a nice way to state "short and sweet"). We love for interested parents to come and get involved.

First choir concert, Tuesday, October 6th at 7:00 p.m. Please note that the first choir concert is Wednesday, Oct. 6th at 7:00 p.m. in Fellheimer Auditorium and is required of all students in grades 6-8. We will give you exact call times at a later date.

District Choir Auditions in Porta, Monday, October 12th. If your child is interested in auditioning for the district choir, there is still time. Please contact me ASAP if you need another permission slip. We will leave early in the AM on Monday, October 12th and be home early to mid afternoon. We typically receive notification of the students who made the choir within two weeks of the audition. The festival is Saturday, November 7th on the campus of WIU for those who are chosen from the audition. Good luck!

We are off to a great year! Please feel free to e-mail me at stegalle@mcusd185.org or call the 833-6256 if you have any questions!



August 31, 2009

Dear Parents/Guardians;

Welcome to another school year at Macomb. I would like to take this time to explain a few things that should clarify our Hot Lunch Program.

Paid Students– Full price lunch is \$2.10. We will only allow a -\$5.00 balance before charges are stopped and payment must be received.

Reduced Price Students- Only Type A certified lunches can be purchased at the reduced price of \$.40. All ala-carte items, entrees, and extras must be paid for at the register, with cash or money on their lunch account. Additional lunches must also be paid for at the full 2nd meal price.

Free Students- Only Type A certified lunches can be obtained for no charge. All ala-carte items, entrees, and extras must be paid for at the register, with cash or money on their lunch account. Additional lunches must also be paid for at the full 2nd meal price.

Type A lunches consist of a main entrée, a bread component, a vegetable, a fruit, and a milk. These components must be fulfilled to qualify under State guidelines. They must have 3 of these items on their plate/tray for their meal to be reduced or free.

The Breakfast program is under the same rules except as follows: Full price for their first meal is \$1.10 and Reduced price-\$.30. A breakfast meal consists of 4 components– main entrée, grain, fruit/100% fruit juice, milk. To qualify for a State Breakfast the meal must consist of 3 components.

We look forward to serving you this year. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to call me at the phone number below.

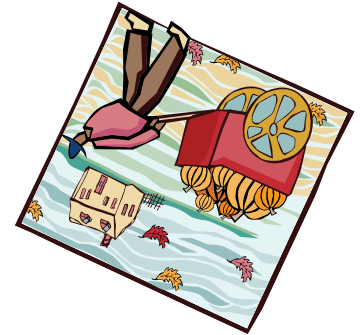
Sincerely, Christina Smith, Director of Food Service, (309)837-2335



Macomb School District #185 uses family accounts in their Food Service Department. This means each family has one single account. Every child in your family will use this same account. You can send one payment and it goes onto the family account for all of your children to use. We also have family access available to check your child's account. You need to pick up your family access password in the school office. You can get onto any computer with Internet access and see what your child/children have charged on the account. Anyone interested should contact the office for more information. If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to contact the Aramark staff at 837-2335. Office hours are Monday thru Friday- 8am to 4pm..

**Educational Foundation Coupon: Good for \$2.50 OFF your purchase of \$25.00 or more. Two coupons may be used on purchase over \$50.... Maximum 2 coupons per visit at the following Macomb, Merchants:
WALGREENS**K-MART**WALMART **HY-VEE**
SEARS**COUNTY MARKET.**

**\$30.00 Value for only a \$20.00 Donation
COUPON GOOD... AUGUST 2009 THROUGH JULY 2010**



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

MACOMB JR/SR HIGH SCHOOL
1525 S. JOHNSON RD
MACOMB, IL 61455

Non-Profit Organ
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