



# MMS Bullpup Express Newsletter



Brandon Simmelink, Principal  
Inge Esping, Assistant Principal  
Phone 241-9450 Fax: 241-9456

McPherson Middle School  
700 E. Elizabeth  
McPherson, KS 67460

March, 2019



## MMS EVENTS

Friday  
March 1 **NO SCHOOL**  
Pioneer League Instrumental Festival 9:00am

Monday  
March 4 Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30 to 8:00pm  
Computer Science Club 3:15pm

Tuesday  
March 5 Shrove Tuesday  
Parent/Teacher Conferences 3:30 to 8:00pm  
Math Relays @ Newton-Chisholm 3:30pm  
PTO Meeting 5:30pm

Wednesday  
March 6 Ash Wednesday  
Computer Science Club 3:15pm

Thursday  
March 7 **NO SCHOOL**

Friday  
March 8 **NO SCHOOL**

Sunday  
March 10  Daylight Savings Time Begins

Monday  
March 11 **NO SCHOOL—SPRING BREAK**  
BOE Meeting @ Central Office 7:00pm

Tuesday  
March 12 **NO SCHOOL—SPRING BREAK**

Wednesday  
March 13 **NO SCHOOL—SPRING BREAK**

Thursday  
March 14 **NO SCHOOL—SPRING BREAK**

Friday  
March 15 **NO SCHOOL—SPRING BREAK**



Sunday  
March 17


Monday  
March 18 Computer Science Club 3:15pm

Tuesday  
March 19 Science State Assessments—8<sup>th</sup> grade

Wednesday  
March 20 Science State Assessments—8<sup>th</sup> grade  
Computer Science Club 3:15pm

Thursday  
March 21

Friday  
March 22

Monday  
March 25 Spring Sports Pictures   
Computer Science Club 3:15pm  
BOE Meeting @ Central Office 7:00pm

Tuesday  
March 26 8<sup>th</sup> grade Field Trip to Topeka TBA  
Capitol Building & History Museum

Wednesday  
March 27 State Assessments--ELA  
Computer Science Club 3:15pm

Thursday  
March 28 Track @ Great Bend 2:00pm  
Boys Tennis @ Newton 3:30pm

Friday  
March 29 State Assessments--ELA  
ELO Trip to McPherson Museum 12:30-3:00pm

8th graders and their parents will be having their Individual Plan of Study meetings in March. Please call the Counseling Office (620-241-9470) or email Kathy Walline ([kathy.walline@mcpherson.com](mailto:kathy.walline@mcpherson.com)) to schedule an appointment.



March is National Nutrition Month and good nutrition is key to good health! Please encourage your student to make healthy choices. Food is the body's fuel, and at this age they need a lot of fuel!

You are also always welcome to call me at 620-241-9450 or email me at: [tami.malm@mcpherson.com](mailto:tami.malm@mcpherson.com)



### READING ROCKS

READING ROCKS! The McPherson Middle School Scholastic Book Fair is a reading event that brings the books kids want to read right into our school. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Please make plans to visit our Book Fair and be involved in shaping your child's reading habits. Our Book Fair goal is set for \$1500 this spring. Please plan to stop by the Book Fair, located in the McPherson Middle School library, when you come to conferences on March 4 or 5. Students can also make purchases during school hours. Thank you in advance for supporting your student and literacy!

**McPherson Middle School Book Fair Dates:**  
**Tuesday, February 26 thru Wednesday,**  
**March 5**

**Shopping Hours:**  
**Tuesday, February 26 thru Friday, March 1:**  
**School Hours Only 8:00-3:15**  
**Monday, March 4 & Tuesday, March 5:**  
**School Hours + 4:00-8:00 p.m.**



### MHS CHEER TRYOUTS

Tryout clinics and tryouts will take place Tuesday, **March 19, 2019 thru Friday, March 22, 2019.** There will be an information meeting for cheerleader applicants and their parents/guardians on **Monday, March 18, 2019 at 6:30 p.m.** The meeting will be held in the little theater at McPherson High School.

