

MARIETTA MIDDLE

A FAMILY GUIDE TO MIDDLE SCHOOL

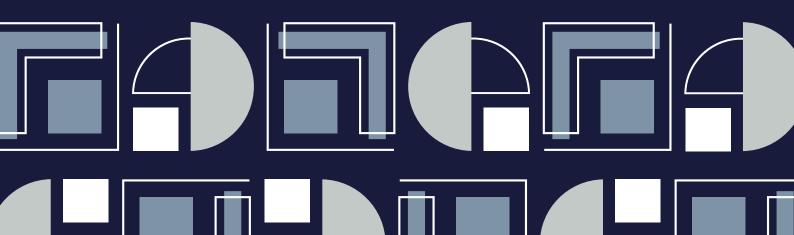




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WELCOME MESSAGE

DIONA BROWN

PRINCIPAL

My name is Diona Brown, and I am very excited to serve as the MMS principal. Let me be the first to welcome you and your family to Marietta Middle School. We are so glad you have chosen to be a Blue Devil! As the principal, I am delighted to extend my warmest greetings to every one of you. We are excited to have your student at MMS, and I know they will have a wonderful experience.

At Marietta Middle, we strive to create a learning environment where every student can engage in learning, discover new things, and excel academically and in life. We look forward to partnering and collaborating with you to ensure a successful school year. Our school is a place of learning, growth, and opportunity, and we aim to provide a nurturing and inclusive environment for all. I am committed to fostering a positive and supportive atmosphere where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

At MMS, we believe in the power of education to shape young minds and prepare them for a bright future. Our dedicated team of educators is passionate about imparting knowledge, encouraging critical thinking, and nurturing a love for learning in every student. We are committed to providing a well-rounded education that focuses on academic excellence and promotes character development, creativity, and community engagement.

As the principal, my door is always open to listen to your ideas, concerns, and suggestions. Together, let us build a strong and vibrant learning community where everyone feels valued, respected, and safe. I thank you for entrusting your child's middle school education and enrichment to the team of administrators and educators at Marietta Middle School.

Your MMS Principal, Diona Brown, Ed.S. <u>dionabrown@marietta-city.org</u>





MISSION, VISION, & VALUES,



MISSION

Engage- Discover- Excel

Our mission is to ensure every child at Marietta Middle School engages in learning, discovers new things, and excels academically and in life.



VISION

Our vision is to prepare all students for success in high school and beyond by fostering a caring, globally-minded culture that embraces diversity, emphasizes academic rigor, and ignites a passion for learning.



VALUES

- 1. Safety
- 2. Academic Excellence
- 3. Collaboration
- 4. Quality & Customer Service
- 5. Feedback & Growth
- 6. Support
- 7. Accountability



PEOPLE TO KNOW



DIONA BROWN
Principal
dionabrown@marietta-city.org



MARY THURMAN
Assistant Principal
mthurman@marietta-city.org



CELIS HARTLEY-LEWIS

Assistant Principal

chartley-lewis@marietta-city.org



ANTHONY BOOKER
Assistant Principal
abooker@marietta-city.org



HEATHER WELCH Assistant Principal hwelch@marietta-city.org



BRANDON MCINTOSH
Assistant Principal
bmcintosh@marietta-city.org



DR. VELISA CALDWELL Assistant Administrator vcaldwell@marietta-city.org



MARGARITA POCHE 8th Grade Counselor mpoche@marietta-city.org



HELEN 'LIZZY' BALMFORTH 8th Grade Counselor hbalmforth@marietta-city.org



RICKI WHEELER 7th Grade Counselor rwheeler@marietta-city.org



LANA HAFFNER
7th Grade Counselor
Iracine-haffner@marietta-city.org



WHO TO CONTACT

If you have questions about	Contact Name	Email Address	
Absences	Front Office	mms@marietta-city.org	
Transportation Changes/ Late Arrivals/ Early Pickup	Front Office	fice mmstransportation@marietta-city.org	
Student Academic Progress or Conference	Teacher	(see teacher's email address on the website)	
Class Schedule	Mary Thurman	mthurman@marietta-city.org	
7th Grade Discipline	Anthony Booker	abooker@marietta-city.org	
8th grade Discipline	Celis Hartley-Lewis	chartley-lewis@marietta-city.org	
Health/ Medical Concerns or Questions	School Nurse	jseymour@marietta-city.org	
Emotional Issues Affecting a Student (including family changes, stress, or depression)	Grade Level Counselor	(see the counselor's email on the previous page)	
Special Education questions	Alana McLemore	amclemore@marietta-city.org	
504 Plans/Accommodations (7th Grade)	Marcia Brunett	mbrunett@marietta-city.org	
504 Plans/Accommodations (8th Grade)	Christan Crear	ccrear@marietta-city.org	
Concerns about possible testing and interventions	Marcia Brunett	mbrunett@marietta-city.org	
State Testing or MAP Testing	Brandon McIntosh	bmcintosh@marietta-city.org	



