

Every student learning, growing ... succeeding.

November/December 2017
Volume 147

(262) 971-1820; www.muskegonorway.org
Check out Infinite Campus for daily school announcements.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Please know that other events will continue to be added, but here are the dates we know of:

October 30: End of first quarter
November 6: LDMS hosts the School Board Meeting
November 16: Elegant Farmer Fundraiser pickup – 3:15 – 6:00 p.m.
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November 22-24: **No School** – Thanksgiving Break
December 1: Teen Center – Grades 5, 6, and 7
December 5: Administer Reading STAR assessment
December 6: Band Concert – Grades 7 and 8 at MHS PAC
December 7: Administer Math STAR assessment
December 19: Band Concert – Grade 6 at LDMS
December 25 – January 1: **No School** – Winter break
January 2: School Resumes



LDMS FUNDRAISER PRODUCT PICK-UP – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16

- Product pick-up for our **all school fundraiser** will be on **November 16** from **3:15 - 6:00 p.m.** in the **LDMS commons**. Please make sure that arrangements are made to pick up your student's order at that time. We do not have refrigeration available to hold any perishable items (i.e. cookie dough) past that date.

This year, LDMS students total sales were approximately \$14,000.00. A significant percentage of this money gets returned to our school to offset the cost of student activities, field trips, Recognition Days, etc. Remember that you can still help us raise funds by shopping online at gaschoolstore.com and entering our school ID code: 2545655.

- **Elegant Farmer PTO Fundraiser** pick-up will be on **November 16** from **3:15 – 6:00 p.m.** in the LDMS Commons. Please note that this date of pick-up has changed from the original flyer.

Thank you to all LDMS students and parents for another successful fundraiser!

SCREEN TIME: From the desk of your School Psychologist

When balancing homework, dinner, jobs, extracurricular activities, and other family needs, we as parents are often more forgiving in how much time we allow our children to have "Screen Time." Children are spending up to seven hours each day on their tablets, smart phones, video games, TVs, movies, and internet. While screen time can be a fun learning experience, regulating the negative social media messages, such as inappropriate sexual content, tobacco/drug/alcohol use, violence, and bullying, is difficult. Screen time also affects children's sustained attention skills, motivation, sleep, health, mood, academic achievement, risky behavior, and relationship skills. Parents often ask--how much time should I allow my children to have screen time AND how do I help regulate it in my home? The American Academy of Pediatrics suggests the following:

- Limit screen time to **one to two hours** per day.
- Follow the **recommended rating systems** for shows, movies, and games to avoid inappropriate content.
- Have available **non-electronic options**: books, newspapers, magazines, art supplies, and board games.
- Make **"screen-free" zones** at home by making sure there are no TVs, computers, or video games in children's bedrooms; Parents and children alike should turn TV and other screens off during dinner; and turn off smart phones and tablets with messaging capabilities by a certain time every night.
- Create a strategy for monitoring your student's online social media use, and be sure you follow through. Some families may check once a week and others more sporadically. The older your kids are, the more often you may need to check.

"Dr. R"

LDMS HOSTS SCHOOL BOARD MEETING – MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

On **Monday, November 6** we will host the school board meeting at LDMS. Parent participation is welcomed! At 6:30 p.m., we will have a light meal with the school board members. At 7:00 p.m., the School Board meeting begins in our library, which will include a short presentation about our work, goals, and accomplishments at LDMS. Please e-mail Linda O'Bryan, Principal, if you would like to participate in the conversation and enjoy a light meal with School Board members. **Please RSVP by Monday, October 30.**

WRESTLING



Wrestling for grades 6 thru 8 starts on Monday, November 6, at 3:05 p.m. in the gym. There are no cuts – we keep any and all. A physical card from this year or an alternate year card from this year must be on file prior to try outs. Information is available in Student Services or if you have any questions please contact Mr. Rosenberg at john.rosenberg@muskegonorway.org.

