

Cub Communicator

Moscow Middle School Newsletter

Volume 1, Number 1

August, 2017

Kevin Hill, Principal

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Dear Students and Parents,

It's almost Back-to-School time. Welcome back! Summer is almost over, and we hope you've had some quality time to spend with your kids before they head back to school. We're very excited to have the opportunity to work with the best students in the northwest. The staff at MMS is second to none and they are ready for another fantastic year. We appreciate your involvement in your child's education, and we look forward to working with you in any way possible.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION -- This is our Back-to-School Newsletter. This publication and our quarterly Cub Communicators are posted on the Moscow School District Website at the following link: <http://msd281.org/mms/> Quarterly editions will also be posted on the website and sent home through our School Messenger System. Updated letters from the Principal will also be emailed to parents and placed on the MMS website. It will contain up-to-date academic and activities information. If you do not have internet access, copies will be available in the office.

MMS Beginning of the Year Academic Information (Please note the day and date change)

Students will be able to pick up their schedules on **Thursday August 24th 6th Grade 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M., 7th Grade 1:00 – 2:00 P.M., 8th Grade 2:00 – 3:00 P.M.** A detailed schedule of times will be sent to parents and posted on the MMS website at the beginning of August. After parents and students pick up schedules, they will be able to tour the building, pay fees, and fill out first day paperwork.

This is an opportunity to see where classes will be held and to locate lockers, etc. Please call the main office at 882-3577 during regular business hours with any questions.

Students can pick up their schedules beginning at 8:00 a.m. on August 29th (if you are not able to come in on the 25th) in the following locations: sixth grade in room 210, seventh grade in the Library, eighth grade in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Important Academic Dates

Thur.	Aug. 10	6:00 p.m.	Fall Sports Meeting @ MPR
Fri.	Aug. 24	All Day	Schedule Pick-up @ MPR
Tue.	Aug. 29	8:20 a.m.	2017-18 School Year begins
Mon.	Sept. 4	All Day	Labor Day – No School
Thur.	Sept. 14	6:00 p.m.	Back To School Night – Parents Only
Mon.	Sept. 18	All Day	School Photo Day

Business Transactions and Summer Hours --

Our office will re-open on **August 8**, when we will begin taking calls for individuals wishing to make appointments for student registrations that are new to the district. If your child has been attending the Moscow School District, there is no need to register. The week of **August 14** is the best time to conduct the Back-to-School business transactions in our office. Once school begins, students can conduct business before school, after school, and during their lunch period.

August 23 office hours 1:00-3:00

August 24 office Hours 7:30-4:15

August 25 MMS Office is closed – All school business will be conducted in the MPR during student schedule pick up. 6th Grade 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M., 7th Grade 1:00 – 2:00 P.M., 8th Grade 2:00 – 3:00 P.M.

Bell Schedule:

Hopefully, everyone is aware that Moscow School District will be utilizing Friday afternoons as a collaboration time for certified staff. This impacts the Moscow Middle School schedule. Our first day of school, is Tuesday August 29th, and school starts at 8:15 and ends at 3:06. We will be following a similar schedule to the past few year and the order of the days has been are A, A, B, C, D. Below is a copy of the bell schedule:

"A" Bell Schedule		"B" Bell Schedule		"C" Bell Schedule		"D" Bell Schedule	
1	8:15 - 9:06	1	8:15 - 9:22	2	8:15 - 9:22	1	8:15 - 9:22
2	9:10 - 10:01	5	9:26 - 10:33	3	9:26 - 10:33	2	9:26 - 10:33
3	10:05 - 10:56	4	10:37 - 11:44	4	10:37 - 11:44	3	10:37 - 11:44
L1	10:56 - 11:27	L1	11:44 - 12:14	L1	11:44 - 12:14	L1	11:44 - 12:14
4EC	11:00 - 11:51	HR1	11:48 - 12:14	HR1	11:48 - 12:14	HR1	11:48 - 12:14
4LC	11:31 - 12:22	HR2	12:18 - 12:44	HR2	12:18 - 12:44	HR2	12:18 - 12:44
L2	11:51 - 12:22	L2	12:14 - 12:44	L2	12:14 - 12:44	L2	12:14 - 12:44
5	12:26 - 1:17	6	12:48 - 1:55	6	12:48 - 1:55	5	12:48 - 2:15
6	1:21 - 2:12	7	1:59 - 3:06	7	1:59 - 3:06		
7	2:16 - 3:07						