BELL SCHEDULE

BELL SCHEDULE Launch 7:15 - 7:40 am 1st 7:45 - 8:30 am 2nd 8:35 - 9:20 am 3rd 9:25 - 10:10 am 4th 10:15 - 11:00 am 5th 11:05 - 11:50 am 6th 11:55 - 12:40 pm 7th 12:45 - 1:30 pm 8th 1:35 - 2:30 pm ENGAGE | DISCOVER | EXCE

- Students can enter the building at 7:15 AM
- Students are tardy after
 7:45 AM
- No student checkout or transportation changes after 1:00 PM
- Email absence and late excuse notes to mms@marietta-city.org



UNIFORMS



SHIRT OPTIONS:

- Shirts of any color but they must feature the Marietta logo or related Marietta team wording.
- Students may wear plain black/grey/navy/white visible t-shirts.
- MMS spirit wear shirts Check the PTSA website for other purchasing information and options.

OUTERWEAR/JACKETS/OTHER:

- Outerwear must be in solid black, grey, navy, or white or feature the Marietta logo or related Marietta team wording.
- Non-MMS/ Marietta logo outterwear is allowed <u>only</u> in solid navy, solid grey, solid black, or solid white.
- Graphic hoodies/sweatshirts are not allowed.
- Hoods are not allowed on the head while in the building.
- Students must wear a Marietta shirt or plain black/grey/navy/white t-shirts under their outerwear.
- Non-MMS coats may be worn to and from school but must remain unzipped to display uniform.

PANTS, SHORTS, & SKIRTS:

- Joggers/sweatpants/jeans/leggings/slacks in khaki/tan, grey, navy, white, or black are acceptable without rips, holes, or fringes. *Pajama pants are not allowed*.
- Skirts/skorts must be mid-thigh or longer in khaki, grey, navy, white, or black.
- Shorts in khaki/tan, grey, navy, white, or black are acceptable without rips, holes, or fringes. Spandex biker shorts are not allowed.

SHOES:

- Shoes should be closed-toe and appropriate for a school environment.
- Flip flops, sandals without a back strap, heels above two inches, and slides are not permitted.
- Athletic shoes are recommended.

NON-COMPLIANCE IS CONSIDERED A DRESS CODE OFFENSE.

- **First Offense:** The parent or guardian is called to bring appropriate clothing and shoes to the student, or a change of clothes will be provided.
- **Second Offense**: The parent/guardian is called to bring appropriate clothing/shoes to the student, or a change of clothes will be provided. A notification letter will be sent.
- **Third Offense**: The parent or guardian is called to bring appropriate clothing or shoes for the student, or a change of clothes will be provided. Lunch Detention is assigned and entered in Aspen as a minor referral conduct violation—an ISS warning communication is sent to parents or guardians.
- Fourth Offense: The parent/Guardian is called to bring appropriate clothing and shoes for the student, or a change of clothes will be provided. The student was placed in ISS with a major referral.
 - Based on administrative discretion, when a parent or guardian cannot bring student-appropriate clothing, the student may be sent to an alternative location for the remainder of the school day.
 - Due to the complexities associated with dress codes, the administration has the right to address all dress code violations on a case-by-case basis and label other types of dress as inappropriate, even if not explicitly mentioned in this policy.





CONSEQUENCES

CELL PHONE & TECHNOLOGY USE

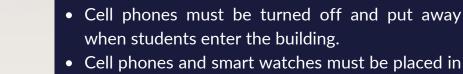


At MMS, we are proud to provide our students with a multitude of technological resources. Our classrooms are fully equipped with wireless laptops, printers, and interactive display boards, all of which are integral to our lessons. Students are expected to utilize these resources with the utmost responsibility and respect. Any misuse can result in loss of privileges.

*Personal iPads, tablets, Chromebooks, and gaming devices are not permitted at school.



