



MCMS PARENT NEWSLETTER

Educating Today for Tomorrow's World

December 18, 2018

Tracy Beam, Principal

Jeremy Burke, Assistant Principal

816 East Grant Highway

Marengo, Illinois 60152

Marengo Community Middle School Office: 815-568-5720

Transportation Director: 815-596-1667

Grant Intermediate School: 815-568-7427

Transportation Department: 815-568-0778

District 165 Office: 815-568-8323

Locust Elementary School: 815-568-7632



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 21ST - EARLY DISMISSAL AT 11:00 A.M.
NO SCHOOL - MONDAY, DECEMBER 24TH - FRIDAY, JANUARY 4TH
SCHOOL RESUMES ON MONDAY, JANUARY 7, 2019

The Harlem Wizards

CePTA is proud to announce that The Harlem Wizards are coming to Marengo-Union District 165 to compete against the District 165 staff and community members. The Harlem Wizards will be showcasing their "Trick Hoops & Alley Oops" brand of basketball that has been packing gyms around the globe for more than 50 years! Their show includes amazing slams, world class tricks, precision teamwork and humor!

Ticket sales started December 14, 2018. You can purchase tickets on-line, Locust Elementary School, Marengo Middle School, Marengo Community High and Prairie Community Bank.

Advance sales:

Students \$10

General \$15

Reserved (online only) - \$25

- Seating at first 3 rows of bleachers

- Free team poster

Court Side Plus (online only) - \$35

(also includes drink and popcorn)

- seated on the court

- pregame meet & greet with players

- souvenir lanyard

- color team poster

-\$10 discount on Wizards replica jersey

at door/night of (while supplies last) Students - \$12

General - \$18

<https://harlemwizards.thundertix.com/events/137711>

Doors will open at 5:00 P.M. for seating, browsing the souvenirs, getting some snacks for the show and watching all the pregame excitement on the floor!

Come out and support your very own District 165 staff, Marengo-Union community members and your District 165 cePTA!!

See you there!



Band News

Thank you to those who attended our winter concert! We love performing in front of a huge audience. We really do appreciate your support!

We have several events coming up in the second semester. We will be playing at select 8th grade girls' basketball games in January and February. Select students will also be chosen to attend Harvard Honor Band which is scheduled for Saturday, February 9th. You will be notified after break if your child is chosen.

We also have three 8th grade girls' basketball games we will be playing at this winter. We will be playing on Thursday, January 24th, Thursday, January 31st, and Tuesday, February 5th. We do enjoy cheering on our warriors!

Students are also starting to sign up for solo/ensemble contest. Students will rehearse after school starting in February in preparation for the performance in front of a judge over at the high school on Saturday, April 6th. Finally, I will also be sending home more information about our Six Flags trip which is scheduled for Friday, May 10th as well as requesting more information from students. More information on all of these events will be sent home with students as well as posted on our band website. Please keep an eye out for letters containing this information.

We are excited to perform at all these events! Thank you once again for your support.



A HUGE THANK YOU TO MRS. JOHNSON, MISS GIFFORD, MR. MEALE, BAND AND CHOIR STUDENTS FOR A FANTASTIC WINTER CONCERT PERFORMANCE!

PBIS Students of the Month

Congratulations to our PBIS students of the month for November! These students have been selected by their teachers for demonstrating Respect for Property, All Others, Learning and Themselves. In 6th grade the selection is Gabby G., 7th grade Tessa H., and 8th grade Mia L. Keep up the great work and Congratulations!



A NEW YEAR'S BEGINNING

As everyone returns to their daily activities it's important to remember to stop and take time to be thankful for the wonderful stories we call our lives. As a new school year begins students and their families will begin to write new chapters of their continued educational journey. Some will contain bumps and scrapes, while others will rise above the storm. It is essential to never give up and remember that each person is in control of their own destiny that waits to be written. ~ Mrs. Garrett, Social Worker

Tomorrow is the first blank page of a 365-page book. Write a good one.

