JAMES MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Monthly Cat Tracks . November 2026

Thank You, Parents and Families!

Thank you to all the parents and families who took the time to meet with us to discuss your student's progress during parent-teacher conferences. We appreciate your partnership and the opportunity to work together to support your child's success.

Your child's safety and learning are our top priorities. Please know that you can reach out to any of your child's teachers at any time if you have questions, would like to schedule a meeting, or have concerns you would like to discuss. We value open communication and appreciate your continued support!

Coming Up!

JMMS Wisconsin Herd Night:
Are you interested in attending Madison Middle School night at the Wisconsin Herd game on Friday, January 22 at 7pm. Click on this flier for more details. You can also order tickets by scanning the QR code to the right.

JMMS Family Game Night:
JMMS is hosting a Family Game Night from 5:30pm-7:30pm on Friday, November 6th. More info can be found below.

November Fundraiser:
Tuesday, November 17th is our Family Night Out supporting our school and our community at **Cousins Subs at 3020 E. College Ave.**. Cousins will generously donate 20% of sales from **4:00-8:00** to our school. THANK YOU for supporting our school and our community.

Athletics & After-School Clubs:

GIRLS BASKETBALL SIGNUP: A google sign up form can be found in our JMMS Announcements slide show starting next week. 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 current hard copy of WIAA physical AND the electronic forms need to be submitted by first practice on Tuesday, December 15th, in order to participate.

(continued on next page)

- Please click on 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 Monday, January 4th 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 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.**

WILDCAT FITNESS:
Wildcat Fitness will be starting up early this year for 7th and 8th grade students. Any girl or boy in 7th/8th grade can sign up by clicking here. The link is also in our announcements. Wildcat Fitness will run at Appleton East in their new weight room/fitness center. It will run on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 3:45-4:45pm. The strength and conditioning coaches at Appleton East will be working with any interested students starting Tuesday, November 10th. We plan to run a Wildcat Fitness for 6th graders after school at Madison soon.

SKI CLUB:
Here is the link for more information about Ski Club.

Attendance Information:

Absence Request Available Online:
Parents/guardians can use the Absence Request tool found on Campus Parent/Parent Portal 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 alternative to the traditional phone calls to the school office. Please see the instructions, found here, on how to submit an Absence Request via the Campus Portal.

Middle School Attendance 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. We began with a lesson in October. 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, if able, to participate in an Attendance Education Lessons, 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. This lesson is completed during a Target Time on a Friday.

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 Friday, November 6th. Each grade level has shared the specifics with parents. We look forward to recognizing those who consistently follow the Wildcat Way.

Family Engagement Opportunities:

Family Game Night: Friday, November 6th. See Flyer below.

Gather in Gratitude: Wednesday, November 18, 5:30-7:00. The holidays can be challenging for many reasons, but our JMMS staff cares about you and your family! Join us for a warm meal, friendly conversation, and a welcoming sense of community. We'd love to see you there! Please RSVP here so we have an idea of how many to serve. See Flyer below

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 Link! Thank you for helping us recognize our staff!

Reminders:

Drop Off/Pick Up: Our drop off and pick up seems to be flowing much better. Please review this information about Drop off/Pick up and Pg 34-36 in our Parent/Student Handbook. 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
  - 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:

- **November 25-27**
  - **Thanksgiving Break**
- **December 24-January 1**
  - **Winter Break**
- **January 15-18**
  - **No School**
- **February 15**
  - **No School**


VITAL
VOLUNTEERS IN TUTORING AT LAWRENCE
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY CENTER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SOCIAL CHANGE PRESENTS:
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.


JMMS
FAMILY GAME NIGHT
FREE FOOD AND GAMES!
PRESENTED BY:
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 6
5:30 – 7:30
AT JAMES MADISON MIDDLE SCHOOL
GNOME GAMES
GREEN BAY • APPLETON • STURGEON BAY
PIZZA DINNER SPONSORED BY:
BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
OF JAMES MADISON
MIDDLE SCHOOL



GATHER *in Gratitude*

FREE DINNER - COMMUNITY - GOOD VIBES

Wednesday, Nov 18	5:30-7:00PM
2020 S Carpenter St, Appleton, WI 54915	

Email Courtney (hardincourtney@aasd.k12.wi.us) or Selena (rzepiejewskise@aasd.k12.wi.us) with questions!