

Midland Newsletter



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ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

By Deanna Martens, Elementary Principal

Attendance Still Matters

This school year brings many changes for students, parents and staff members. We are watching television commercials, looking at social media posts and listening to discussions about the changes 2020 is bringing to us. We know a lot has changed; but school attendance has not changed. Students enrolled in school are required to attend (remote, paper and pencil, virtual or face to face) and complete learning assignments as they work toward demonstrating an understanding of learning standards.

With the CDC and IDPH guidelines this school year, students may be absent from school for an unusual amount of time, especially compared to previous years, for health reasons. Due to quarantining time, students may be away from school for 10 days or more. It is important is for school work to continue while students are home, unless they are ill.

Virtual learning through Apex and Edgenuity looks different than quarantining work. Middle/High school work looks different than elementary work. There are different expectations for different grade levels. Preschool remote learning looks different than a high school senior's remote learning. There are a variety of different situations happening this school year. The one constant for all students is they should be working on assignments, or school work every school day they are healthy.

With the changes presented to us this year, teachers are working hard to provide authentic learning for students. We are still waiting for a shipment of Chromebooks to arrive so all students have access to a device. Elementary students do not have devices at this time to take home, but are completing lessons and work through paper and pencil and limited technology apps when absences are necessary.

Please reach out to guidance counselors or administrators if you have questions in regards to attendance. Communication has been the key to keeping things running smoothly. I know it has been said many times already, but we ARE Midland Strong and will continue support each other!



Happy Holidays from our family at MCSD to yours!

Remote learning days Nov 23, 24, 30 and Dec 1
Thanksgiving break Nov 25-27

School dismisses for winter break on
Wednesday Dec 22 at 12PM and resumes
with a full day on Tuesday, Jan 5, 2021!



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NEWS FROM THE NEST AT WYOMING



Definitions of learners during the Covid pandemic

Traditional learner – a student who is in physical attendance in the school building and is sitting in classrooms for instruction.

Remote learner – a student who makes a semester-long commitment and is using Apex for all coursework while working from home.

Virtual learner – A student who is normally a traditional learner, but is working from home on a temporary basis due to quarantine or a school declared virtual learning event. Virtual learners are still responsible for checking email, checking into Google Classroom, attending Zoom or Google Meets when required, and completing course requirements by due dates to be considered virtually present for attendance purposes.

MM/HS Remote Learning for 2nd Semester

For families who are interested in remote learning for the second semester, please contact the middle/high school office to obtain a brief application. The middle/high school utilizes a web-based program called Apex for our remote learners. Apex offers students a self-paced personalized learning opportunity with support provided by Midland staff. Students who use Apex are not “zooming” into Midland classrooms as each Apex student is working independently.

We ask that families make a semester-long commitment to Apex or in-person learning in our building to ensure that your child receives continuity of content. If you have questions regarding the Apex program, please call Mrs. Guenther ext 1120. Signed applications for 2nd semester remote learning must be received in the high school office by Friday, December 18. All families currently using remote learning must complete an application for the 2nd semester.

SEMESTER 1 REMEDIATION DAYS

Students in the Wyoming center will have Remediation Days for the end of the semester on Monday, Dec 21 and Tuesday Dec 22 until noon. Students will bring home a letter on Friday, Dec. 18 showing if they need to attend school or not. Students receiving a purple letter are required to attend to work with their teacher one on one until they pass all academic standards in all classes. If they complete that task, they are allowed to sign out to go home if they have a ride.

If questions, please contact us at 488-2292.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

Wondering how you can help your child be career and college ready? Sign up for twice-monthly emails with relevant information and conversation starters through Student Planning Pointers for Parents or SP3.org. These emails will start going out in January.

Schedule changes – all high school students have received their second semester schedule. Students must review their schedule and make an appointment with the school counselor to get any changes made. Once we return from break, schedules will only be changed the first day of classes, January 5. We strongly encourage them to get any changes made during December so they are not missing class time when we return in January.