Cell phones and Smart Watches:



- the Yondr Pouches in 1st Period or upon late arrival.
- Cell phones and smart watches must remain in Yondr Pouches all day.
- Cell phones and smart watches will be removed from Yondr Pouches in 8th Period or at check out.

YONDR POUCH



The following steps will be taken when a student violates the cell phone policy:

- 1st Offense: Item Confiscation and Parent Contact
- 2nd Offense: Item Confiscation, Parent Contact. and Progressive Discipline, which could result in 1 Day of In-School Suspension.
- Further Offenses: Item Confiscation, Parent Contact, and Progressive Discipline, which could result in ISS or OSS.





ARRIVAL & DISMISSAL

ARRIVAL:

- 7th grade students who ride the bus must enter through the Auditorium entrance where they will have the option to pick up a breakfast.
- 8th grade students who ride the bus must enter through the main entrance where they will have the option to pick up a breakfast.
- Students who are car riders or walkers may pick up a breakfast from a station in the main building.
- Students will place their cell phones and smart watches in Yondr pouches at the beginning of first period.

WALKER PROCEDURES:

- All walkers must have a walker pass.
- Families should send a note or email to the front office to indicate that their student will be a walker.
- The front office staff will call the student from class to provide them with the walker pass.

DISMISSAL

- Dismissal will occur during a 5-minute block at the end of the day.
- Students' cellphones and smart watches will be unlocked from the Yondr pouch prior to dismissal.
- The student body will be split into two groups:
 - Students transitioning from the 400 building.
 - Students transitioning from the main building.
- Bus riders walk to Winn or Polk St to board their buses.
- Car riders and walkers must use the Skywalk to walk toward the Big Blue Gym parking lot.

BUS INFORMATION

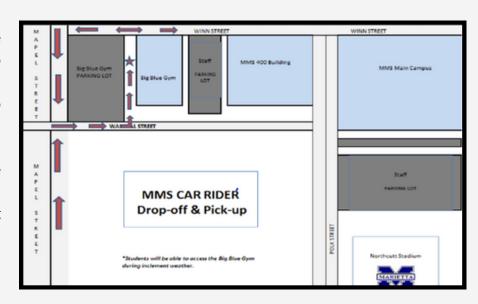
Information about buses including stop locations and times can be found using this QR Code.



CAR RIDER PROCEDURES:

- All car riders will enter the Big Blue Gym parking lot from Maple Ave. to access the Walthal St. entrance.
- Students may only use the Skywalk to cross Polk St.
- The school building opens at 7:15

 a.m., and car riders may not be
 dropped off prior to that time.
- Car riders must be present in their 1st period class by 7:45 a.m., or they will be marked tardy for school.





CLINIC, MEDICATIONS, & LUNCH



NURSE & MEDICATIONS:

- Medication authorization forms must be completed and signed by the student's parent or legal guardian for all medication given at school (prescription and over the counter).
- Over-the-counter medications can only be given for one (1) week without a doctor's authorization.
- All medication must be in the original container with the student's name on the container.
- Inhalers will be kept with the student unless there is a specific time it must be used at school, and then a parent note must authorize this. This is for short term only, and exact dates must be provided.
- Any students dismissed due to illness will be dismissed through the clinic.

LUNCH

For the school year 2024-2025, Marietta City Schools is requesting all families to complete and submit an online Free and Reduced Meal Application any time during the school year if you believe your student(s) are eligible. Please use the QR Code.

Families that apply and are eligible could receive free or price-reduced breakfast (\$0.30) and lunch (\$0.40) during the school year, depending on the current federal eligibility guidelines.

STUDENT MEAL PRICING:

- PRE-K AND ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS Breakfast: \$2.00 Lunch: \$3.00
- 6TH GRADE AND MMS

Breakfast: \$2.00 Lunch: \$3.20

MARIETTA HIGH

Breakfast: \$2.00 Lunch: \$3.20

REDUCED PRICES FOR ALL SCHOOLS

Breakfast: \$0.30 Lunch: \$0.40

Families will not be required to pay the \$.30 for breakfast and the \$.40 for lunch due to Georgia Department of Education funding that will be used to cover those costs during the 2024 school year.





DISMISSAL CHANGES & ABSENCES

DISMISSAL CHANGES

Advanced Dismissal Changes: Prior knowledge of a dismissal change should be sent to school with the student in writing and delivered directly to the front office. Dismissal changes that are emailed directly to the teacher should be forwarded to MMS Transportation at mmstransportation@marietta-city.org. No dismissal or transportation changes will be accepted after 1:00 pm.

