

WMS Paw Print

2023.08.29

Bringing you the middle school scoop...

Principal's Message

August 29, 2023

Dear Westlake Middle School Families,

It was great to welcome teachers back today. We're looking forward to a great year and rising to new heights. Below are some reminders and updated information to help with a smooth start to the year.

For our incoming 6th Grader Families we hope to see you at Bagels and Locks. Students AND Parents, you can *take a deep breath* because our 6th Grade Teachers are planning great activities to acclimate students to Middle School next week. Parents, we're always here to answer questions. We know starting in a new school can be a bit of "information overload" but we will have opportunities to build relationships and help you along the journey.

UPDATES AND REMINDERS

- There is an updated time frame of 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. for 7th and 8th Grade Supply Pick Up on August 31st. If you are unable to pick them up supplies will be distributed to students on the first day of school.
- A letter was sent with detailed arrival and dismissal information. The only change is to dismissal procedures. For safety, students taking the bus must exit through the front of the Middle School and use the Middle School path to the bus pick-up.
- Students should check their Lunch Period Room Number so they know where to report at the beginning of their lunch period.
- Cafeteria indicates that students should go directly to the Cafeteria.
- Recess indicates that students should go directly to the recess area at the Main Entrance.
- For 6th Grade Chromebook Distribution, please fill out this form before your child picks up their device.

CHROMEBOOK FORM:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCPA7xd1I0VzNgISVFAEEBKTgh6lp-EiYLtmrS2Ez3QprW-A/viewform>

KEEP THE PAW PRINT BOOKMARKED!

Once you have access to the newsletter it will update automatically, so go back at any time to see the latest version.

Older versions will be archived on our <https://wms.mtplcsd.org/parent-resources/httpsmplcsdorgfinalsitecomfsadminsitempages1574>

Important New Information, Upcoming Dates, and Reminders

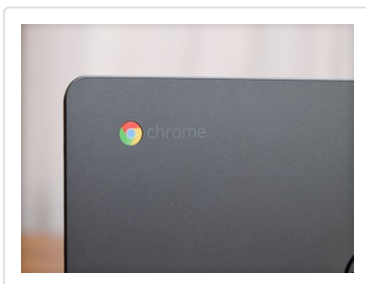


Required Health Forms

It is important that you make sure that required health forms are submitted before the start of school. The linked document contains information and access to all of the forms that you will need. If you have any questions you can reach out to our school nurse Cheryl Horowitz:

chorowitz@mtplcsd.org

Health Forms: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-t0AjrCzJKq8Y4HVIGeD9ASIXu3JLMrFxpGmTCafFUA/edit>



Chromebooks

Chromebooks will be distributed to each grade as follows:

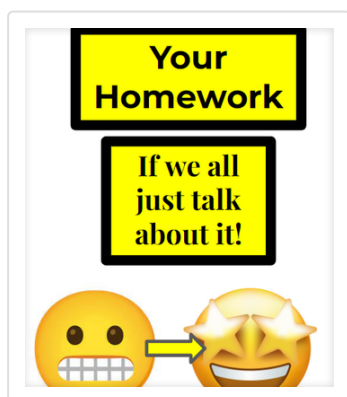
- **Grade 6 Students** can pick up their Chromebook during Bagels and Locks on August 31st from 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. Students who are unable to pick them up will receive them the first week of school.
- For 6th Grade Chromebook Distribution, please fill out this form before your child picks up their device.

CHROMEBOOK FORM:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCPA7xd1I0VzNgISVFAEEBKTgh6lp-EiYLtmrS2Ez3QprW-A/viewform>

- **Grade 7 Students** will use the Chromebooks issued to them last year and taken home at the end of 6th Grade.

- **Grade 8 Students** will turn in the Chromebooks issued to them last year and taken home at the end of the year, and receive a new Chromebook during the first week of school.



Positive School Culture

The start of a new year can make us anxious. Take a moment to reinforce the things that are important to our school culture and help us eliminate some of that anxiety.



