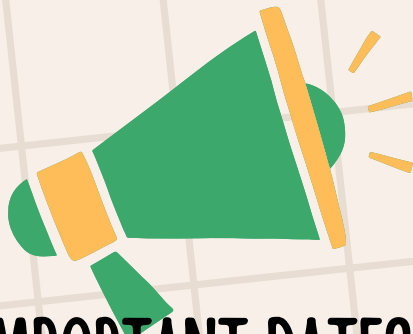


SEPTEMBER 2025 NEWSLETTER



IMPORTANT DATES

- HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH
 - SEPTEMBER 15-OCTOBER 15
- SCHOOL CLOSED - ROSH HASHANAH
 - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23
- SCHOOL PICTURE DAYS - DURING SOCIAL STUDIES CLASSES
 - THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25
 - FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26
- SCHOOL CLOSED - YOM KIPPUR
 - THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2
- 8TH GRADE TRIP TO CAMP MASON
 - MON 10/13-WED 10/15 - BLUE/GOLD
 - WED 10/15-FRI 10/17 - RED
 - PAYMENT AND FORMS DUE 9/26
- 7TH GRADE PUMPKIN DAY
 - WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15
- SCHOOL CLOSED - DIWALI/STAFF IN-SERVICE
 - MONDAY, OCTOBER 20



A MESSAGE FROM MR. ACCARDI

Hello UMS Families,

Our new school year is off to a fantastic start! Students are quickly finding their classrooms, memorizing locker combinations, and contributing to a positive school culture. We hope your student is beginning to feel comfortable with the new routines and excited for all that lies ahead. Our teachers have already shared how respectful and enthusiastic this year's students have been!

Thank you to the families who joined us for Back to School Night. We hope the evening was informative and gave you the chance to connect with your student's teachers. Please remember, our teachers and staff are ready to partner with you in supporting your student. For academic questions, reach out directly to your child's subject teacher. For concerns outside the classroom, our counselors and case managers are available to support you.

During the first few days of school, students gathered by team to meet their teachers, connect with peers, and learn about some exciting updates at UMS. This year, we are thrilled to welcome Mrs. Christine Grossmann as our new Student Assistance Counselor. Mrs. Grossmann joins us after 13 years at MHS, and we are eager to see the many ways she will enrich our community.

Students also learned about our updated Personal Electronic Device Procedures. We are proud of how well they've adjusted, and we thank families for supporting these changes. As always, our Main Office is happy to assist with any communication during the school day.

Finally, we are excited to introduce SmartPass, an online hall pass system. Teachers and students are learning this new platform together, and we look forward to seeing how this structured approach to hallway movement helps maximize learning time.

Be sure to check the important dates and information below, and don't miss this month's episode of CougarCast!

With. C.A.R.E
-Mr. Accardi



CAMP MASON



Every year, the 8th-grade students are given the opportunity to attend Camp Mason. This trip is an excellent opportunity for our students to bond with their classmates, create new memories, and grow as young adults. The **BLUE/GOLD** teams will be attending camp from Monday, 10/13 - Wednesday, 10/15, and the **RED** team will attend from Wednesday, 10/15 - Friday, 10/17. Forms can be found and completed online through the Genesis Parent Portal. Payment can be made using PaySchools, cash, or check. If any family needs assistance with payments, please contact Mr. Mark Accardi or your child's guidance counselor. Forms and payment are due by September 26th.

Also, please take a look and place your orders for our [2025 Camp Mason Gear](#), available for a limited time! All proceeds benefit this year's trip.



PTO/SEPTA HAPPENINGS



PTO Membership

The PTO thrives through collaborative engagement from parents, teachers, and the community. Middle school is a time of big changes—for students and families alike. As a parent/guardian, joining the PTO connects you to what's happening at school and gives you a voice in decisions that affect your child. It's a great way to partner with teachers, stay informed, and make a real difference during these important transitional years.

With this in mind, we invite you to join the Montgomery Middle School PTO! Your membership supports programs the PTO brings to our schools, and, as members, you're able to join committees, vote on measures that impact your student, and volunteer in the schools. Check out the current committee opportunities on our Committees webpage (<https://montyptto.membershiptoolkit.com/committees>).

Please reach out to president@montyptto.org if you have any questions about what the PTO does or how to set up your Membership Toolkit account.

[Become a member at www.montyptto.org](http://www.montyptto.org)

[Spirit Wear Store](#)

SEPTA Membership

The Montgomery Special Education PTA (MSEPTA) is a district-wide organization designed to build strong partnerships amongst teachers, parents, administration, existing PTA's, and the community so that children receiving special education services of any kind will be better understood, integrated and embraced by our school and community. Please use this [link](#) to join SEPTA.





COUGARCAST: VOICES OF UMS

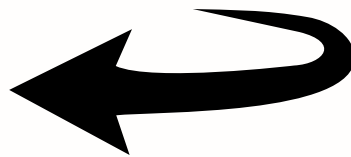
CLICK HERE TO LISTEN



TUNE IN TO OUR NEW PODCAST SERIES. EACH MONTH MR. ACCARDI AND MS. MOORE WILL BE SHARING AN EPISODE TO ACCOMPANY OUR NEWSLETTER. BE SURE TO COMPLETE THE COUGAR CHALLENGE EACH MONTH!



CLICK HERE



REMINDERS

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Students will have the opportunity to join after-school activities that interest them throughout the year. These activities are led by MTSD staff members. Information about our co-curricular clubs will be shared with students at the beginning of the school year.

UMS PICTURE DAYS

Students will have their pictures taken during their Social Studies class on either **Thursday, September 25**, or **Friday, September 26**. Here is the direct link for ordering pictures. Students will use their student ID as their online code. Make-ups will be announced at a later date. [Click here for Digital Order Form](#). Code is your student's ID Number.





NEWS FROM THE NURSE



SCOLIOSIS SCREENING

The New Jersey State Legislature has mandated that all New Jersey school children ages 10-18 be examined for scoliosis. **Only 8th graders will be screened.** Parents of 8th graders--Please email Mrs. Cappabianca at ecappabianca@mtsd.us to OPT OUT of scoliosis screening.



GIVE US A FOLLOW ON INSTAGRAM! @MONTYUMS