



PARENT NEWSLETTER

Lewis & Clark Middle School

Welcome Back Scouts!

It is with great pleasure and anticipation that we welcome you back for the 2021-2022 school year. We would like to extend a special welcome to all of our new families and students. While there are several unknowns and challenges surrounding this school year, it is our mission to make every student at Lewis and Clark feel welcomed, connected, and empowered to learn in a safe environment. We have a magnificent team of teachers who are excited to guide a new class of learners. **Please make note that only Sixth Grade and any new or previously remote students, who want to attend, will be attending school the first day, Monday August 23. All other students will begin on Tuesday August 24, 2021. Schedules will be available to view in PS a few days before school starts. Students will also receive a hard copy the first day of school.** We sincerely hope that you will become an active member of your school, participating in traditions and activities that promote the pride and spirit of being a Lewis and Clark Scout! It is truly an honor to be a part of a community where parents, teachers, and students care for each other and strive to build positive relationships that support academic and social growth.

Important Planning Information for the 2021-2022 School Year:

- Masks or face coverings are optional at this time. Please check the BPS website for current and updated information
- **Please make sure your contact information is updated in PowerSchool for both phone and email contacts**
- **Open House is Thursday August 19th from 5-7pm** Students can walk their schedules to find classrooms and meet teachers before school starts the following week. Student Council students will also be available for building tours
- **Campus Hours (includes all school grounds): 7:55am- 3:15pm** Students, who are not eating breakfast, will be allowed to enter the building beginning at 7:55am and should report directly to their first class for the day. Students need to exit the building immediately at the end of the day unless they have a prearranged session with a teacher or program. Students should be picked up right at 3:10 or begin walking/riding home right after dismissal
- **Breakfast and lunch are free to all students again for the 2021-22 school year** (snack/ a la cart items must be purchased) Students eating breakfast may enter the building on the 13th St. West/East Doors beginning at 7:30am and must go directly to the cafeteria
- ANY student(s) arriving after 8:10am should be buzzed in through the front doors
- All students will receive a chromebook and charger, upon signing and returning a checkout agreement, to use for academic purposes throughout the school year. **It is the student's responsibility to bring them to school each day fully charged and ready for use**
- Students will not be assigned lockers at the beginning of the year, but will use their backpacks to transport their assigned chromebook and materials to class (This will be reevaluated for winter clothing later in the school year)
- Immunizations: Immunizations or waivers must be up to date in order for students to attend school, including the first day
- Google Classroom will be utilized for all courses
- Please "Like" us on Facebook @ facebook.com/lewisandclarkscouts for information and fun happenings at school

We look forward to seeing you soon to kick off our new school year! Go Scouts!

Sincerely,
Mrs. Sulser



LOCKERS

The Lewis and Clark Leadership Team has given much time and consideration into the decision not to assign student lockers. We have used data from the last school year to support what we have witnessed in person. The highlights of the criteria used for the decision are as follows:

- Major decrease in student reported anxiety and worry about getting to classes on time
- With our online resources, students have little to no books to transport. Backpacks carry lunches, chromebook and gym clothes (every other day)
- No lockers provide for more time on task. Students are not going back and forth to lockers for supplies left or lost in their lockers. This is even more important with going back to a six period day and shorter class periods.
- Data supported decrease in hallway discipline including drama related issues, decreasing the amount of time students are missing class
- Decrease in item taken or stolen from others (accidentally or on purpose)
- Computer storage and care was maximized with using backpacks to transport and store
- Sports practice equipment/bags or music equipment have a secured storage spot until after school
- Students with heavy boots, snow pants, and coats were also supplied with a secure storage spot until needed after school or at lunch
- Less contamination of hallway surfaces and shared materials

While we understand lockers hold some nostalgia for those who have had them, we ask that you trust our decision to be one made with tremendous thought and with the best intentions of educating and providing a positive environment for your student. That being said, please know that as educators, we are constantly evaluating what we do to provide the greatest good for the greatest all. If at any time we see a need for lockers, it is a quick and easy issue to remedy. Thank you for understanding and supporting your student's educational team! We are looking forward to a fun year of learning!



Lewis & Clark will be holding our Annual Open House on Thursday, August 19th from 5 p.m.—7 p.m.

Come meet the staff, tour the school and enjoy a cookie!!



Early Release Wednesday

Don't forget, **EVERY** Wednesday is early release. Students will be released at 2:10 on Wednesdays.

