

JAMES MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monthly Cat Tracks August 2026

Dear JMMS Families,

Welcome to a new school year! I hope your summer has been filled with rest, fun, and time to recharge. As we prepare to welcome students back to school, we are filled with excitement for the year ahead.

Middle school is a time of incredible growth—academically, socially, and emotionally. Our team is dedicated to creating a safe, supportive, and engaging environment where every student can thrive. Whether your child is stepping into middle school for the first time or entering their final year with us, we're here to partner with you in making this a successful and memorable year.

In the coming weeks, we encourage you to:

- Complete the **Annual Update** in Infinite Campus to ensure we have the most current contact information and health details. [Here is a link](#) that will take you to Infinite Campus to complete the OLR.
- Attend our **Open House on Wednesday, August 26th from 4:30-6:30**, where you'll meet teachers, explore classrooms, and learn more about the learning experiences planned.
- Review the [Back to School mailing](#) information that was sent home to each family in the USPS mail.
- Review and complete our [JMMS Virtual Registration Form](#). This is different from the Online Registration/Annual update on IC.

Please take a few minutes to read through the rest of this newsletter for important information about start dates, supplies, and updated policies—including our **bell-to-bell phone-free expectations**, which help keep the focus on learning.

We are excited to build strong relationships with your children and look forward to the year ahead with optimism and purpose. If you have any questions or need support as the year begins, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Let's make it a great year—together.

Warm regards,
Poyee V. Xiong
Principal, James Madison Middle School

Read all about it..

James Madison Virtual Registration: Please click here to review some important information about the upcoming school year and attend our virtual JMMS registration which is different from the AASD Annual Update/Online Registration. <https://forms.gle/HCEFPZLG7RiQeL346>

Link to our Parent/Student Handbook with important info and dates can be found at this [link](#)

Storm and Tornado Recovery Support and Resources: The Appleton Area School District is committed to supporting our families in the days and weeks ahead. We are working closely with our schools and community partners to connect families with available resources and provide support where it is needed.

If your family is currently displaced by the recent severe weather, please complete this **form**. Our district offers programs designed to support students and their families during situations like this that may help ease some of the challenges you may be facing.

Forward Test Results from Spring 2025: We have received Individual Student Reports (ISR) from the Wisconsin Forward Exam. The ISR provides information about your child's performance on the Wisconsin Forward Exam. The Forward Exam was administered during the Spring of 2025 in English Language Arts (ELA) and Mathematics for students in grades 3-8, Science for grades 4 and 8, and Social Studies for grades 4, 8, and 10. As part of the Wisconsin Student Assessment System, the Forward Exam is a large-scale, standardized achievement test designed to assess what students know in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards.

Please, remember that the ISR is just one of many indicators of your child's academic performance. In order to obtain a more complete picture of your child's areas of strength and growth, it is important to consider information from a variety of sources, including classroom assessments, iReady data, and teacher feedback.

We plan to hand these out at our Open House with student schedules on August 26th. If you are unable to attend Open House, we will send it home the first day of school with your child, or we can send it electronically if you wish. Please contact the office if you have questions.

Schedule Information: Student schedules will be released via the Infinite Campus portal on Wednesday, August 19th. Please contact the office with questions after this date.

Family Communication: JMMS will again be utilizing the Talking Points App to communicate with families. These messages will come as a text message and in the language that you have selected in Infinite Campus during registration. Please see the [flyer here](#) for more information.

Bell to Bell Phone Free Middle Schools in the AASD: Please review the JMMS Smartphone/Personal Device family letter that each middle school is sharing with their school community for the second year.

- [English Version](#) [Spanish Version](#) [Hmong Version](#)

 **Counseling & Support Services:** Our counselors are here to support students academically, socially, and emotionally. If your child has any special considerations or needs as they return to school, please reach out—we're here to help.



Back-to-School Tips

- Start easing back into school-year routines: earlier bedtimes, device-free evenings, and consistent wake-up times
- Talk with your child about goals for the year—both academic and personal.
- Remind them that it's normal to feel nervous and excited. We'll work together to make the transition as smooth as possible.
- [Quick link](#) to our school supply list

Athletic Paperwork for 2026–27: If your child will be in 7th or 8th grade and plans to participate in a sport or co-curricular activity next year, please read the [Athletic Letter](#) carefully. The letter includes a link to our **mandatory online paperwork**, which can be completed from any computer or smartphone.

Important Reminders: *If you completed this, there is no need to do it again!*

- **A hard copy of a current WIAA Physical Examination Form, signed and dated by a medical professional, must be submitted to the JMMS office to finalize eligibility.**
- **All paperwork, the physical, and the \$40 participation fee must be completed before your child is allowed to practice or compete.**

Students with incomplete information will not be eligible to participate until everything is submitted. We strongly encourage you to complete the paperwork, turn in the physical, and pay the fee as soon as possible to avoid any delays. This information is also outlined on our [Madison website](#) under athletics.

Fall Sports first practices: [Sign up for a Fall Sport by clicking here!](#)

- Cross Country: August 17, 6-7pm, parent meeting at 7-7:30pm, meet in JMMS cafeteria
- 8th Grade Rebels Football: August 3, 5-7pm, Appleton East practice fields
- Softball: August 17, 3:30-5:00, meet at the Appleton East Varsity softball field
- Volleyball: August 17, 3:30-5:00, meet in the large gym at JMMS

**** Picture day for Fall Sports is Wed., September 23rd ****

Celebrate our teachers' return with us!

Please consider purchasing an item from our [Amazon List](#). We will be giving out teacher prizes to our teachers when they return on August 25th!

Check us out....

[Follow us Facebook](#)

[Madison MS Home Page](#)

[AASD Home Page](#)

Useful Tools

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

Important Dates

- **August 17:** Fall Sports Practices Start
- **August 26:** Open House 4:30-6:30pm
- **September 1:** 1st Day of School, starts at 7:50AM
- **September 2:** Picture day during school

LAMERS

The Passenger Professionals®

 Interested in watching after school sports?

 Looking to get your kids to after school events, or field trips?

 Wanting to drive but not wanting to drive school routes?

 Looking for a job that fits around the job you already have, for extra cash?

Lamers Bus lines is looking to hire school bus drivers exclusively for charter trips.

**Must meet the following qualifications:*

- Must be at least 21 years old
- Must have 4+ years driving exp.
- Good driving record.
- Must be able to pass background checks, and Drug/alcohol screens

*Benefits include:

- CDL training program. Get paid to get your CDL instead of paying to take classes!
- Flexible hours
- AM, afternoon, PM, weekends
- 401k (after vested hours) and Health insurance (30 HR/wk. Average)

