

Monthly Cat Tracks . November I, 2024

Thank you, thank you! Thank you to all the parents who helped with the meal for staff on Parent Teacher Conference nights. Everything was so good! You all are the best, we appreciate each and every one of you! Please share your thoughts <a href="here">here</a> about Fall Conferences. We appreciate your time and feedback!

# Coming Up!

JMMS Wisconsin Herd Night: Are you interested in attending Madison Middle School night at the Wisconsin Herd game on January 31st at 7pm. Click on this flier for more details. You can also order tickets by scanning the QR code to the right. You will receive the lowest price if you order by January 10th.



#### JMMS would like to thank these area businesses for their donations!

- Cousins Subs for their donation of free subs as incentives for students.
- Marco's Pizza for providing lunch for our staff on Nov. 22nd.
- Tom's Drive In for donating 700 free small ice cream cone certificates for staff/students...
- Texas Roadhouse for sponsoring the Texas Roadhouse Staff Member of the Month
- Wisconsin Timber Rattlers for donating tickets to give away to students for the 2025 season.
- Dunkin Donuts for always donating coffee and donuts to JMMS. Thank you!
- Urban Air for donating a bunch of passes for our JMMS students.

## **Athletics & After-School Clubs**

**GIRLS BASKETBALL SIGNUP:** A google sign up form can be found in our JMMS Announcements slide show. Any girl interested in playing basketball must sign up using that link or the sign up link on our webpage under winter sports. All athletic paperwork, which includes a hard copy of WIAA physical AND the electronic forms need to be completed by first practice on Tuesday, December 17th, in order to participate.

- Please click out our website for detailed info. Complete Step 1 & 2.
- Here is a link to the online paperwork that needs to be completed.

Online/electronic paperwork only needs to be completed 1x per year. Physicals are good for two years. If a physical expires in the middle of a season, the player will become ineligible. If you have any questions after reading the letter, please call Madison at 920-852-5425.\*

**WRESTLING:** Wrestling starts on January 6th at 3:30 in the small gym after school. All athletic paperwork needs to be turned in before the first practice, which includes a hard copy of WIAA physical AND the electronic forms need to be completed by first practice in order to participate. Sign ups will take place in December or by clicking on the sign up page online under winter sports.

- Please click out our website for detailed info. Complete Step 1 & 2.
- Here is a <u>link to the online paperwork</u> that needs to be completed.

Online/electronic paperwork only needs to be completed 1x per year. Physicals are good for two years. If a physical expires in the middle of a season, the player will become ineligible. If you have any questions after reading the letter, please call Madison at 920-852-5425.\*

**SKI CLUB:** Here is the <u>link</u> for more information about Ski Club.

**<u>UW Oshkosh Baseball Camp</u>**: Any student interested in a UW Oshkosh Baseball camp, <u>please check out this link for details and information</u>.

# **Attendance Information:**

ABSENCE REQUEST PROCESS - available ONLINE: Parents/guardians can use the Absence Request tool found on <a href="Campus Parent/Parent Portal">Campus Parent/Parent Portal</a> to submit a request that informs the office in advance when their student is not going to be in school. This feature can be used as an <a href="alternative">alternative</a> to the traditional phone calls to the school office. Please see the instructions, found <a href="here">here</a>, on how to submit an Absence Request via the Campus Portal.

#### MIDDLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE EDUCATION LESSONS

In collaboration with the Appleton Police Department and Outagamie County Youth and Family Services, AASD middle schools will be providing Attendance Education Lessons for students and their families beginning on November 8th. Families may receive a letter as determined by the school site's attendance team once their student reaches five unexcused absences. A student is considered habitually truant if they are absent from school without an excuse for part or all of five or more days on which school is held during a semester. With the letter, the family will be asked to attend a meeting with the school to develop a plan for attendance. Part of that plan will include a requirement for the student and family to participate in an Attendance Education Lesson, which will be held at each middle school monthly. Information will be shared and discussed regarding attendance requirements, state law, school obligations, the importance of attending school, and available resources to improve attendance.

