



Mountainside News



FROM THE DESK OF MR. HARE

Welcome to the 2024-25 school year. I know the start of the year can bring some uneasiness from students, but I also know that sending your student off to school is not an easy thing for parents to do. I hope that you will find that Mountainside will strive to partner with you to push your student to grow beyond what they feel is possible. The growth you will see in your child this school year will be huge, I promise you that!

As the principal, my goal is to communicate with you as much as possible this year. I want you to feel confident that you will know what is coming up at Mountainside. At the beginning of every month you will receive this newsletter in your email. Please, take a moment to read through it each month as it will have all the important items for the month ahead. In addition, I will send out periodic emails for specific events that I want to draw your attention to. If you should ever feel that you are out of touch with the goings on at Mountainside, please don't hesitate to reach out. We're in this together.

As your student begins this year of middle school, I would encourage you to take some time as a family to set some goals for the year. Naturally, it's always good to set academic goals, but I would also challenge your child to make a goal for getting involved. Whether it is in our music programs, athletic programs, or clubs; just get involved! It makes for a much more fruitful middle school experience and the connections they will make will carry them beyond these halls of MMS.

Let's have a great year and do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything!

What's Going On At MMS?

Tuesday, 9/3
First Day of School!
Cross Country & Softball Begin

Wednesday, 9/4
NO LATE START

Wednesday, 9/11
First Late Start
School Begins at 8:35am

Tuesday, 9/17
Picture Day

Wednesday, 9/18
Hope Squad Parent Night

Friday, 9/20
Fund Run Kick-Off

Mon., 9/23 - Mon., 10/7
Fund Run Money Collection

Friday, 9/27
Toothsavers
Battle of the Bell @ Union



CHROMEBOOKS

Each student is given a Chromebook to complete their school work both at school and at home. Please remind your student to charge their Chromebook each night and to bring it to school (w/ the charger) every day. We strongly encourage you to purchase Chromebook insurance for \$20 in our Business Office or [\[online\]](#) by **September 20th**. This insurance provides coverage in case of loss or damage, which could be in excess of \$200.



FREE BREAKFAST AND LUNCH FOR ALL!



Mountainside Middle School qualifies for a federal program that provides breakfast and lunch for **ALL STUDENTS**. If a student wants a second meal or an a la carte item, they will need money in their lunch account.

Just because all students get free meals, we still strongly encourage families to complete the [\[Benefit Application\]](#). This will be how we determine reduced fees and there are other personal, school, and district benefits that use this information.

SMILE! SCHOOL PICTURES ARE COMING

Mountainside will have individual school pictures on Tuesday, September 17th. Every student will get their picture taken, even if you aren't purchasing pictures, as we use this photo for our yearbook and for student ID badges. Keep an eye out for picture packets as they will be coming home with students during the second week of school. Not around on 9/17? No worries, we will have a picture retake day later this fall.



"OFF AND AWAY"



As you may have heard, the Mead School District is committed to ensuring our classrooms are free from the distraction of cellular devices and other electronic devices (earbuds, smart watches, etc.). Please look through [\[this Mead SD document\]](#) that details our rationale, expectations, and consequences for these devices. While the changes are not drastically different from our past expectations at the middle school level, we will be putting an emphasis on the devices being "off and away." At Mountainside, our expectation will be that a student's device(s) is either locked in their locker or zipped up in their backpack for the entire day. We do not want to have devices in a student's pocket as the temptation can be too much for developing middle school brains. Thank you for helping us by going through our expectations with your child!

THE FUND RUN IS COMING!

Our annual fundraiser begins this month. Be on the lookout for more information coming home with your student. Thank you for supporting our ONE and ONLY fundraiser!



**NO LATE
START
WED, 9/4**

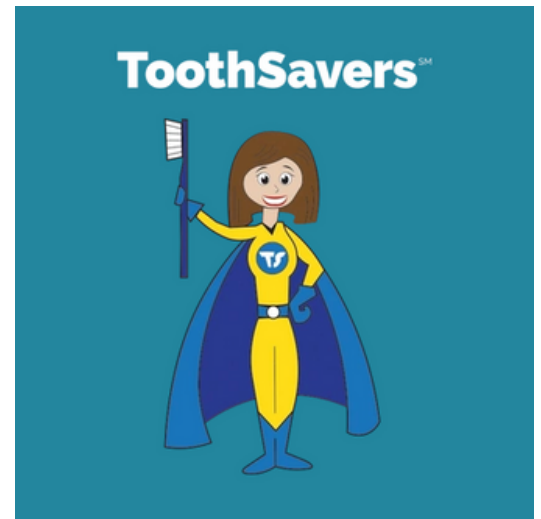


Look for the picture of our Character Trait winners on our Facebook page and website each month!



**H O P E
S Q U A D**


Mountainside has an amazing Hope Squad program. What is Hope Squad? [\[CLICK HERE\]](#) to learn more.



ToothSavers is coming to MMS on September 27th!
Please look for information in the packet of papers students are bringing home on the first day or [\[click here\]](#) to sign up. You must sign up by 9/18!

MOUNTAINSIDE'S FACEBOOK GAME IS TOP-NOTCH! IF YOU ARE NOT FOLLOWING US, YOU ARE MISSING OUT. YOU WILL FIND IMPORTANT NOTICES, LAST-MINUTE UPDATES, AND LOTS OF FUN MIDDLE SCHOOL PICTURES. FOLLOW US TODAY!

Stay Connected With Us

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