Seniors: There is a resource you can use to compare the cost of different colleges once you receive your award letter. Go to Tuitionfit.org and set up an account. You upload your award letter and it is free! If you have questions about this, please feel free to contact me.

FAFSA – All students heading to college next year should have their FAFSA form filed or be finishing it soon. The opportunity for scholarships is enhanced when this is completed early.

Scholarships

Winter Break is a GREAT time to get a leg up!

- Work on your resume!
- Search the internet for scholarship opportunities!
- Gather letters of recommendation from those who know you.
- Save copies of all scholarship applications and essays you submit. Often you can recycle those with small changes for the next scholarship opportunity.
- Research school websites looking for their scholarship opportunities.

Juniors: This spring you should be setting up college visits. Start looking into places you might be interested in going to now, for when you graduate.

Kirkwood Classes - Sophomores and juniors who might be interested in taking any Kirkwood class for the 2020-2021 school year, NOW is the time to apply and begin the process. This is for students new to Kirkwood classes only. Some courses require placement testing before we can enroll you. Testing must be done before February 1st! Students can apply at www.kirkwood.edu/hscreditapply. After this is complete, be sure to activate your k number and password from the welcome email. Call Craig or Lisa if you have any questions. 319.465.2302.

Underclassmen make good use of your time to looking up careers and possible schools. Find ways to get job experience and volunteer hours (both look good on applications & scholarships). It is NEVER too early to start preparing for your future!



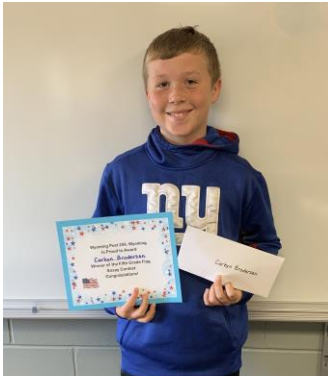
Eaglet's Elementary View



2020 Flag Essay Winners!



Wyoming Post 259, Wyoming is Proud to Award:



Corbyn Brodersen

1st Place



Milee Streets

2nd Place



Aspen Rushford

Honorable Mention



Avery Edwards

Honorable Mention

Not pictured: Josie Petersen – 3rd Place

2020 Theisen's More For Your Community – Award Recipient

Midland CSD has been awarded a \$1,000.00 grant to help support our Elementary snack fund this year. Midland was 1 of more than 381 applicants! BIG Thanks to Mrs. Martens for completing this!



SNACK TIME



REMINDER!

The USDA has extended the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) until the end of 2020-2021 school year. Students may receive up to 2 FREE school meals each day - 1 FREE breakfast and 1 FREE lunch. (Ala carte items can still be purchased at full price)



This program is for ALL children ages 1 – 18 living in the Midland district.

Please contact Erika Tubbs with any questions @ etubbs@midland.k12.ia.us or 563-488-2292 ext. 3270

FFA NEWS

The Midland FFA is proud to announce that we sold over \$17,000 in fruit, cheese, and meat. We sell fruit as a fundraiser for the chapter. The funds go towards participating in competitions, conventions, etc. Through these opportunities, our members develop skills in leadership and career development which will aid them in their futures. Our top three sellers were Hope Saroka, Reece Vacek, and Alli Paulsen. The chapter ordered extra fruit for anybody who hasn't purchased anything. All fruit not sold will be donated to local food pantries. Fruit will come in December 7th or 9th, more information is to come.

THANK YOU FARMERS

Midland FFA understands the time and commitment that farmers and those engaged in agriculture make to provide a safe, affordable, and healthy food source for people in our communities and around the world. We wanted to take some time and get out to our producers to say Thank You. With a goal of making and delivering 100 meals for farmers during the 2020 harvest, members were able to do just that. Midland FFA members appreciate the time and energy that goes into providing for the world and hope that the meal provided a little energy to keep pushing through to get harvest done in this difficult year.