BOYS' BASKETBALL



Eighth grade boys' basketball tryouts are Monday, November 6, from 3:05 – 4:30 p.m. **Seventh grade boys' basketball tryouts are Thursday, November 9, from 3:05 – 4:30 p.m.** Sign-up sheet is on Mr. Nagy's window. A physical card from this year or an alternate year card from this year must be on file prior to try outs. In other words, you must have turned in a yellow or salmon colored card to the Student Services Office this year to try out. **If you do not have a card turned in this year, you will not be able to try out.**

ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS THAT HAVE APPLIED FOR THE MUSICAL

A link to your audition packets was e-mailed to you shortly after you applied. All of the information you need to prepare is in those packets. Make sure you have gone to the choir room and figured out what your audition number and date is so you can inform parents! Auditions take place **November 13 and 14** after school in the choir room – Room 300! Good luck everyone. We are looking forward to hearing and seeing your auditions.



BAND CONCERT



The band concert for **grades 7 and 8** will be held on **Wednesday, December 6, 2017, at 7:00 p.m.** at the Muskego High School PAC. Students need to be there by 6:30 p.m.

The band concert for **grade 6** will be held on **Tuesday, December 19, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.** at Lake Denoon Middle School. Students need to be there by 6:30 p.m.

Concert dress – The concert dress has changed to ALL BLACK this year. Black pants/shoes/socks, and a black dress shirt. Pop of color is allowed, with a colorful tie for the guys / accessory for the ladies.

REPORT CARDS

An e-mail will be sent out to families when the report card grades are available for viewing. First quarter grades are not final until you receive the e-mail.

HOMework REQUESTS



Please request homework for your child when you call in his/her absence. Requests will then be listed on the staff announcements. **Homework will be provided for students if they are absent 2 or more days.** If there is homework for your child, it can be picked up in the Main Office between 3:00 and 3:10 p.m. From 3:10 - 5:00 p.m., homework is available on a cart located outside the Main Office.

PLANNED ABSENCES

If a student has a planned absence, a Planned Absence Form must be obtained from the Student Services window or downloaded from the LDMS website. Homework arrangements should be made with the student's teacher(s) prior to the absence.

Once the Planned Absence Form is complete, please have your student return it to the Student Services Office.

OPEN GYM – SATURDAY MORNINGS



Are you looking for your child to be active on a Saturday morning? Drop them off at open gym held at Lake Denoon on Saturday mornings from 8:00 – 11:00 a.m. Open gym is for boys and girls in grades 5-8 and their families! It is a great time to get the family out and play some basketball, practice other sports skills, dodgeball, or just jog. Students have access to the locker room and their phy ed clothes but not to their homeroom, lockers, or any other areas of the school. Please use the Park and Rec entrance at the back of the school to enter/leave the gym. All participants will be required to bring two canned goods or non-perishable food item (or more) to benefit our local food pantry.

Any questions regarding this program may be directed to Mr. Schaewe at (262) 971-1820, ext. 7117, or e-mail james.schaewe@muskegonorway.org.

SAFETY FEATURES AND PARENTAL CONTROLS ON DIGITAL DEVICES

Many digital devices offer safety features and parental controls. To find out if your child's devices offer such features and to learn how to use them, [click here](#) to visit the appropriate site.



MATH CORNER

From Mrs. Quirk, Mathematics Coach

The UW-Madison Math Talent Search contest has started for this school year. Each month, 5 math problems are released, and students are encouraged to participate and expand their thinking. The questions are challenging, but do not require advanced mathematical knowledge – just hard work and creativity. Students would work through one problem or all 5, and submit their answers to be graded. The information is shared during daily announcements each month, and copies of the forms are available in the school hallways. Top participants are invited to Madison for an Honors Day in spring and to participate in an exam for the Van Vleck scholarship to UW-Madison. We hope to have another finalist, as we did a few years back. You may find additional information on their website: <https://www.math.wisc.edu/talent/>

CAREER EXPLORATIONS

During the month of October, 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students have taken part in utilizing a program called Career Cruising. The Career Cruising program has various assessment tools to help your child identify his or her career interests, skills, abilities, and learning styles. The Career Cruising program stores career profiles with up-to-date information about hundreds of different occupations, including direct links between careers and related post-high school preparation and continuing education options. Students are able to access multimedia interviews with real people in each occupation, which adds depth and realism to career profiles. Students are able to also access 'MY PLAN' which is an online portfolio where your child can develop and reflect on his or her academic, personal, career exploration activities, and research plans for their future. Students in 6th and 7th grade completed the career interest inventory called the 'Matchmaker'. This assessment asked students questions about their interests and then provided a list of 40 careers that shared several primary and secondary aspects most closely matching the students' interests. 8th grade students completed the 'Matchmaker' assessment as well as a 'Learning Styles' inventory. The Learning Styles inventory asked questions of students and then provided them with a pie graph indicating what percentage they were as Auditory, Visual and/or Tactile learners. The graph displayed percentages of these various learning styles that individual students identified as most effective for their learning.

