# Mustang Messenger

**Volume 12, Issue 27** | **March 8, 2019**

## Upcoming Events

- March 11-15-SPRING BREAK
- March 18-NO School-In-service Day
- March 19: First day of Track Practice 3:05-4:45
- March 21-Track-Parent Info Mtg at 5:00 pm
- March 25-5th Grade Parent Information Night
- April 2-Track Meet-HOME
- April 4-Track Meet at Tonganoxie
- April 12-School Dance

**Enter to Learn**
**Go Forth to Serve**

**Mill Creek Middle School**
**8001 Mize Blvd**
**Lenexa, KS 66227**
**Main Number**
**913-667-3512**
**Attendance Line**
**913-422-9698**
**Website**
**www.usd232.org**

Dear Parents & Guardians:

The Board of Education approved a revised 2018-19 school year calendar at its regular meeting on Monday, March 4, 2019. The board accepted the administration's recommendation to modify the calendar to respond to the number of emergency closure days used for inclement weather.

**What are the changes?**

- schedule **Friday, April 19**, as a regular school day;
- schedule **Thursday, May 16** as the last day for **high school seniors**; and

schedule **Friday, May 24** as the last day for students in grades K-11. ***This will be a 1/2 day with dismissal at 11:12. NO lunch will be provided.**

**Download a printable calendar >** https://www.usd232.org/domain/3703

As of Wednesday, February 27, 2019, we have used seven (7) days to close school due to inclement weather. The dates were November 26, January 23, 30, February 7, 8, 20, and 27.

USD 232 plans each school year calendar with four (4) emergency closure / inclement weather days. At this point in the school year, we have exceeded the number of days set aside for this purpose by three full days.

In order to ensure our schools maintain the attendance/time requirements for students established by the State of Kansas, we will need to make up two of the three extra days in question.

**Student Contact Time Requirements**
School districts in Kansas are required by statute to have school years consisting of not less than 186 school days or a minimum of 1,116 hours of student contact time. The Board of Education adopted the 1,116-hour method. For students in grade 12, the amount of time required is 1,086 hours. Kindergarten students in Kansas are required to have 465 hours per year, but since our Kindergarten program is now full day, the district significantly exceeds that threshold and is not a concern.

The district calculates the school year calendar to purposely *exceed* the minimum student contact time required by Kansas. The additional instructional time added into the calendar is intentional, knowing that more time with students in the classroom supports the district's vision and mission to help all students be successful. In the case of unforeseen circumstances such as emergency closures, the additional time minimizes the impact to the school year calendar.

This school year and last school year have been active with inclement weather compared to previous years.

- *2018-19: seven (7) days, to date, used for inclement weather*
- 2017-18: five (5) days used for inclement weather
- 2016-17: one (1) day used for inclement weather
- 2015-16: one (1) day used for inclement weather
- 2014-15: no days used for inclement weather

# Bulletin Board

**Testing Schedule**

Kansas State Assessments will begin in March and continue in to April. Please pay attention to the following dates your child will be testing this spring. We would like your child to be present on the days we will be testing. Students who get a good amount of sleep and proper nutrition perform much better on assessments. The dates of the testing are indicated below. Thank you for your support with this task.

**6th Grade**: March 25 & 26-during ELA; April 8 & 9-during Math

**7th Grade**: March 20 & 21-during ELA; April 10 & 11-during Math

**8th Grade**: March 20 & 21-during ELA; April 10 & 11-during Math; April 16 & 17-during Science

We will have an alternate bell schedule to allow time for students to finish tests. If you need help determining when your child is testing, please contact the office.

## Vaccination requirements are changing for the 2019-2020 school year!

According to the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, the new requirement states:

> Meningococcal (Serogroup A,C,W,Y): Two doses required. Doses should be given at entry to 7th grade (11-12 years) and 11th grade (16-18 years).

**6th grade parents:** Since this is a new vaccination requirement, **ALL** students currently in 6th grade will need to provide proof of one dose of meningococcal vaccine to start 7th grade in the fall of 2019. The second dose should be administered before your student starts 11th grade. This vaccine helps protect your student against bacterial meningitis.

Your shot record might say MCV, MCV4, MCV40, MCV4P, Meneveo or Menactra. All of these will meet the new requirement.

In addition, **ALL** incoming 7th graders still need to have a TDaP booster shot.

Vaccinations can be obtained at your child's doctor's office, most pharmacies (like CVS and Walgreens) as well as the Johnson County Health Department.

If your student has already had these vaccines, *please get those records to your nurse ASAP*. Nurses will have a significant amount of data entry with the new requirements so the sooner we can get started, the better. Thank you for your help!

If you have any questions, please contact school nurse Brenda Carroll at bcarroll@usd232.org or 913-667-3512.

# Bulletin Board

**8th Grade:** It's hard to believe we have finished three quarters of the school year already!! The final quarter of 8th grade is filled with State Assessments, projects, finals and of course…WORLDS OF FUN!! Please keep an eye on your emails for messages regarding the Worlds of Fun date and times.