L1 = First Lunch (before 4th Period Late Class on A Days)

L2 = Second Lunch (after 4th Period Early Class on A Days)

2017-18 MMS ATHLETIC PROGRAMS

Many athletic programs exist for 6th, 7th & 8th grade levels throughout the school year. Preseason meetings are announced in the daily bulletin and they will supply you with detailed information about the particular sport. All of our 6th, 7th & 8th grade sports are "no-cut". What this means is all students who come out will have an opportunity to play. Some sports will have an "A" team and a "B" team while others will all be combined. We want to make sure you take advantage of the different athletic opportunities we have available.

Parent/Coach Meeting is August 10th @ 6:00pm in the MMS Multi-Purpose Room.

<u>Fall Sports:</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
8 th Football (No Cut)	8/21/2017	10/27/17
7 th Football (No Cut)	8/22/2017	
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Volleyball (No Cut)	8/29/2017	10/27/17
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Cross Country (No Cut)	8/29/2017	10/27/17
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Cheer (No Cut)	8/29/2017	10/27/17

<u>Winter Sports:</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Boys Basketball (No Cut)	10/30/2017	12/15/17
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Girls Basketball (No Cut)	01/03/2018	03/2/18
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Wrestling (No Cut)	01/03/2018	03/09/18
6 th , 7 th & 8 th Cheer (No Cut)	10/30/2017	03/2/18

<u>Spring Sports:</u>	<u>Start Date</u>	<u>End Date</u>
7 th & 8 th Track (No Cut)	03/19/2018	05/18/18

Student Immunizations:

All students must meet the immunization requirements. If immunization requirements are not met, by state law we are not allowed to have those students in attendance. Please read the information below and call the office or your doctor if you have any questions. Please note that we need the immunization record on file in the office, not a note on a sport physical.

7th GRADE IMMUNIZATION REQUIREMENTS

Immunization Requirement by Grade	Doses of Vaccines Required
Children admitted to 7th grade must meet the following minimum immunization requirements in addition to school entry requirements:	(1) Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis (Tdap) (1) Meningococcal

7th Grade Requirement: This requirement is extended to: 7th-8th grade students in 2012, 7th-9th grade students in 2013, 7th-10th grade students in 2014, 7th-11th grade students in 2015, and 7th-12th grade students in 2016.

Middle Level Credit Policy Required by the State of Idaho and Adopted by the Moscow School District

All students in grades seven and eight will earn one middle level credit per semester for each passed course with a grade of D or above. Algebra I, Advanced Algebra, Geometry, Foreign Language, credits will count toward high school graduation as elective credits. **Students in grades seven and eight must pass 80% of their classes each year to progress to the next grade level.** In addition, if a student fails two semesters of the same course in Math, Science, Social Studies, or English, the course will need to be repeated. If a student is in jeopardy of not meeting the promotion requirements, a Panel Review will take place. The Panel will include the student's teacher team, counselor, and administrator. The Panel shall specify a Remediation Plan for school success. Students who are required to complete a Remediation Plan must submit their completed plan to the Moscow Middle School Principal at least thirty days before the start of the next school year to be considered for promotion. If a student successfully completes the Remediation Plan, he/she will be promoted. If the plan is not successfully completed, the student will be retained. We have posted a chart on the MMS website that shows the procedure that we will be using. The chart is a "pathway" that gives different examples of remediation plans that could be used for students who are not being successful.