~ Brad Paisley



MCMS Mythbusters STEAM Night

Mark your calendars! MCMS is hosting a STEAM NIGHT (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math) on March 7th, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Come walk on water, explore the laws of physics and build a machine that accomplishes a simple task. Can't wait to see you at the 1st annual STEAM NIGHT!

From The Nurse's Office

Reminder to please keep your child home until they are fever free and no vomiting for 24 hours to help prevent the spread of illness throughout the school. Thank you for your help!

Now is the time to start getting the medical information on your child for next year. All 6th graders need to show proof of a DTap and meningitis shot, a new physical and a dental exam. All children participating in the after school sports program need to show proof of a sports physical before tryouts and practices begin.

Kindergarten Registration

Kindergarten Registration for the 2018-2019 school year will be held on Wednesday, February 6th from 10:00 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. at Locust School. Child (ren) must be 5 years old on or before September 1st. Please bring a certified copy of a birth certificate and (2) proofs of residency. It is very important for parents to come to this registration on February 7th, please DO NOT wait until July or August to enroll your kindergartener.

Snow Days

District #165 has an automated phone calling system which calls your designated number to let you know if school is cancelled for the day. You should receive a call early in the A.M. You can also check radio station 105.5, and our website: www.marengo165.org Please be sure to keep all primary numbers up-to-date as those are the numbers that are called.

School closings by texting was added last year. If you haven't already done so, you can still participate in this free service just by sending a text message of "Y" or "Yes" to our school's short code number, 67587. For those of you that have Caller ID this will be the number 844-588-8542 that shows up. Please add the number to your contacts so you recognize it. Thank you!

Spelling Bee

The Marengo Middle School Spelling Bee will take place on January 14th starting around 1:20 in the afternoon in the auditorium. Classroom Bee's will take place in language arts classes to see who will compete, before winter break.

Lost and Found

Please have your child check the lost and found in the MCMS office and the cafeteria before the winter break.

Sports Physical

Sports physicals are required before try-outs start for the sport. A sports physical is good for one year and a routine physical can also be used for sports.

Please Mark Your Calendar



- 18 – 7th Grade to Chicago Wolves
- 19 – Board of Ed at 7:00 P.M. / NO cePTA meeting
- 20 – Report Cards go home
- 21 – Early Dismissal at 11:00 A.M.
- 24-January 4th – No School – Winter Break



- 7 – **SCHOOL RESUMES**
- 7-9th – Girls Basketball try-outs 3:00-4:30 P.M.
- 10 – MCMS Girls Basketball Mandatory Parent Meeting at 5:00 P.M.
- 10 – 8th PSAT Testing makeups
- 10 – Booster Club Meeting at 6:00 P.M.
- 18 – Early Dismissal at 11:00 A.M.
- 21 – No School – Dr. Martin Luther King Day
- 23 – cePTA at 5:00 P.M. Board of Ed at 7:00 P.M.



GO WARRIORS!



- 5 – Sports/Club/Band & Choir pictures
- 6 – Kindergarten Registration at Locust 10 A.M.-6 P.M.
- 8 – 3rd Quarter mid-term
- 13 – Holiday Tea (Date changed)
- 14 – Mid-term reports go home (for academic concern)
- 14 – Early Dismissal at 1:20 P.M.
- 14 – Parent-Teacher Conferences 3:15-6:15 P.M. (for academic concerns only)
- 15 – No School – Teacher Institute Day
- 18 – No School – Presidents' Day
- 22 – 8th Grade Promotion pictures
- 23 – Harlem Wizards at MCHS
- 27 – cePTA at 5:00 / Board of Ed at 7:00 P.M.