Please ask your students to show you their career assessment information. Students will continue to access this program each school year through high school to explore career information and review post high school career/ continuing education/college options. The Career Cruising Link is <https://public.careercruising.com/en/> Student logins are: MSND-800# password: 800# and can be accessed from home or school.

CHRISTMAS CLEARING COUNCIL

The Christmas Clearing Council of Waukesha County promotes and coordinates giving to families in need during the Christmas season. Won't you please consider helping us in our mission to make the season brighter for children in need throughout our community? You can select your level of involvement by choosing to: sponsor a family, donate new toys or money, organize community service projects or volunteer.

To apply for assistance for your family, please visit the Christmas Clearing Council's website:
<http://www.christmasclearingcouncil.org/>

DRESSING APPROPRIATELY FOR THE WEATHER – www.weather.com



Please send your child to school with the necessary winter clothing. Warm coats, gloves, mittens, scarves, boots, and hats are all essential in order to enjoy a warm and dry recess in winter. Labeling your child's clothing will aid in recovering lost articles. **Only students who wear boots, gloves, and snow pants are allowed to play in the snow.** We utilize weather.com to determine if the weather "feels like" 0 degrees or colder. When it is 0 degrees or colder, please note that students will remain inside the building for recess. For any day above 0 degrees, students will be going outside and need to come to lunch dressed accordingly.

WEATHER AND EMERGENCY CLOSING

When schools close, it is important to avoid jamming school phone lines. Instead of calling the school, **please check local television or radio stations that will announce/list school delays or closings.**



Regular attendance is important to success in school and we expect that when school is in session, students are engaged in learning. However, because we live in Wisconsin and our winter weather is unpredictable, the Muskego-Norway School District has established the following guidelines for decisions related to inclement weather. Please refer to these guidelines when you have questions about possible school closings.

- Our first priority is to ensure student and staff safety. We consider information from the National Weather Service, local road conditions (police department), transportation services (bus company), other Waukesha County school districts, and reports from our buildings and grounds department to make a decision about school closures.
- Decisions regarding extreme cold or snow are based on the National Weather Service's (NOAA) WARNING level. For extreme cold weather, the WARNING level is a sustained minus 35 degrees wind chill or lower with winds at least 4 mph for 3 hours or more. While exceptions are possible, you should plan on school being open if the forecast does not reach the WARNING level. Cancellations for snow are based on the amount and timing of the snowfall, as well as compounding factors such as wind or ice layers.
- Decisions to close school are made as soon as practicable, typically no later than 5:00 a.m. and sometimes as early as 4:15 a.m. Area superintendents remain in close contact as soon as we hear a prediction of inclement weather, often having conversations the day before and again before 4:00 a.m. While we try to keep decisions consistent across the region, each of us must weigh the many factors unique to our district. Therefore, there may be times what another district is open and we are closed, or vice versa.
- Sometimes the weather will surprise us after school is already in session. We will generally not close once school is in session due to transportation and/or supervision concerns.
- Provided we have a current telephone number on file, families will receive a phone call if school is cancelled. You can also find information on our district website, through local media or by following us on Twitter.
- If your child lacks warm clothing, please contact your child's school for information about social service agencies.
- As parents/guardians, you know your child's circumstances best. Therefore, we respect your decision to not send your child to school when weather conditions are questionable. However, please understand that if school is in session and you decide to keep your child home, your child is missing instruction and will be required to make up any missing work.

School closing decisions are not easy. Your child's education is important and we want to provide learning opportunities on as many days as possible. Almost always, some people will agree with the decision, and some will not. Please know that we use our best judgment with the information we have available at the time.



PTO UPDATE



A special thank you!