## **School Climate News**

PBIS & JMMS: Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) is a program designed to promote and maximize academic achievement and behavioral competence. It is a systematic approach to enhancing the capacity of schools to educate all children by developing research-based behavior support systems both school-wide and in the classroom. This process focuses on improving a school's ability to teach and support positive behavior for all students. It is a school-wide strategy for helping all students achieve important social and learning goals. We know that when good behavior and good teaching come together, our students will excel in their learning. PBIS is not a program or a curriculum, but rather a team-based process for systemic problem solving, planning, and evaluation. It is an approach to creating a safe and productive learning environment.

As a part of this system, each quarter we hold a celebration to recognize students who are following the "Wildcat Way". School-wide, a set of guidelines are set to qualify for participation in the celebration with eligibility resetting each quarter. Typically, the guidelines in place revolve around egregious behavior and accountability in academics.

Our first celebrations are fast approaching. They will take place on November 8th. Each grade level has shared the specifics with parents. We look forward to recognizing those who consistently follow the Wildcat Way.

# **Family Engagement Opportunities:**

#### November Family Board-game Night:

We invite our families to join us for Board-Game Night on Friday, November 15th. Gnome Games will be providing the games and we will also have pizza! See the flier below.

#### **<u>Parent Organization:</u>** Look below for volunteer opportunities:

- To volunteer for future events, <u>please check out some opportunities here!</u> Click this <u>link</u> to sign up. This link will be updated as events are added.
- Follow our <u>Madison Facebook Page</u> and <u>Madison Middle School Parent Organization</u>

  <u>Page</u> for other volunteer opportunities and ways to get involved!

#### Madison Middle School Staff Shout Outs:

Is there a staff member who has been essentially helpful, supportive, positive etc. to you, your family, your child? Give them a shout out via this <u>Link!</u> Thank you for helping us recognize our staff!

## **Reminders:**

<u>Drop Off/Pick Up:</u> Our drop off and pick up seems to be flowing much better. Please <u>review this information about Drop off/Pick up</u> and Pg 34-36 in our <u>Parent/Student Handbook</u>. When dropping off in the zone in front of school or in the Grade 6 location in the parking lot, please pull forward when space permits to keep the flow moving. Please remember to drop off near a curb in a drop off zone. Please be mindful of your speed, especially as the drop off and pick up times are done in inclement weather and with less sunlight.

Communication with JMMS Staff: Here at Madison Middle School, we believe our staff is highly committed to the success of our students. We also believe in having a highly engaged workforce which includes parent engagement and communication. That being said, staff may not respond to emails after 4:00 pm or before 7:30 am, and on the weekends. In addition, we ask that you demonstrate patience with the staff as they are working diligently during the school day to meet the needs of students. As a result, you can expect our staff to respond by the end of the next business day. We will always try our best to be responsive to parents, but please also consider that staff may not be available for meetings that have not been scheduled ahead of time. If any communication is more critical or timely, please contact the office by phone and we will route the issue to the most appropriate person on our staff.

#### **Useful Tools and Information:**

- Setting Canvas Notifications
- Classlink Sign-in Page
- Box Tops for Education
- Madison MS Home Page
  - o **Grading Guideline**
  - Athletics & Co-curriculars
- Follow us Facebook
- Madison MS Parent Organization Page
- Madison Parent Handbook -- can't find the information you are looking for?
   More than likely, it can be found in this!

- **Important Dates:** 
  - November 15
    - Family Board-game Night
  - November 27-29
    - Thanksgiving Break
  - December 23-January 1
    - Winter Break
  - January 17-20
    - o No School





# FREE HOMEWORK HELP

- Available Virtually & In-Person -

# SIGN UP TO BE PAIRED WITH A VOLUNTEER TUTOR

The Volunteers in Tutoring at Lawrence (VITAL) Program serves
K-12 students in the Appleton Area School District.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT GO.LAWRENCE.EDU/VOLUNTEER
OR EMAIL COMMUNITY.ENGAGEMENT@LAWRENCE.EDU.







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