- Same Day Dismissal Change: If a situation arises during the school day where you must make a dismissal change, you may do so before 1:00 PM in one of the following ways:
- Email dismissal change to <u>mmstransportation@marietta-city.org</u>
- A written notice may be left at the front office.

ABSENCES

A student receives an excused absence for a legitimate, documented reason. The lawful reasons for an excused absence are personal illness, illness or death in the family, religious holiday, court appointment, and quarantine or conditions rendering school attendance hazardous to health and safety.

On the first day back in school after an absence, the parent should send a written note to the front office giving the reason for the absence.

Please forward any emails or messages excusing absences to the front office at mms@marietta-city.org or send to the front in your attendance envelope/ folder.



*****No student checkout or transportation changes after 1:00 PM



GRADING POLICY

GRADE SCALE

Letter Grade	Numeric Grade
Α	100 - 90
В	89 - 80
С	79 - 73
D	72 - 70
F	69 and below

school, and the guidelines will be communicated through the syllabus for each course.
Assignments that are submitted after the due date are considered late, and 10% may be deducted from late.

· Teachers follow grading guidelines established by the

- Assignments that are submitted after the due date are considered late, and 10% may be deducted from late assignments.
- Assignments that are not submitted will receive an M for missing.
- Missing assignments will receive a grade of 50% for non-Carnige and Honors classes.
- Honors and Carnige classes will receive a zero for missing assignments.
- Students will have the opportunity to submit missing assignments within the dates below.

PROMOTION/RETENTION 7TH GRADE STUDENTS

- 7th Grade students must pass math, science, social studies, and ELA for the year. Passing is a 70 or above.
- If a student does not pass one or more of these courses, the student may be considered for retention.

8TH GRADE STUDENTS

 8th Grade students must pass math, science, social studies, and ELA for the year. Passing is a 70 or above.

<u>AND</u>

 Earn a level II or higher on the Milestones Math EOG

AND

- Have a Lexile score of 1010 or higher on the Milestones ELA EOG.
- If an 8th Grade student does not meet all three requirements, they may be considered for retention and/or summer school.

Report Period	Late work must be submitted by the following date.
Q1 Progress	8/19/2024
Q1 Report Card	9/30/2024
Q2 Progress	11/4/2024
Q2 Report Card	12/9/2024
Q3 Progress	1/27/2025
Q3 Report Card	3/3/2025
Q4 Progress	4/13/2025
Q4 Report Card	5/12/2025



PBIS AND DISCIPLINE

Positive Behavior Intervention Support (PBIS) promotes school safety and a positive learning environment. PBIS is implemented school-wide and designed to encourage positive behaviors in a consistent manner for all students.

TO MIDDLE SCHOOL)P	R			14
PUFDEUNS	PERSISTENCE	RESPECT	INTEGRITY	DETERMINATION	EMPATHY
HALLWAY/ STAIRWELL	During class have a pers Walk face forward Walk with purpose to your classes.	Keep hands and feet to self Be sturteous. Appropriate eneversation level	Follow directions Stay quiet - classes are in progress Follow the direct code	Go directly to your destination Keep to the right Phones all and eway	Set a good example Keep hollways clear and clean Be accountable for your actions
RESTROOM	Throw tresh in receptorie Enter and exit quietly	Well your turn Use equipment and supplies properly Use kind words and actions	Report problems to an adult Wesh bands	Walk et all times Keep water in sink	Go, flush, wosh Use time wisely Respect privacy
CLASSROOM	Raise your hand to speak Stay on task Stay engaged in the lesson	Pay attention to your teacher Use kind words and actions Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself	Follow instructions Use distance materials appropriately	Be roody to learn Iny your best Phones off and eway	Complete your work Organize belangings Participate
ARRIVAL/ DISMISSAL	Take turns Worth for traffic when entering/ exiting Usten for your step	Keep noise down Use kinds wards and actions Keep hands and feet to yourself.	Stey in designated area Report problems to an adult Keep track of your belongings	Stay seeted face forward Remember your bus number Wilk to and from building Keep your backpack clased	Listen to bus driver No setting or drinking
CAFETERIA	Use an indeer value Raise your hand for help	Respect the personal space of others Use kind words and actions	Follow directions from adults East only your food	Walk of all times Sit with feet under the table	Leave a clean table, chair, and floo Put trash in receptocle
MEDIA CENTER	Stoy on task Put things away in their proper place	Respect others trying to read and loans	follow directions from adults. Take care of books and equipment.	Walk at all times Resum materials on time	Be quiet Use time wisely
ASSEMBLY	St opproprietely Be poline Be poline	Keep hands and feet to yoursalf Eyes and ears on speaker	Follow directions from adults Stey in designated area	Stay with your class or group Enter and exit quietly	Participate Use appropriate stocklose