6th Grade Boys Basketball

The 6th graders have had an amazing season so far with a record of 5-1. The team has worked very hard and improved greatly! I would like to say thank you to all the parents and supporters who came and cheered on our team throughout the season. I wish all the boys luck as they move on and I can't wait to watch them play as 7th graders. The last game of the season is at home on December 18th so be sure to come on out one last time! ~ Coach Orozco

7th Grade Boys Basketball

This year's 7th grade basketball team was a group of athletes that worked both hard in the classroom and on the basketball court. The progress these boys made as a team from day one, to the finish, was truly great and I am grateful to have had the opportunity to coach them. The season ended with a 9-2 overall record, with the boys also finishing 9-1 in conference play and qualifying for the championship bracket in the conference tournament. Thank you to the players and their support staff for a great season! ~ Coach Naranjo

8th Grade Boys Basketball

The 2018 basketball season was challenging to say the least! Through it all the young men worked hard and had several well-played games. In the final game of the Consolation Tournament the Warriors rallied from being down 10 to going ahead, before losing by 4 to Harrison. They all improved their overall basketball skills and several players should be able to help the Marengo Indians basketball program next year. Thank you for representing the MCMS basketball program this year and good luck in your future pursuits! ~ Coach Piper

MCMS Cheerleaders

We had an exciting year. If you had the opportunity to see us cheer you got to witness a dynamic group of girls chanting cheers, performing stunts, and tumbling. The MCMS Cheer team had 2 seventh graders and 9 sixth graders this season.

The girls were all excited to learn new cheers and half-time routines. Performing the routines at home games allowed the team to show their Warrior Spirit. A special thank you to our volunteer Coach Simons, for her knowledge, wisdom, & support. I also want to thank all those who supported the Cheerleaders, including parents who attended games.

Your support allowed our spirit to rise to the top and achieve victory as a squad. ~ Coach Garrett

REMINDER: VISIT THE MIDDLE SCHOOL WEBSITE ALL YEAR LONG FOR OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION. DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS UNDER QUICK LINKS.

Sports/Club/Band & Choir Pictures

Sports/Club/Band & Choir pictures will be taken on Tuesday, February 5th starting at 7:20 A.M., due to some coaches being at other schools. This will be the only time you can have your group sports/club/band & choir picture taken. We will not be having retakes.

Library News

Please remember to turn in your library books or renew them before break to prevent a book fine. During winter break will be a great time to get some additional reading in for your Six Flags reading log. The logs are due February 22nd. Have a wonderful Holiday Season!!

Seven Winter Transportation Safety Tips

With arctic temperatures gripping much of the country and blizzards and ice warning almost weekly it is important for everyone to take extra precautions to stay safe.

The safety of children on the bus depends not only on the bus driver, but others on the road as well. Here are some weather safety tips for students, parents and drivers.

Students and Parents



1. **Don't rush to catch** roads and walkways are slippery, rushing to catch the bus or driving faster to make it to your destination can have disastrous results. Children need extra time to get to the bus stop in cold, windy or snowy conditions. Encourage them to leave a few minutes early and take their time and this will reduce the number of times they fall on slick pavement.
2. **Bundle up like Randy from "A Christmas Story"** - Students need to keep warm at the bus stop, but they also must be able to see and hear what's going on around them.
3. **Put down the phone or any electronics** - Look in the direction you are walking. Take shorter, more deliberate steps.
4. **Get a grip** - Wear footwear appropriate for conditions.
5. **Just a little patience** - School bus drivers are very well trained on driving in inclement weather; however, snow and icy roads can slow down the most experienced driver. Safety is each bus driver's top priority and extra time may be needed to get from stop to stop.
6. **The last step** - The seemingly simple task of getting on and off the bus can be taken for granted. **Always use the hand rails.**
7. **Pay attention to weather alerts and school messages** - Make certain the school has your correct current phone number so you may receive any alerts or messages that are sent out to the school district. ~ Ms. Beam, Transportation Director
SAFETY IS OUR #1 PRIORITY PLEASE MAKE IT YOURS



Mission Statement: District #165's mission is to form a community partnership dedicated to providing a solid educational foundation that enables students to become confident, self-sufficient and productive citizens. Students shall have the academic and technological opportunities to achieve their full potential in a nurturing environment.