- To the parents who donated money to the PTO through Genius School Supply purchases.
- Jackie Liebel, Cherice Thomka, and the parents who donated food and supplies for the August Welcome Back Teacher/Staff breakfast. We heard that it was much appreciated!
- Lindsay Mantey for volunteering to lead the LDMS spirit wear sales.
- Nikki Ackerman for volunteering to help with PTO writing and editing.
- Kristin Gordon for volunteering to help with PTO stationary and branding (thank you notes, business cards, letter head, etc.)

Recent PTO successes:

- Proactive planning for Book Fair and Spaghetti dinner.

Active projects:

- Incorporating and obtaining 501©(3) status for LDMS PTO.
- Identifying the projects and funding needed to meet our mission of supporting students and teachers.
- Identifying future PTO Board positions.
- Volunteering coordination based on your survey results.
- Save your box tops! We'll have a collection contest at the beginning of next year.

Needed:

- PTO secretary is needed for the next school year.
- Box Top class room coordinator co-lead.

A reminder of our guiding mission: Encourage a team atmosphere amongst parents, teachers, and administration by lending our energy, talent, resources, and time to improve the quality of education and Lake Denoon Middle school environment. PTO meeting notes, actions, decisions made and financials are available for viewing at: <http://www.muskegonorway.org/schools/lakedenoon/parents/ldmspto.cfm>

Your 2017-2018 PTO Board

Courtney Korselt - Co-President
Connie Peplinski - Co-President
Ava Casey - Co-Treasurer
Cassandra Hoefke - Co-Treasurer
Jackie Liebel - Secretary
Linda O'Bryan - Principal
John McEwing - Asst Principal
Lori Rooney - Teacher Rep for PTO

2017-2018 PTO Meetings (alternating 3:30 and 5:30 start time)

Tuesday, October 24 @ 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, January 9 @ 3:30 p.m.
Tuesday, March 13 @ 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, May 8 @ 3:30 p.m.

Email us at lakedenoonpto@gmail.com with questions or suggestions!

Thanks again for your support! We look forward to seeing you at a PTO event soon!





GUIDELINES FOR KEEPING SICK CHILDREN HOME

Many families have questions about the decision to keep children home from school when they are ill. Please use the following as guidelines in determining whether to send your child to school. The following information is not intended to take the place of your pediatrician's advice, but to provide guidelines to be followed until your doctor can be contacted for his/her opinion.

Symptom	How long to stay home	Causes	Considerations
Fever greater than 100 degrees (by mouth)	24 hours without use of medication	Many different cause	Push fluids to prevent dehydration
Common Cold	No set time but a sick child should rest at home	Virus	See below
Influenza	No set time but a sick child should rest at home	Virus	See below
Strep Throat	24 hours after start of antibiotics	Bacteria	Need lab confirmation
Gastroenteritis (vomiting, diarrhea)	48 hours after last episode of vomiting/diarrhea	Many different viruses - often Rotovirus and Norovirus	Push fluids to prevent dehydration
Rash	See doctor to determine if infectious before returning to school	Many different causes	Often first sign of many common childhood communicable diseases

Is it a Cold or the Flu?

The common cold and the flu are usually both caused by viruses. The symptoms of the common cold and the flu are very similar. It is often a matter of severity. Both will often start with a sore throat, then progress to a runny nose, cough, and congestion. The flu tends to have more severe symptoms. Fever can be present for both but the flu often has a higher fever. The flu may also have muscle aches, headache, fatigue. Some flu viruses also bring on vomiting and diarrhea. The flu often comes on quickly where a cold may come on over days. A cold will last for about a week, depending on the virus the flu may last for days or weeks. Even though they are both caused by a virus, a secondary bacterial infection may occur. Always see your doctor for a persistent fever, productive cough, and if symptoms are not improving in a few days.

When your child is ill, be sure to provide plenty of rest and fluids. Teach them to use tissues and dispose of them immediately. **HANDWASHING** is the single most important method of preventing the spread illness. Be sure both healthy and ill family members get into the habit of washing hands with soap and water several times a day, especially after using the bathroom and before eating. Remind children to keep their hands away from their face as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Tracy Staudacher
Muskego Norway District School Nurse