STUDENTS WHO DO NOT MEET BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:

- **Conferences:** Conferences will be scheduled with parents, counselors, teachers and/or administrators to discuss issues and develop a plan to resolve the problem behaviors.
- **Mediation and Conflict Resolution:** These are discussions to resolve a dispute between two or more students.
- Counseling: Group or individual interventions run by counselors.
- **Mentoring:** A staff member is assigned to mentor a student, and they meet frequently to discuss a student's day and behavior.
- **Behavior Contract:** Student behavior expectations are outlined in writing, and students and parents are notified of the expectations.
- Silent Lunch: The student will be asked to sit in an area of the cafeteria and not speak while at lunch.
- Time-out: The student sits in another classroom rather than their assigned classroom for a period.
- **ISS:** (In-school Suspension) The student attends school, but he/she reports to the ISS Room. Work is assigned to the student and credit is given for all work completed. Students cannot participate in extracurricular activities for those days they are assigned to in-school suspension. Failure to comply with ISS rules may result in OSS (Out of School Suspension).
- OSS: (Out-of-school Suspension) The student is suspended out-of school and is not permitted to attend school or any school sponsored functions. Students suspended ten days or less will have the opportunity to make up tests and other assignments for credit upon return from suspension. However, it will be the responsibility of the student to initiate make-up work. Parents are required by law to meet with administrators when a student returns to school after suspension.
- **Student Expulsion:** A student shall be subject to expulsion of a determined length by a decision of a disciplinary tribunal.

STUDENTS WHO MEET BEHAVIOR EXPECTATIONS:

- Receive positive praise from staff members.
- Will be eligible to attend special events during the year, such as pep rallies, dances, and other school-sponsored events.
- Will be eligible to attend MMS & MHS sporting events.
- Will be eligible for the 8th Grade Dance. This
 is a semi-formal dance that occurs in late
 April for 8th Grade students. 8th Grade
 students must be passing their classes and
 have no major referrals to participate.
- Will be eligible for the 8th Grade Walk. This walk occurs on the last day of school to symbolize the transition from middle school to high school.

PARENT MEETINGS

When students are suspended for multiple days, parents will be required to meet with administration before the student can return to school.



ATHLETICS



WINTER SPORTS

- Basketball
- Wrestling
- Cheer



FALL SPORTS

- Volleyball
- Football
- Softball
- Cheer
- Cross Country



SPRING SPORTS

- Soccer
- JV Baseball
- JV Lacrosse
- Tennis
- Track and Field



ELIGIBILITY

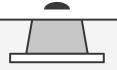
- Coaches may create academic criteria for athletes to participate on their team.
- All students must have a current physical on file to participate in sports.
- Please visit marietta-atheltics.com or use the QR code to get more information about eligibility.



WEBSITES AND CHROMEBOOKS

ASPEN

ASPEN is the digital platform for recording grades, attendance, and assessment scores. The website can be accessed using the following link: https://ga-marietta.myfollett.com



TIPS

- 1. Check ASPEN frequently.
- 2. Charge chromebook nightly.
- 3. Check Schoology for important upcoming projects and tests.

*Personal Ipads, tablets, chromebooks, and gaming devices are not permitted at school.

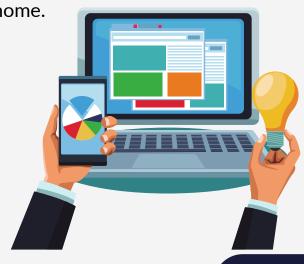
CHROMEBOOKS:

- All students will be assigned a Marietta City Schools-issued chromebook.
- Chromebooks will be distributed during the first two weeks of school.
- Students must bring their chromebook, case, and charger to school each day.
- An electronic technology agreement must be on file for every student.
- GoGuardian monitors all activity on Marietta City Schools-issued devices and while
 a student is logged into their Marietta City Schools account. GoGuardian sends
 alerts to administrators and counselors for activity that is not appropriate for
 school whether a student is on campus or at home.

SCHOOLOGY

Schoology is the digital platform where teachers will communicate important information about assignments, tests, quizzes, and links for each of their classes.

https://marietta.schoology.com/home





ADDITIONAL TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

E-HALLPASS

MMS will use an electronic technology resource to manage hall passes called E-hallpass.