School Attendance - One of the components that the State of Idaho addressed in its middle level credit policy is school attendance. We know that good school attendance is critical to school success, and the Moscow School District requires that students attend school on a regular basis. In fact, after six absences in a quarter, or if lack of attendance is negatively affecting the student's academic success, the building administrator is authorized by the Moscow School District Board of Trustees to refer students to Attendance Court. In addition, after four unexcused absences, the building administrator is authorized by the Board of Trustees to refer pupils to the Prosecutor's Office as habitually truant.

STUDENT NUTRITION -- Please stress the importance of good nutrition and appropriate eating habits with your teen. Eating a good breakfast and lunch is paramount in helping the student to be at their best. Snacks and/or a sack lunch from home may be equally important for after school activities as the school lunch is not designed to provide nutrition late in the day. Also, students who are not prepared, often impact others by "mooching" from their lunch or by asking for money. This problem will receive special attention at MMS again this year. Throughout the day, juice machines are available in the Cafeteria, but there are no pop or candy machines available to students at MMS. High caffeine drinks (Red Bull, Jolt, Full Throttle, etc.) are not allowed during the school day, and we may contact parents of children who have this type of drink at school.

MEAL CARD TRANSACTIONS -- All meal purchases will be handled by the kitchen staff in the cafeteria. Their hours will be the same as the office. After school starts, students will need to conduct meal transactions before school, and at lunchtime, in the cafeteria. An individual breakfast is \$1.85, a lunch costs \$2.75 and milk is \$.35. Parents are encouraged to make larger payments on their child's account in order to minimize the number of transactions and to maintain a balance. Only one (1) charge is allowed per quarter, for emergencies. Lunch balances can be viewed any time on the Internet based "**Parent Portal**". Usernames and passwords will be issued to 6th grade students during the Student Orientation on August 29th. If you are a 7th or 8th grader and already have a password, it will remain the same and the program will be functional shortly after school starts.

Traffic and Safety Revisions for 2017

- *Our main parking lot will not be used for student drop-off. Parents and visitors who enter the lot are able to park and enter the building.
- *The Moscow Middle School Main doors on the west side of the building will be locked at all times except 8:00 AM – 8:30 AM and 3:06 PM – 4:00 PM
- *All patrons, parents and students wishing to enter the building outside the times mentioned above will need to use the buzzer and camera station located on the wall to the left of our main doors. Our office staff will remotely unlock the door. All patrons, parents and students must immediately report to the office when entering.
- *The east side door by the baseball field will remain locked at all times except 7:30 AM – 8:30 AM.
- *The bus drop-off and pick-up area will be located on the north end of the field house.
- *The parent drop-off and pick-up area will be located in our lower parking lot between the main building and the tennis courts.
- *Our field house parking lot will have limited access and parking during the regular school day. This area will be used for bus staging and turn around.
- *North to south access through the MMS parking lots will be closed to through traffic during the regular school day. It will be open for special events.
- *Before school, students will congregate on the east side of the building. This is safer and conducive to the bus and parent drop-off areas.

MSD Security Upgrades

The installation of security improvements in the Moscow School District is nearing completion. The overall goal of this project is to improve the safety and security of our students and staff through improved control of access into our facilities and video monitoring of transitional areas in and around each building. These improvements include interior and exterior security cameras and electronic door access controls, and the replacement of many exterior doors.

Starting on August 29, the first day of school, this will result in changes in how students, staff, parents and other patrons access our buildings. All visitors will be required to communicate with the school office via new intercom and camera systems located at the main entrance of each school before being allowed entry. MSD staff members will be issued key cards and PINS that will allow them to enter their respective buildings. We recognize that this is a significant change from the way we currently operate, but it is necessary to stay up to date with current trends in school safety and security.

Requesting the Use of District Facilities

Non-Moscow School District groups or individuals wishing to use District facilities for meetings or other activities must now submit requests via our on-line scheduling system. The link and a brief video tutorial on how to submit requests can be found at the MSD website (msd281.org) under either the Community Interest or Operations tabs.

Sincerely,

Kevin Hill, Principal
Moscow Middle School