Tryout application packets are available in the MMS Office. It is highly recommended that both the cheer applicant and parents/guardians read the contents of the packet very carefully. Being selected as a Bullpup Cheerleader is an honor and a privilege. Responsibility to the school, squad and its members will be highest priority.

Feel free to contact [michelle.keazer@mcpherson.com](mailto:michelle.keazer@mcpherson.com) if you have any questions or concerns. Be sure and bring the completed application form, contract form and grade check form to the informational meeting on **Wednesday, March 6, 2019.** If unable to attend the informational meeting, please drop off completed tryout forms to the front office of MHS before Thursday, March 7, 2019. **NO Applications will be accepted after 3:30 p.m. on that day—NO EXCEPTIONS.**



Computer Science Club is back! They will meet Mondays and Wednesdays afterschool from 3:15 to 4:15 in Mrs. Colgrove's classroom (#309). Any 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grader interested is welcome to join. See Mrs. Colgrove for more information.



State Assessments, ELA and Math will be taken by students in grades 6-8 and Science will be for students in 8th grade only. Tentatively, Science will be on **March 19** and **March 20**, ELA is on **March 27** and **March 29**, and Math will be on **April 1** and **April 2**. This should allow time to get kids tested that are absent or missed sections of tests. Every test we take in life is important; we need to encourage our students to always do their very best on every test.

## FANTASY AR

Fantasy AR is back up and running for Second Semester 2019. This began January 3<sup>rd</sup> and will continue until May.

Students will read a book and take the AR test for that book; resulting in points for your team. A team is your student's Pack. We will have 37 teams across 4 divisions competing. Contributors on winning teams and individual high-point earners will be invited to a **BIG** event in May.

Get to reading and earning points for your AR Team.



Have questions about the MMS Redesign and what it means for your student? Go to the link provided and it will give you a good look at what is happening at MMS.

<https://sites.google.com/mcpherson.com/mmsredesign/home>



Mark your calendars parents and 8th graders!!!! 8th grade Field Trip to Topeka is scheduled for Tuesday, March 26th leaving at 7:15 A.M. More information will be coming home with your student as the day approaches.



## Through the Eyes of an Eighth Grader (Compliments of Mrs. Vernon's ELA class)

### Nathan Morton

When I have free time, I like to go to Inman to the bike track. I enjoy riding my dirt bike there, I think it is very peaceful. I try doing tricks on my bike, and I try not fall. I enjoy going fast and jumping high. I think the highest I have ever jumped was five feet, that is almost as tall as I am. Going fast feels great. I hope that I can keep enjoying it for a long time.

### Conner McVicker

Mr. DA Mcvick would like to talk about my favorite month March. Just kidding, I do track. I throw shot and disc. I like it because One: i get to get out of school and. on the league meet I don't even come to school. But i do have to get up at 5:00 am. I go to practice everyday to get better, but on mondays Throwers have a hard workout. The worst one is when we have to do fifty burpees. The **burpee**, or squat thrust, is a full body exercise used in strength training and as an aerobic exercise. The basic movement is performed in four steps and known as a "four-count **burpee**": Begin in a standing position. ... Immediately return your feet into squat position.

### Joshua Wehrman

Jazz Band, jazz band is fun because we get to play complicated/hard music. I like Jazz Band over normal Band because Jazz Band is the last hour of the day, and because we are able to have fun and do funny thing if we are waiting to play. Also the music in Band isn't really fun because it's not complicated and I would rather play music that's her then essay because I like a challenge when I play music than playing it once and already knowing the entire song by heart. Another reason is that in Jazz Band we all know each other because it's not a big band unlike normal band. That's why I think Jazz Band is better than normal band.

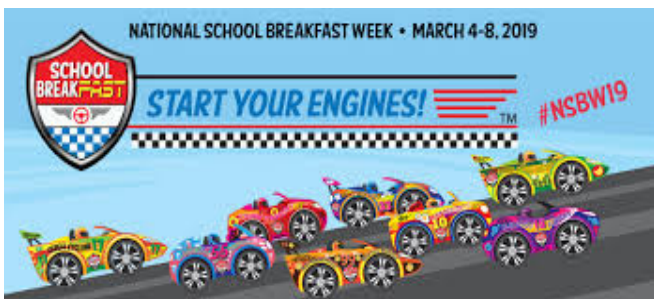


Food 4 Kids is a Kid-Friendly School-based Program— because the most essential school supply is food. Food 4 Kids was established for students who are food insecure and who are not getting sufficient food outside of school on a regular basis. The Food Bank provides food and supplies to Food 4 Kids schools in Kansas, which are operated in partnership with community schools. The Food 4 Kids program allows participating schools to receive food and backpacks from the Kansas Food Bank at no cost so that we can provide food to chronically hungry children.

