



A note from Mrs. Noel Petrosky

St. Marys Area School District
St. Marys Area Middle School Principal

(814) 781-2148  @MSDutchpride2

Snow day make-up days will be April 18, April 22, and April 23

DATE CHANGE For Family Fun Night: Our seventh grade class is sponsoring this event on Friday, March 29th. Come spend a night of fun with your family. Activities include: a movie, games, snacks, and a photo booth. Doors open at 6:00 PM and it lasts until 9:00 PM. A family donation will be taken at the door. There will be snacks available in the cafeteria.

Open Swim: The pool is open! Students are invited to attend open swim at the high school from 7-9 PM. The cost is \$2.00 for adults and \$1.00 for students. The pool will be available on the following dates:

March 21	March 26	March 28	April 2
April 4	April 9	April 11	

PSSA Testing: I have attached some more information for parents concerning the PSSA testing. The assessments and make-up test will be completed in a two-week time frame. At our school we have scheduled the assessments. They will occur in the morning from 7:45-10:15 on the following dates:

English Language Arts Assessment: April 15-16-17
Math: April 29 & 30
Science: May 1 & 2
Make-ups: May 3

End of the Marking Period: It is hard to believe but the end of Q3 is March 27th. Report cards will be coming home April 3rd. This is a good time to review the grades your child has earned up to this point in the quarter. I encourage you to contact their teachers if you have concerns.

Bus Evacuation Drills: Every fall and spring we need to practice evacuating the busses in case of an emergency. On March 21, we will be doing this in the morning. Please be cautious if you drive your child to school as our busses will be stopped along the curb. Students will be in and out of the busses, and their safety is a priority.

News from the Nurse: Substance use and abuse is a health issue that affects many teens. Although rates of substance use vary around the world, and the preferred substances of abuse vary as well, addiction, dependence and injury due to intoxication affect youth in nearly every country. It has been well documented that the earlier substance use starts, the bigger is the risk of it leading to substance use disorder. This is why it is absolutely critical to address exposure to substances including illicit drugs, prescription drug abuse, alcohol use and abuse, tobacco and nicotine use. (Penn State PRO Wellness, 2019)

Please take the time to view this short video and access the easy to read information at <https://easyread.drugabuse.gov/>

You will find specific information on many of the commonly abused substances that may put your child or a child you know at risk for a life altering struggle with drug addiction. Please take the time to view the following to video that details common misconceptions about drug use and the risks our children are facing as teens and adolescents.

<https://youtu.be/6fmhLcYSn-Y>

