The Mustang Messenger

August 14, 2026 Volume 40 Mill Creek News

Coming Events

August
17 Fall Athletics start
17 Back To School Night 5:30 pm
18 6th Grade ½ Day
18 7 & 8 New Student Academy
19 First Full Day
20 Fall Athletics Parent Mtg
27 Fall Festival

Reminders

Doors Open at 7:30 am.

School Hours 7:50 - 3:00 pm

If you need to get a message to your child, please call the office **913.667.3512**

Important Links

Report An Absence
Mill Creek Website
Contact Us!
Lunch Menu

Home Of The Mustangs

Check Us Out on Social Media!

@TheCreekMCMS

@the_creek_MCMS

If you need to pick up your child for an appointment, please be sure to plan ahead and arrive 5-10 minutes early.
Lockers take extra time!

Let's Get Started!



We can't wait to see you Monday night for Back To School!

Reminders

- Always check the **website** if you have questions
- Just a reminder, due to how full our buses are, students may only get off at their assigned stop and they are not allowed to ride a different bus. In extenuating circumstances, all changes must be approved by First Student. If you have any questions please reach out to clantz@usd232.org

Happenings...

Let Us Know When Your Child Is Gone



There are 3 ways you can notify us if your child will be gone!
1. Call the school and leave a message on our absence line.
2. Fill out the form found on our webpage
3. Enter the absence in Skyward yourself!

Athletics/Activities

Please see the email from AD Kerry Wixon on all things Fall Athletics. You can find that email and links by clicking HERE

Fall Athletics start Monday, August 17th. This includes XC, FB and VB tryouts. You can find practice calendars/info on the MCMS website.

**Students must have the following completed to participate:*
-athletic physical uploaded to BOUND

- forms on BOUND: athletic code of conduct, acknowledgement of risk, and KSHSAA Concussion Form

-school fees

USD232 Community Partner HUB

*USD 232 is looking to connect with guest speakers, businesses, organizations, and community groups interested in supporting our students. If you or someone you know would like to partner with our schools through career exploration, classroom presentations, mentorship, internships, or other opportunities, we'd love to hear from you! Visit our **Community Partner Hub** to learn more and submit your interest.*



Mark your calendars now for MCMS Fall Fest

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*Follow the ***NEW*** MCMS instagram page!!*



If you are interested in serving on the MCMS Site Council for the 26-27 school year, please email dlegoreseawood@usd232.org