Immunization Requirements

Montana State Law requires that **all** students entering K-12 be compliant with immunizations for enrollment. Students entering the **6-8th grades** must have 4 doses of Diphtheria, Tetanus, and Pertussis vaccine (DTap, DT, Td, Tdap), 3 doses of Polio vaccine, 2 doses of Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR), and 2 doses of Varicella "chicken pox". The spacing between all vaccine doses needs to be in compliance with Montana State Law as well. Students entering **7th grade must have a Tdap.**

Please make it a priority to have the necessary immunizations given and submit the compliant documentation to the main office at Lewis & Clark prior to August 23, 2021.

IMPORTANT!! Unfortunately, if documentation for any student are not received by the first day of school, your child will not be allowed to attend classes the first day of school!!!

~Please note: The clinics do not provide schools with updated records so it is your responsibility to make sure we have the proper documentation.~



Find us on:
facebook®

Technology- Chromebooks

All students will be issued a Chromebook and charger for the school year to use for academic purposes upon completion and turn in of checkout agreement. Students will be responsible for their own Chromebook and charger and will need to bring it with them to school everyday and to and from all classes. Chromebooks and chargers will be turned in at the end of the school year or upon withdrawal from the school.



Cafeteria Open 1st Day of School

The cafeteria will be open for business on Monday, August 23rd, the first day of school. All students will be eligible for free breakfast and lunch. Breakfast will be served from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m. every day. Student's ID number will be used to access their meal account. From this account, they can deposit funds and purchase items from the snack bar. Free and reduced lunch applications will be made available to students the first day of school. The applications will need to be filled out and returned to the main office. These applications may also be filled out at any time after August 23rd by stopping in the main office.

School Campus Hours

The school campus will open to students at 7:55am each day, the first period begins at 8:10am. Students eating breakfast will be allowed into the cafeteria **ONLY**, beginning at 7:30am. Students are to report directly to their first period classes when the doors open or they arrive at school. Lockers will not be used at this time. **The school day ends at 3:10 pm. All students will be required to exit the building immediately upon dismissal. Students will not be allowed to congregate on school grounds. After school programs, such as Discover Zone, will still be available for students and families.**

Lewis and Clark BASIC School Supply List

6th Grade

- Pencils- #2 or mechanical
- Eraser
- Pens (blue or black)
- 1 Package dry erase markers
- 1 box colored pencils
- Kleenex
- Highlighters
- Basic Calculator
- Headphones or earbuds

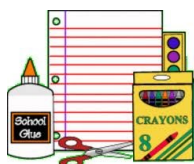
7th Grade

- Ruler
- Colored Pencils
- Pens (blue or black)
- Pencils- #2 or mechanical
- Kleenex
- Basic Calculator
- Headphones or earbuds

8th Grade

- Black Fine Point Sharpie
- Pencils-#2 or Mechanical
- Pens (Blue or Black)
- Colored Pencils
- Dry Erase Marker
- Multi-colored highlighters
- Kleenex
- Headphones or earbuds

Teachers may request additional specific supplies, such as type of paper or notebook, the first week of classes



Check out our Web Site for cool & exciting information:
lewisandclarkscouts.com

Counselors

Mr. Brook, last names beginning with A– L and Mrs. Umemoto, last names beginning with M—Z and are available to provide students and parent support. They are eager to schedule parent conferences and provide for individual student needs. Please call your child's counselor at 281-5909 for intervention, support, or advice.



Report Cards

Lewis & Clark operates on a semester grading period. Report cards are issued **two** times a year. The 1st semester



report card is given to the students one week after the semester ends. The 2nd semester report card is mailed to the home on the first Friday following the final day of school.

1st Semester Report Card—Jan. 14, 2022

2nd Semester Report Card—June 3, 2022 (mailed)

Six week grade checks will be sent home throughout the school year.

Attendance Procedures

The procedure used in reporting an absence to the school can be confusing. The following information should help clarify the procedure used at Lewis and Clark Middle School.

Parent verification of any absence is mandatory. Parents should call Mrs. Sandon in the attendance office (281-5913) any time after 7:40 a.m. each day the student is absent from school. If no contact is made, the parent or guardian must send a note with the student when they return to school.

A note should be sent to school if you are taking a trip, skiing, vacationing, etc. The student will then be given his assignments so the work can be made up before the absence, if possible.

Make-up work and assignments will be collected for any student who has been absent **three** or more days due to an accident or illness. Assignments must be requested by calling 281-5974 before 9:30 a.m. and can be picked up between 2:30 and 3:30 p.m. If a student is to leave school for an appointment, a note or phone call should be presented to the attendance office **before** 8:10 a.m.

Students are not allowed to leave the school building unless they check out with the attendance office. No student will be released without parent authorization. If a student leaves without permission, the absence will be treated as unexcused.