Resilient

The PTA Book Study this year will focus on "Raising Resilient Tweens." What do our students do when they make a mistake?



Friendships

A common theme that arises in middle school is shifting friendships. This resource might spark some conversation.



August 31st - PTA Bagels and Locks

Our PTA is sponsoring a welcome event for our 6th Graders. 6th Graders and their parents are welcome to come in, set up their lockers, and map out their schedule of classes on:

August 31st from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

If any 7th and 8th Graders wish to earn community service hours by giving tours and advice to 6th Graders, please email Mr. Mungioli amungioli@mtplcsd.org or report to the Main Office between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. on August 31st.



August 31st - School Supplies Pick-Up

Families that ordered school supplies can pick them up on August 31st at the back circle.

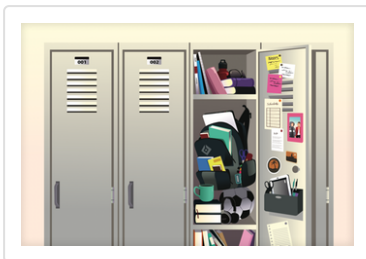
Grade 6: Pick-up is between 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. during Bagels and Locks.

Grades 7 and 8: Pick-up will begin at 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

If you are unable to pick them up they will be distributed to students on the first day of school.

You can find the supply list on the parent resource page of our website:

<https://wms.mtplcsd.org/parent-resources/family-update>



September 1st - 7th and 8th Grade Locker Set-Up

Our expert independent 7th and 8th Graders are welcome to get a jump start on the year on the morning of:

September 1st from 8:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Students will have access to the building to set up their lockers.

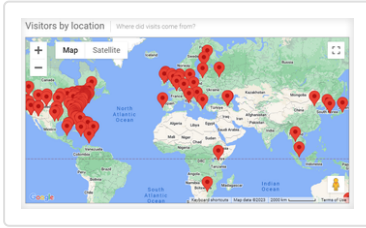
Principals' Leadership Group - Snapshots of What's Happening at WMS



Community Leadership - Civics Service and Careers

Each year our 8th Graders conduct research and engage in a Community Leadership Project. To expand on these learning opportunities we will be encouraging students to make connections between their projects and future career pathways and introducing them to the *career clusters*.

In addition to uncovering career pathways through academics in WMS and WHS, we encourage and provide other opportunities for students to begin thinking about how the knowledge and skills they are acquiring connect to a future career.



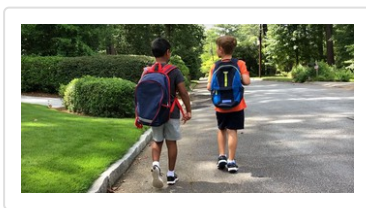
WMS Around The Globe?

The platform that we use to send our newsletter provides some interesting analytics. We can not only see how many people are viewing the newsletter but from where there are viewing it. It looks like WMS families are experiencing cultures from around the world, including Italy, Armenia, Montenegro, Hawaii, Thailand, China, Japan, Korea, Australia, South Africa, Portugal, Mexico, Canada, The Caribbean, and all over the amazing U.S.A. We'd love to hear from students about their exploration of the globe, cultures, and rich histories. Safe travels!

Upcoming Dates - Looking Ahead - Save The Dates



September 4th - Labor Day



September 5th - 1st Day of School for Students

September 11th Remembrance



Each year we invite students to visit the September 11th Memorial in the rear of the building for a moment of silence and remembrance on the morning of September 11th. We ask you to join us in honoring those that lost their lives and all of our nation's military and first responders who stand ready to keep us safe.

September 12th at 7:00 p.m. - 6th Grade Parent Woo Hoo Welcome



Westlake Middle School Website

Mount Pleasant Central School District Website



MOUNT PLEASANT

Central School District

PORTRAIT OF A MOUNT PLEASANT LEARNER



EDUCATING EACH STUDENT TODAY FOR ENDLESS
POSSIBILITIES TOMORROW