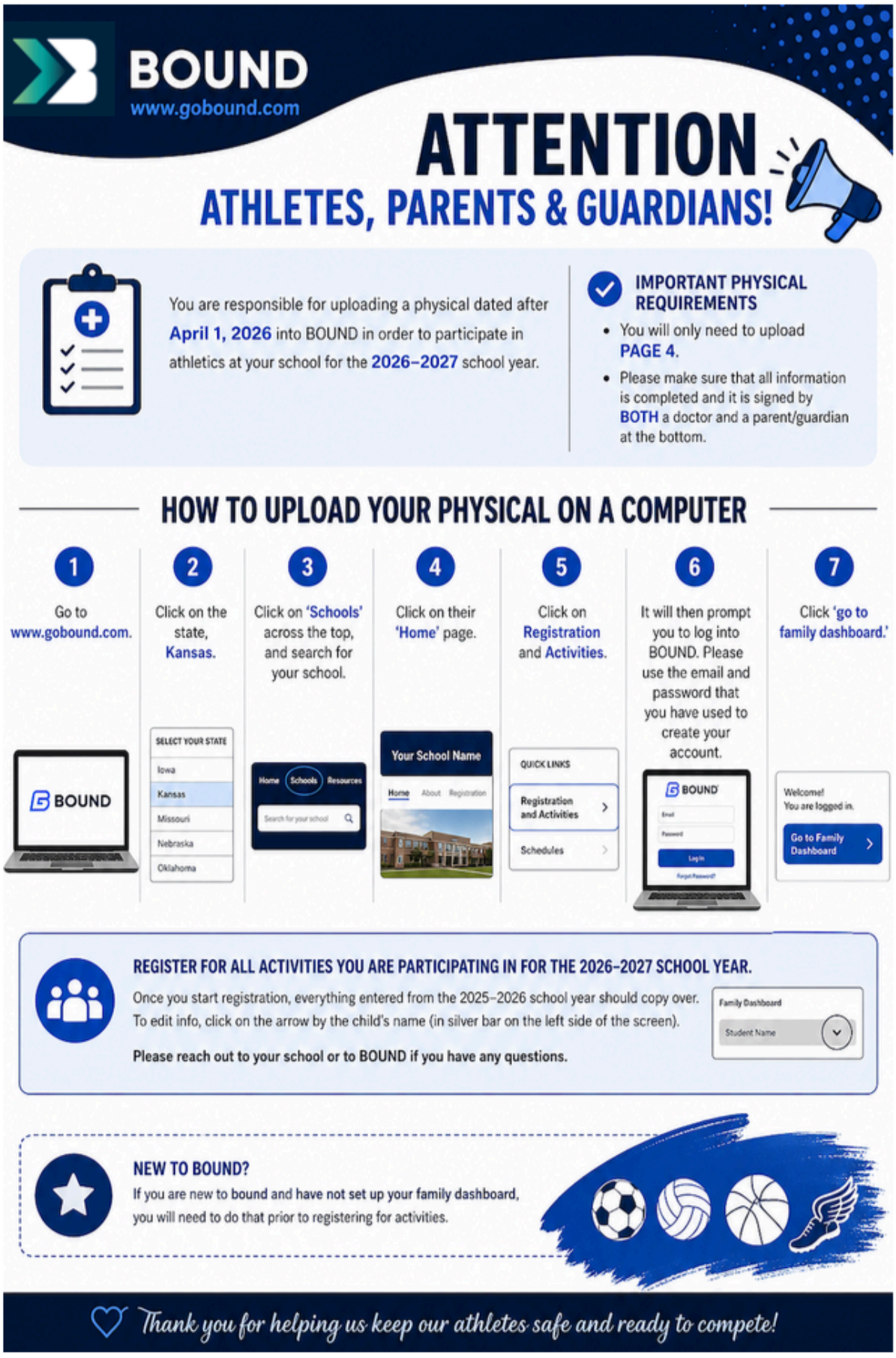
Dress Code Reminder

As families prepare for the start of the school year, we want to share a friendly reminder that **MCMS has a dress code that will be consistently enforced**. Our goal is to maintain a school environment that is appropriate, comfortable, and focused on learning.

Please keep the following expectations in mind when preparing for school:

- **Midriffs should be covered.**
- **Hats may not be worn inside the building.**
- **Clothing or accessories that promote alcohol, drugs, tobacco, or other inappropriate content are not permitted.**
- **Blankets should remain at home.**

We appreciate your help in reviewing these expectations with your student before the school year begins. Thank you for partnering with us to help students start the year ready to learn!



[Registering a Student in Bound] - information for parents and students

Come join our team - we have full and part time positions available!!

Non-Teaching CAREER FAIR

September 1 | 3:30–6:00 PM
35200 W 91st St, De Soto, KS

Open positions include:

- Paraprofessionals
- Registered behavior technicians
- Aides (lunchroom and ELL)
- Custodians
- Fabrication lab assistant
- Student nutrition



Learn more and apply:

usd232.org/career-fair

JOHNSON COUNTY KANSAS
Mental Health

Connected Conversations

Building family connection through conversation

Parent Edition



Join us for an engaging morning of learning and connection as Sergeant Robert McKeirnan, a CIT-trained officer with the Olathe Police Department, shares practical tools to help parents and caregivers navigate challenging situations and strengthen family relationships. Participants will learn strategies for early intervention, positive communication, and self-regulation that can help prevent conflicts from escalating and promote constructive problem-solving at home.

Benefits of the program

- Promotes healthy family communication
- Strengthens conflict resolution skills
- Encourages early intervention and proactive problem-solving
- Builds self-regulation and emotional awareness
- Fosters empathy and understanding
- Strengthens family relationships and support systems

Details

Designed for parents, caregivers, and other adults who support youth, this event includes a complimentary breakfast followed by an interactive presentation. Participants will gain practical tools and strategies to improve communication, manage conflict effectively, and foster stronger, more connected family relationships. Free resources will be available to attendees to support continued learning and conversation at home.

Date

Saturday, September 19, 2026

9 a.m.- Noon

Johnson County Administration Building |111 S Cherry St, Olathe, KS

Registration

To register, scan the QR code or visit, **bit.ly/ConnectedConversations-ParentConnectEdition**

For questions and more information

For more information, contact Tim Kruse, Tim.Kruse@jocogov.org.

JOIN US FOR

BACK TO SCHOOL

A NIGHT TO CONNECT, LEARN, AND PREPARE!

THIS IS A COME AND GO EVENT

AUG 17

5:30 PM – 6:30 PM

What to expect:

- Meet-and-greet with staff
- Pick Up School Supplies
- Practice Your Locker Combo
- Find Your Classes & see friends

Mill Creek Middle School | 8001 Mize Road Lenexa, KS 66227 | 913.667.3512 https://mcms.usd232.org/

See the separate email sent today with additional information, maps and helpful tips so you are ready to make the most of your time!

BACK TO SCHOOL TECH REMINDERS

MAKE SURE YOUR LAPTOP CHARGES TO 100% BEFORE THE 1ST DAY OF SCHOOL.