WE CARE PACKAGES

Midland FFA is continuing our tradition of giving back this holiday season with our We Care Packages. This year we are expanding this by adding We Care Packages for not only youth, but also adults. In the youth packages, we include various items such as books, toys, and clothing. In the adult packages, there will be hygiene products, clothing, and various other items. We Care Packages are made by members, and will be donated to local food pantries. We are looking for donations from community members, we appreciate any contributions that you may be able to provide!



WREATHES

With the holiday season fast approaching, it's time to get a start on decorating. The Midland FFA Chapter members are selling wreaths. The wreaths are handmade by our members, especially for you. The funds from the wreaths go towards purchasing jackets for our Greenhand members. This allows them to complete their Official Dress. The Official Dress is worn at competitions and conventions. See a member today to purchase a wreath!



DECEMBER FOOD DRIVE

The Midland FFA is going to have a food drive running from December 2nd to December 16th. The food will be donated to food pantries in our district. The high school and middle school seminars with the highest amount of goods collected, will win a pizza party. All donations are greatly appreciated.



MMHS VIRTUAL LEARNING GUIDELINES

Our goal is for our students to continue working while in quarantine so they do not fall behind in all their course work. Below are expectations and guidelines for our students and their families. Please note that **students who fall behind during a quarantine will be required to attend Eagle Lab and/or Study Tables until we have them caught up.** Our semester is quickly coming to an end which will limit the time frame we have to catch students up on missing standards. Thank you so much for your support during this pandemic.

Student Responsibilities

- Check your email daily and log into your Google Classrooms
- Commit to and engage in online learning (your education!)
 - Grades 6 – 8: Minimum of 15 min per class per day
Minimum of 90 min of learning per day
 - Grades 9 –12: Minimum of 20 min per class per day
Minimum of 120 min of learning per day
- All practice & activities must be completed and submitted on Google Classroom (evidence of your attendance) unless specifically labeled as optional by your classroom teacher.
- Complete assignments and assessments in a timely fashion.
- Contribute to discussion topics & add feedback.
- Reach out to staff with questions and concerns.
- Communicate honestly and frequently with staff.
- Be flexible and respectful with staff who are working through this new territory.
- During quarantine or virtual learning, students that do not complete their work during this time must stay for Eagle Lab and/or Study Tables until all work is all caught up.
- Students who are currently receiving interventions for reading or math, will be required to sign in to Google meet during their scheduled intervention time with Mrs. Wright.
- Google Calendar invites with the Google Meet link will be sent to ALL intervention students.

Family Responsibilities

- Check in with your students daily and review completed work with students.
- Check your email for correspondence from teachers.
- Establish routines with your students
 - * Sleep
 - * Chores
 - * Diet
 - * Exercise
 - * Learning time
 - Grades 6 – 8: Minimum of 15 min per class per day
Minimum of 90 min of learning per day
 - Grades 9 –12: Minimum of 20 min per class per day
Minimum of 120 min of learning per day
- Communicate frequently with teachers regarding questions or concerns.
- Build life skills with your children
 - * Meal prep
 - * Home repairs
 - * Budgeting
 - * Laundry
 - * Grocery shopping
 - * Cleaning
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PATS BLOOD DRIVE



**Tuesday, December 29
in Black Gym, Wyoming
3-6:45 PM**

To make appointments
call Elisha Hansen at
319-480-4929



ALL DISTRICT FOOTBALL AWARDS

Congrats to our football players named to All District Teams:
1st – Caden Miller & Iziek Soper, 2nd - Carson Hunter, Zain Sauer, Kaden Ballou, Honorable Mention - Kole Michaud & Connor Martin



ALL CONFERENCE VOLLEYBALL TEAM

Congratulations to Ella Rupp who was named to the 2nd team all TriRivers Conference Volleyball Team! Congrats to Ari Hacke who was Honorable Mention. Also to Ella who broke the school digs record this season with 321!