The 8th Grade Farewell will also occur the morning before we go to Worlds of Fun. If you have not already done so, please send a baby/toddler picture and a current picture to mcms2023@hotmail.com

**Pictures needed: JPEG is preferred / high resolution best / please name your photos with your child's name**

*8th grade school picture

*baby or toddler picture

**Date Needed By:**

March 27th , 2018

**Sent to: SUBJECT LINE – student's name**

mcms2023@hotmail.com

Enjoy your Spring (??) Break!

**Volunteer Hours:** Volunteer Service logs are due April 12th. Service Logs can be turned into Mrs. Higgins in Student Services.



# Bulletin Board

**Track & Field:** First day of practice is Tuesday, March 19 after school.
Parent Meeting: Thursday, March 21 at 5:00 pm in the Mill Creek Middle School Gym

Check out more information on the MCMS Track Website: https://www.usd232.org/domain/336





The select men's choir from Mill Creek Middle School attended the USD 232 Men's Choir Festival on Tuesday, March 5 at DeSoto High School. Mill Creek had the largest middle school representation and had a great time making music with other singers from across the district.

# LIBRARY LOWDOWN

March 2019

## Note From Mrs. Roberts

I hope everyone has been reading lots during our snow days! I have told the students that I am challenging them to read all the William Allen White books on this year's list. If a student reads all nine books and passes the AR test, we will do a pizza party. If students read four out of the nine books, they get to vote on their favorite and get a prize. To vote on the books, students need to read four books by April 12, 2019.

https://wawchildrensbookaward.com/6th8th-grade-reading-list

## Scholastic Book Orders

My last Scholastic Book Order this year will be due March 29th.

https://clubs.scholastic.com/

My class code is: L9D8J

## BOGO Book Fair

The spring book fair will be held during the week of May 6-10. This is a great time to stock up on books for summer. More information about the book fair will come out after spring break.

### Upcoming Dates

**March 18**

- No School

**March 20**

- 8th Grade Library Day

**March 21**

- 6th Grade Gold Team

**March 22**

- 7th Grade Library Day

**March 25**

- 6th Grade Black Team

**March 29**

- 7th Grade Library Day
- Book Orders Due

www.readingroberts.com

brroberts@usd232.org

@readingroberts

# The Mustang Citizen




Citizens of the Week
For the Week of March 8



6th grade: Raj Bassi & Brandon Dinkel
7th Grade: Luke Swarts & Taya Swarts
8th Grade: Deira Rionda, Elizabeth Kalafut & Lauryn Daly (not pictured)

# #GoodNewsCallOfTheDay



# Procedures

**Student Sign out Procedure**

Students will not be called out of class until the parent or person picking them up comes into the office to sign them out. If a parent is sending another adult or older sibling to pick up a student, the parent must notify the office that this person has permission to pick up the student. Please make sure you are allowing yourself enough time to wait for your student to be called out of class. If they are in PE, lunch or between classes, it could take a few minutes longer. If you are taking your child after morning practice, the office needs to be notified of the absence.

We appreciate your patience in this matter.

**Reporting an Absence**

A 24-hour voicemail phone line is available to report an absence (including appointments). If you need to speak with someone in person, our office opens at 7:30 a.m. We ask that you call on the day of the absence or before if possible. If you are notifying your child's teacher about an absence, the office needs to be included on this as well. All absences are recorded by the office, not teachers.

Please include the following information: your name, relationship to the student, student's name, date & hours missed and the reason for absence. If the absence is due to illness, please leave your child's symptoms.

Students are expected to attend school and to be present and punctual for all classes each day that school is in session. Regular attendance is basic to the educational process. Students are required to be in attendance each school day from 7:55 a.m. - 3:05 p.m.

**Excused Absence**

The only acceptable reasons for absence or tardies are: illness, medical/dental appointments, court appearance, family emergencies (funerals, critical illness), religious holidays, and school sponsored events.

**ATTENDANCE LINE: (913) 422-9698**

**Bus Pass:**

If you are enrolled as a bus rider and you need to ride home on the bus with another student the office needs the following…

- A note/email from **BOTH** parents involved giving permission along with bus and phone information. Emails sent to stennis@usd232.org and thiggins@usd232.org.
- This option should only be used when other arrangements **can't** be made. **Students should not be changing buses daily or every week.**
- The office needs to have these changes **BY 1:30**. Request after 1:30 will be denied.
- We will do our best to accommodate all requests but some may not be able to be filled.
- Please have your student check in with the office at the end of the day if they have not received their bus pass for the day.
- If your student needs to change a bus for more than one occasion, please contact First Student at (913) 422-8501.
- Bus Drivers are NOT part of the approval process. All communications need to be with the office.

# Lunch Information

Parents, grandparents and/or other legal guardians are welcome to join their students for lunch. In addition to specific building procedures, all visitors must respect the following guidelines established to maintain a safe and orderly cafeteria:

- All visitors must check-in at the office and wear a visitor's badge.
- Once in the cafeteria, visitors must check in with one of the lunch room supervisors.
- Staff cannot pre-arrange or guarantee specific students to be seated together.
- At the conclusion of lunch, visitors should check-out in the office.