IF THE DATE AND TIME IS WRONG ON YOUR DEVICE-PLEASE SEE YOUR SCHOOL'S K12 TECH (LOCATED IN THE MEDIA CENTER) TO GET RECONNECTED.

YOU NEED TO HAVE A 30 WATT (OR HIGHER) USBC-USBC CHARGER. IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ONE, YOU NEED TO PURCHASE ONE.

YOUR LAPTOP MUST HAVE ITS SCHOOL ISSUED CASE ON IT.

LAPTOPS SHOULD NOT BE LEFT IN A HOT OR COLD CAR.

MEDIA CENTER HOURS
7:30-3:30

JOIN THE MILL CREEK FTC ROBOTICS COMPETITION TEAM!

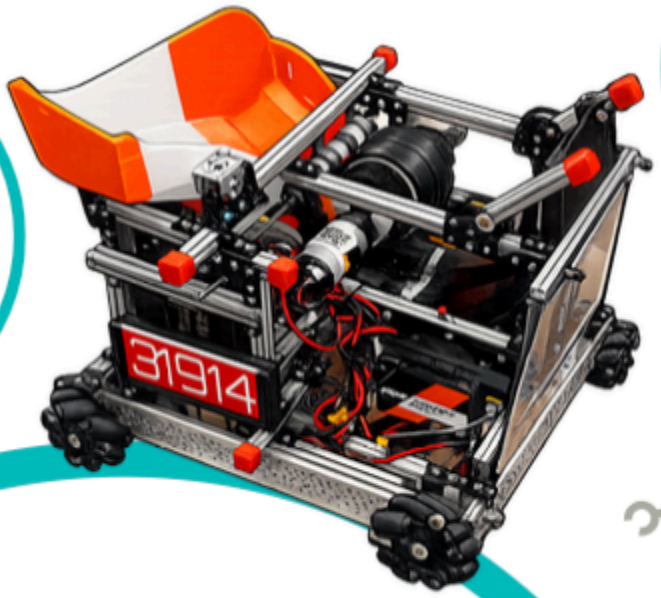
APPLICATIONS DUE WED. SEPT. 2 AT 3:30 PM

Turn in to Front Office, Library, or a Science Teacher

TEAM ANNOUNCED FRI. SEPT. 4

MCMS CLUB INFO NIGHT THURSDAY. AUGUST 27

PARENT MEETING MONDAY AUGUST 31 6 PM MCMS LIBRARY





ROBOTICS TEAM STUDENT INFO MEETING

FRIDAY. AUGUST 28 – 2:40 PM MCMS LIBRARY





YOU NEED A PASS TO ATTEND!
GET A PASS FROM A SCIENCE TEACHER.
THE LIBRARY. OR THE FRONT OFFICE.

QUESTIONS? QSHOWALTER@USD232.ORG

Meet the new MCMS Staff

MILL CREEK Mustangs

Welcome
Mrs. Andrea Williams

Connections

This will be Mrs. Williams 17th year in education, but her first in USD232. She is excited to see her students grow and become more confident every day!



MILL CREEK Mustangs

Welcome
Miss. Nicole Ruel

Health Aide

This will be Miss. Ruel's fifth year in education. She is excited to move back to the KC area and get to know the staff and students that make MCMS the best!



MILL CREEK Mustangs

Welcome
Mrs. Olivia Jepson

7th Grade Pathways

This is Mrs. Jepson's second year in education and her first in USD232 as an employee. She is excited about coming back home to the district she grew up in and work with people that inspired her to become a teacher!



MILL CREEK Mustangs

Welcome
Ms. Olivia McCoy

School Nurse



This will be Ms. McCoy's first year as a school nurse and her first year in USD232. She is excited about getting to know all the students and creating a safe place for them to visit during the day.

MILL CREEK Mustangs

Welcome
Mrs. Shelly Souders

Art



This will be Mrs. Souder's 17th year in art and not a new face in the MCMS community. She is excited about leveling up to secondary art education. She looks forward to getting reacquainted with former students and meeting new students.

MILL CREEK Mustangs

Welcome
Ms. Rachel Schwartzbeck

8th Grade Science



This will be Ms. Schwartzbeck's fifth year in education. She is excited about becoming a part of a strong, new community and helping her students connect science concepts to the world around them.



Nancy Meyer - McCullough Sub



Liz Storm - Lenfestey Sub

MILL CREEK Mustangs

Welcome
Mrs. Tiffany Hightower

Paraprofessional

This will be Mrs. Hightower's 23 year in education. As a retired educator, she is most excited about a fresh start at a new school. She's excited to meet a new group of students, get to know them, find out what inspires each one, and watching them reach new educational milestones!





Regan Marting - Pathways



Jules Napier - Resource

Not all our faces are new - we have some name and position changes within our staff. As we continue to add new staff, I look forward to introducing them to you.