**FOOD 4 KIDS FOODBAGS CONTAIN:** Different foods designed to provide nutrition and calories for chronically hungry school children on weekends. Kid friendly foods that require no preparation. Kids can just “open and eat”.

**FOR EXAMPLE:** Peanut Butter (12-ounce jar) and a sleeve of crackers— Beans and franks (pop-top can)— Beef Jerky (1 ounce)— Cereal (1-ounce bowl or box)— Fruit cups (peaches, applesauce, etc.)— Raisins (snack-size boxes)— Pudding cups— Juice boxes (apple, orange, or other juice)— Milk (aseptic pack boxes that do not require refrigeration)— Cereal bars or granola bars

**Please see your school counselor to sign up for Food 4 Kids at your school!! At MMS, please call Kim Krase or Jeff Allmon at 620-241-9470.**



**JOIN YOUR FRIENDS FOR BREAKFAST**

BREAKFAST IS A GREAT WAY TO BEGIN EACH DAY.  
BREAKFAST IS AVAILABLE 20 MINUTES BEFORE THE START OF THE SCHOOL DAY.

BREAKFAST IS FREE TO STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR FREE MEALS. BREAKFAST IS \$.30 TO STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY FOR REDUCED MEALS

BREAKFAST IS \$1.80 FOR ALL K - 12 STUDENTS  
THERE ARE SEVERAL OPTIONS ON THE MENU ITEMS DAILY  
BREAKFAST IS 7:50 TO 8:10 A.M. EACH MORNING

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE CALL BILL FROESE AT 620-241-9490.**



Community Service hours for 6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders are 5 hours per year.

Some community service ideas for students could be:

- \*yard work for an elderly neighbor
- \*volunteering for different activities: at church, church dinners, bible school volunteer, etc.
- \*helping out at a daycare babysitting
- \*volunteering at the Humane Society or other agencies
- \*picking up trash in the afternoon

Students will need to have some sort of adult supervision to vouch for their hours. This can be their parent if their parents participate in their community service or are their witness.

Otherwise, they will enter their supervisor’s name, such as a pastor, someone they volunteered to babysit for, their neighbor, etc. Also, summer hours prior to the school year until May will count.



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

April	1	State Assessment—Math	
April	2	State Assessment—Math	
		Boys Tennis vs Lakewood	3:30pm
		PTO Meeting	5:30pm
April	3	Early Dismissal	12:30pm
April	4	Boys Tennis @ Lakewood Inv.	10:00am
		Track & Field @ Newton	3:30pm
April	8	BOE Meeting @ Central Office	7:00pm
April	10	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade to WSU	TBA
April	11	Track & Field @ McPherson Inv.	1:30pm
April	12	Class Competition/Spirit Assembly	TBA
		PTO Dance	6:30 to 8:30pm
April	14	Palm Sunday	
April	15	Tax Day	
		Boys Tennis @ Valley Center Inv.	9:00am
April	18	Maundy Thursday	
		Boys Tennis vs Hutchinson	3:30pm
		Track & Field @ Goddard	3:30pm
April	19	Good Friday— <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	
April	21	Easter Sunday	
April	22	Easter Monday— <b>NO SCHOOL</b>	
		BOE Meeting @ Central Office	7:00pm
April	23	Track & Field @ Circle Part. Meet	3:30pm
April	24	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Walking Field Trip	TBA
		Red Team—a.m.	
		White Team—p.m.	
April	25	Track & Field @ Hays	10:00am
		Boys Tennis @ Salina South	3:30pm
April	29	Track & Field @ Goddard Eisen.	3:30pm
April	30	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Vocal Concert	6:30pm