## Lunch Menu for the Week of

## March 18-22

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| NO School | Pizza Palooza!<br>Caesar Salad<br>Green Beans<br>Garden Bar<br><br>Milk/Juice Selection | Mini Corn Dogs<br>Green Beans<br>Baked Beans<br>Garden Bar<br><br>Milk/Juice Selection | Pulled Pork Tot-chos<br>Honey Wheat Roll<br>Black Beans<br>Steamed Corn<br>Garden Bar<br>Milk/Juice Selection | Toasted Cheese Sandwich<br>Tomato Soup<br>Mixed Veggies<br>Garden Bar<br><br>Milk/Juice Selection |



# HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS

## TRAININGS & PRESENTATIONS

*In collaboration with Olathe 19 Initiative*

Hosted by:

*Johnson County Sheriff's Office Training Center*

*18505 West 119th Street, Olathe, KS 66061*

***FREE – Seating is Limited, and Registration is Required***

**Human Trafficking 101**
*6-8pm Mon, March 4th*
Basics of Human Trafficking, Vulnerabilities, Myth vs Fact
(Q&A session at end)

**Human Trafficking 102**
*6-8pm Mon, April 1st*
Culture: What feeds human trafficking and what can we do to stop it?
(Q&A session at end)
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/human-trafficking-awareness-seminar-tickets-56595897854

**BeAlert: Keeping Kids Safer**
*6-8pm Tues, March 19th*
Internet and Social Media Safety; Dangerous Apps; Lures of Predators
https://2019-be-alert-keeping-kids-safer.eventbrite.com

**First Responders and Professionals Training**
*6-8pm Tues, April 9th*
Identification, Prevention, and Advocacy for Professionals
https://2019-human-trafficking-training.eventbrite.com

### MEET OUR PRESENTERS:



**Loni Kuriakose**, Founder, Streetlight, LLC. As a professional speaker and survivor of sex trafficking, Loni presents substantial and compelling data on how human trafficking happens and validates from our area and surrounding areas.



**Alison Phillips**, M.S. Adjunct Instructor, Criminal Justice and Criminology. Alison is a researcher and Adjunct Instructor teaching courses on human trafficking to JMCC and Mid America Nazarene University undergraduate students and is a former airline pilot.



**September Trible**, DMST Awareness and Prevention Specialist. September's mission is to prevent and heal exploitation and provide hope. She has over 15 years' experience working with the exploited and marginalized, including foster children, DV and CSEC survivors.



**Russ Tuttle**, Founder and President, The Stop Trafficking Project. Russ is a well-respected trainer and educator on the topic of human trafficking. He is a founding board member for 1C Street Hope and has over 20 years' experience serving in the non-profit world.

# PTA Announcements

***We are looking for someone passionate about helping out MCMS Library to lead this year's Spring Book Fair!! We have a list of people ready to help out and we just need someone to take the lead! The book fair will run 4/26 - 5/3. If you are interested please send an email to the PTA and we will get you more details! Emails can be sent to: MCMSMustangsPTA@gmail.com***

***We are also getting ready to submit the next round of Box Tops! Please send your box tops in by the end of the month to help earn $$$ for MCMS! Put your child's name and homeroom on a baggie and drop them in the box located in the office!!***

***Thank you for all your support with the teacher's dinner during parent/teacher conferences!! It was a great meal and very much appreciated!!***

***MCMS PTA***

# Speech & Leadership Clinic

The Mill Valley Debate/Forensics team is proud to offer a Speech & Leadership Clinic on April 10th from 4-6pm. This clinic is open to any student in grades 5th-8th, and will provide instruction in theatre, speech, debate, and oral advocacy. During the clinic, students will be divided based on interest, and will receive instruction from the Mill Valley Debate and Forensics coaching staff, as well as a small group of varsity competitors. At 7pm, students will provide a showcase for parents to see everything they have learned. Cost is $25 per student. This clinic is a great choice for students who want to explore the world of debate and forensics, or for those who just want to work on their speaking and argumentation skills.

Please find more info on the attached flyer. Parents interested can sign their student up here: https://goo.gl/forms/swdML2kQHE625JxI2

Feel free to contact me with any questions!

Annie Goodson Starnes

Head of Debate and Forensics

Mill Valley High School

Twitter: @MVHS_Speech

Website: https://www.usd232.org/Page/5098

# CALLING FUTURE POLITICIANS

**DO YOU HAVE A KNACK FOR PUBLIC SPEAKING? MAYBE YOU ARE PASSIONATE ABOUT ARGUING. DO YOU ENJOY ACTING OR HAVE A COMPETITIVE SIDE?**

*Then come join the MV Speech Dept. for a one day Speech Leadership Camp! Learn the ins and outs of high school speaking, be involved in critical thinking, build relationships, discuss hot topics, and voice your opinion with MV alumni and varsity speech competitors!*

*https://goo.gl/forms/swdML2kQHE625Jxl2*

April 10th 4 - 6 pm (performance at 7)
Grades 5th-8th Welcome
CONTACT AGOODSON•USD232.ORG