BENEFITS

- · Improve campus safety by knowing who is out of class and where they are going
- Maximize instructional time by reducing unnecessary hall pass usage and class interruptions
- Keep students accountable for their hall pass usage and reduce vandalism and mischief
- Better investigate incidents by knowing which students were out of class during a specific time period
- Know which students are out of class and where they are in emergency situations
- Simplifying record-keeping for teachers, front desk and administrators

SCHOOL STATUS

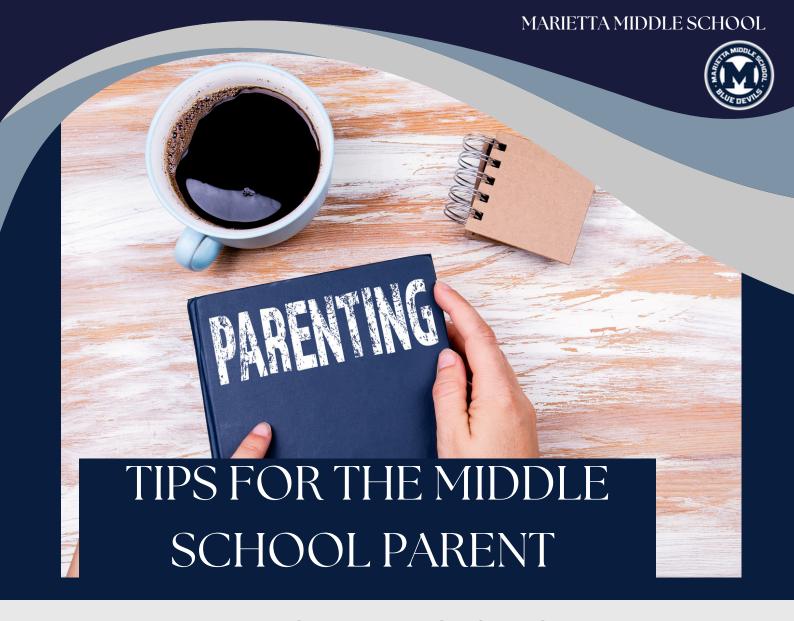
To improve home/school communication, we have invested in access to School Status. School Status allows staff to call or text parents with important information, and the website translates text into a parent's preferred language.

Cell phone and social media can have a substantial impact on middle schoolers. Please see the website at this QR code for more information.





For more information about School Status, please see the video at this QR Code.



EXECUTIVE FUNCTIONING

Middle school students are still developing their executive functioning skills. Students still need parental guidance to help them successfully navigate middle school.

Organize:

- Backpacks Remove trash and organize papers
- Folders remove old work and add loose paper
- Homework Space make sure it is quiet and well-lit

Prepare:

- Charge Chromebooks nightly
- study for tests and quizzes

Monitor:

- ASPEN Set weekly reminder
- Schoology
- Peer Interactions
- Social Media
- Gaming
- Bed Times



IMPORTANT DATES

August:

1st Day of School - August 1st APTT/Curriculum Night - August 29

January:

Students Return - January 7th
Rising 7th Grader Night - January
Beginning Band Concert - Week of January 22nd
MAP Growth Celebration - January

September:

Labor Day - September 2nd
Academic Enrichment Days- September 19th & 20th
Fall Break - September 23rd - 27th

February:

Parent University - February
Orchestra Concert - February 6th and 13th
Mid-Winter Break - February 17th - February 21st

October:

One Act Show - October 11th and 12th
Picture Day - October 16th
Orchestra Concert - October 17th
Fall Festival - October 18th
Chorus Concert - October 22nd
Conference Week - October 21st - 25th

March:

Chorus Pre-LGPE Concert - March 20th

November:

Election Day (Student Holiday) - November 5th Picture Retake Day - November 13th Thanksgiving Break - November 25th - 29th

April:

Spring Break - April 7th - April 11th 8th Grade Dance - April 25th MAP Growth Celebration - April 26th Anastasia Show - April 27th

December:

Winter Band Concert - December 10th Chorus & Orchestra Concert - December 17th Winter Break - December 23rd - January 6th

May:

8th Grade Honors Night - May 14th 7th Grade Honors Night - May 15th 8th Grade Overnight Field Trip - May 15th & 16th 8th Grade Walk - May 23rd Last Day of School - May 23rd



THANK YOU