School Nursing

The school nurse has limited hours so she is not always on duty at Lewis and Clark. Some nursing services that are provided during the school year include vision and hearing screening on students new to the district, special education students, students who have failed previous screenings, requests from parents, staff or special services. Vision and scoliosis screening are done on all 7th grades. The audiology department screens hearing on all 7th graders. If for any reason you do not want your child to participate in any of these screenings, please notify the nurse.



Also, please notify the nurse if your child has any medical condition or is on any medication of

which we need to be aware.

If your child has any allergies please notify the nurse and provide us with any necessary medication.

Will You Be Absent The First Day??



If you will be on vacation the first day of school, August 23rd for 6th graders and any 7th & 8th grade students new to the building or August 24th for all grades, please call the school attendance office and let us know. We will hold your schedule in the main office and you must check in there when you arrive. The counselors will then assist you with orientation.

TARDY POLICY:

All 1st period tardies will be recorded by the attendance clerk in the attendance office. When a student receives his/her 3rd tardy to a class the following consequences will be initiated:

- 3rd Tardy - Teacher Warning
 - 4th Tardy - Detention With Teacher
 - 5th Tardy - Detention With Teacher
 - 6+ Tardies - Discipline Slip
- Student Sent to Office

TRUANCY POLICY:

Truancy is defined as absence from school not verified as valid by the parent and the assoc. principal. Truancies include, but are not limited to, leaving the campus without permission, spending time in unauthorized places, and not being in assigned classes. Truancy will involve a conference with the assoc. principal and a blue unexcused admit to class. Parents will be advised of the truancy and the school district attendance officer will be notified. Students will be assigned to either ISS or sent to the Truancy Center at the Lincoln Center.

Sport Activities

In order for any student to participate in a sports activity it is **mandatory** that they have a **physical examination**. The physical card, signed by a doctor, **MUST** be on file in the main office before a student will be allowed to begin practice. A physical examination will be needed each year a student participates in a sports activity.

Sports Seasons **2021—2022**

Fall I—Aug. 18th to Oct. 11th
Football, Softball & Cross Country

Fall II—Oct. 11th to Dec. 3rd
Girls' Basketball & Wrestling

Winter I—Dec. 6th to Feb. 4th
Boys' Basketball

Winter II—Feb. 7th to April 1st
Girls' Volleyball

Spring—April 4th to May 19th
Track



Scout Football

Coach Duneman and the Lewis and Clark football staff would like to welcome you back to the 2021-2022 school year. Equipment will be checked out and football will begin for 7th & 8th grade boys on Wednesday, August 18th. Students that attend camp will receive their equipment the last day of camp (Friday the 13th). All participants must pay fees in the main office and have a physical form on file. Emergency cards and helmet safety / concussion forms will be handed out by the coaches. **All fees must be paid, paperwork (including a physical) must be completed & turned in to the main office and have a compliant immunization record on file before practices begin.** All participants must adhere to safety guidelines and must remain academically eligible to participate. All practices start at 3:30 p.m. and end no later than 6:00 p.m.

Fees for football are as follows:

Activity Fee	= \$45.00
Jersey/Mouthpiece	= \$38.00
Total	= \$83.00

Eligibility Rules for Activities

Lewis and Clark Middle School encourages its students to broaden their skills, knowledge, and citizenship by participating in school sponsored extra-curricular activities. In order to participate in such school activities a student must maintain a passing grade in all courses in which he/she is currently enrolled. However, if a student receives a deficiency (failing grade), he/she may continue to participate as long as there is a grade average improvement. This guideline applies to all interscholastic and instructional athletic teams, musical productions, clubs, and student government. It will be enforced as follows:

- 1) Each of the five sport seasons is seven weeks long. The first grade check will be on Monday following the completion of two weeks of practice (which is the instructional/non-competitive portion of the season). Grades will then be checked each Monday for the remainder of that season. Grade eligibility checks for clubs, student government, etc. will be on the same dates.
- 2) Staff members will keep students and coaches informed as to the students pass/fail status in each class.
- 3) If a student is deficient (failing in any class), the following will occur:
 - a. For the first deficiency, the student will be put on probation and given one week to achieve eligibility.
 - b. If the deficiency is not corrected at the conclusion of one week the student will be allowed to practice but not participate in any contest.
 - c. Individual cases of eligibility will be reviewed by the coach/sponsor, Assoc. Principal, teacher(s), and principal.

A student must be in attendance the last half of the day to be eligible to participate in an activity scheduled for that day or receive approval from an administrator.

No student who is suspended will be allowed to practice or participate on the days of the suspension.

The attendance and suspension rules apply to the previous Friday if there is a Saturday activity.

Three unexcused absences from practice will result in the student's suspension from the activity.

ALL participants in athletic activities must have a parent consent form, a current physical on file in the main office, signed concussion form, compliant immunizations, signed code of conduct form and have paid the participation fee before being allowed to participate in any activity.



Cross Country

Coach Elkin would like to invite all 6th, 7th and 8th grade boys and girls who are interested in participating in Cross Country to an introductory practice that will be held on the west lawn (14th Street side of building) on Wednesday, August 18th. **All fees must be paid, paperwork (including a physical form) must be completed & turned in to the main office and have a compliant immunization record on file before practices begin.**

Fees for this season are:

Activity Fee	= \$45.00
T-Shirt	= \$10.00
Shorts	= \$ 6.00
Total	= \$61.00

8th Girls Softball

Orientation for girls 7th & 8th grade girls softball will be Wednesday, August 18th at 4:00 on the softball field behind the school.



All fees must be paid, paperwork (including a physical form) must be completed & turned in to the main office and have a compliant immunization record on file before practices begin.

Fees for this season are:

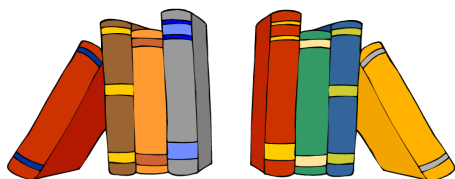
Activity Fee	= \$ 45.00
T-Shirt	= \$ 10.00
Total	= \$ 55.00

LIBRARY NEWS

The Library is located on the first floor across from the main office. Library hours are from 8:00 am to 3:15 pm M, T, Th, and Friday. Library hours are 8:00 am to 2:15 pm on Wednesdays.

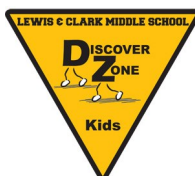
Resources include over 9,500 books available for checkout as well as a large digital ebook collection available to read on your personal device. Duration for checkout is three weeks for a maximum of three books. The student is responsible for all materials checked out in his/her name. Students also have access to all other books in SD2 libraries through interlibrary loan.

Many classroom projects and special activities are held in the library throughout the year.



AFTER SCHOOL FUN

Discover Zone is a free after school program available to any student enrolled at Lewis & Clark Middle School. Discover Zone offers a variety of education, recreation, skill-building, character building, and STEM activities for your student to choose from. Discover Zone meets after school Monday-Thursday, until 4:30 pm. Parents must complete a registration form for their student to attend. Forms are available at the school. Discover Zone will tentatively start September 13, 2021.



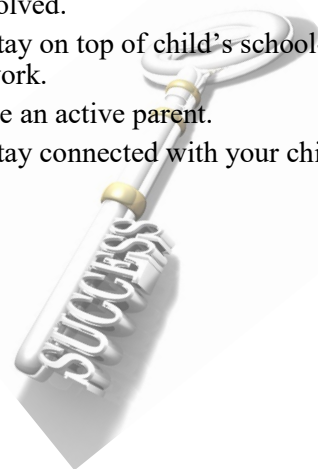
Lewis & Clark Mission Statement:

“Empowering every student to achieve their individual success by creating positive connections and engaged learning.”

12 Tips

To Help Your Child Succeed In Middle School

- 1) Share a positive attitude.
- 2) Get to know the school together.
- 3) Set up a study space.
- 4) Teach your child to be organized.
- 5) Help your child learn good social skills.
- 6) Talk about bullying.
- 7) Learn school policies.
- 8) Talk about peer pressure.
- 9) Encourage your child to get involved.
- 10) Stay on top of child's school-work.
- 11) Be an active parent.
- 12) Stay connected with your child.



LEWIS AND CLARK MIDDLE SCHOOL OPENING DAY SCHEDULE FOR 6TH GRADE/NEW STUDENTS AUGUST 23, 2021

TIME	6TH GRADE
8:10-9:05	ADVISORY
9:10-9:35	PERIOD 1
9:40-10:05	PERIOD 2
10:10-10:40	ADVISORY
10:45-11:25	PERIOD 3
11:30-12:10	LUNCH
12:15-12:55	PERIOD 4
1:00-1:40	PERIOD 5
1:45-2:25	PERIOD 6
2:30-3:10	ADVISORY

REGULAR CLASS SCHEDULE BEGINS ON
TUESDAY AUGUST 24, 2021

Lewis & Clark Moto:

“Every Child, Every Chance,
Every Day”



Lewis & Clark Middle School
1315 Lewis Avenue
Billings, MT 59102

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Billings, MT
Permit #88

Newsletter

