

MARS AREA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

February 2019

School Closings

When school is cancelled, all buildings are closed to students and after school events. When referring to the local television and radio stations, please continue to check for updates regarding delays and closings. Our schools may start out as a two-hour delay, but change to an official closing if the weather continues to worsen throughout the morning. If you have any questions regarding a two-hour delay or a school closing, please contact the MAE Office at 724-625-3161.



2 Hour Delay

Two-Hour Delays

No child may enter the school before our delayed starting times! A two-hour delay means buses will pick up children two hours later than usual and parent drop-offs will be 2-hours later than usual. Our official entry time into the building is 10:35 a.m. on a two-hour delay schedule.

Student Drop Off

Please be reminded that no students are to be in the Mars Area Elementary School Building prior to 8:35. Please do not drop off your student prior to the 8:35 time. Thank You! If you are dropping off your child, they need to be in the building by 9:00 AM.

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It's Cold Out There!!

The MAE Staff would like to recommend that the Mars Area Elementary School Students continue to dress warmly and appropriately during the winter months. We are asking all our families and students to be aware of the weather and the dangers if our students are not dressed appropriately.

Please make sure that students are dressing in a manner that will keep them warm and help prevent them from being sick through the winter months! Thank you for your attention to this matter! Stay warm!



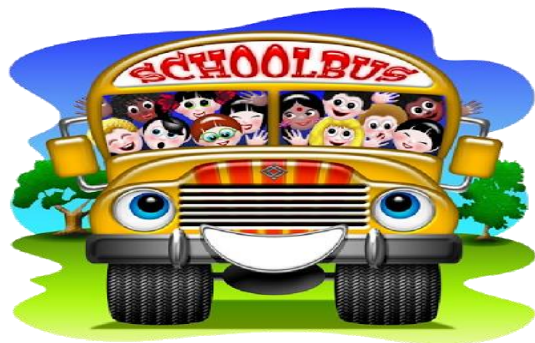
Parent Pick-Up Reminder



Please be reminded that if you are going to pick up your child during the day or at dismissal, you will need to write a note to your child's teacher letting them know. If the pick-up will be during the instructional day, please let the teacher know what time you will be arriving to pick-up your child. No children will be dismissed from the MAE office between 3:00-3:20 PM.

Important Bus Information

Students are not permitted to ride home on buses that they are not assigned to ride. Emergency exceptions will be permitted and will be determined by Mr. Lape. If a permission is granted, that student will receive a bus slip to ride the bus. All bus drivers are aware and will enforce this requirement.



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Spring Party

On Wednesday, February 13, students at the Mars Area Elementary School will be participating in PTO sponsored Spring Parties for all grades at MAE from 2-3 PM. The students are permitted to bring in Valentine's Day Cards for **ALL** students in their classroom. Students are **NOT** permitted to bring in any other type of treat either edible or non-edible. Any item other than a Valentine's Day Card will not be distributed and sent home with the student.

Volunteers

The Mars Area Elementary School is a very busy place, and we can always use an extra set of hands! Volunteers serving in all District Schools must comply with Mars Area School District Policy 916, which clearly defines roles and requirements for parent/guardians and community members interested in volunteering in our schools. Policy 916 establishes the following three categories for volunteers:

1. Assistive Volunteers
2. Independent Volunteers
3. Volunteer Coaches/Sponsors

To view the definitions of each type of volunteer and the requirements to serve as a volunteer, please consult the MAE Parent Handbook.



Parent-Teacher Conferences

Parent-Teacher conferences are scheduled for Monday, March 25, 2019. You should have received information from your child's teacher to schedule a conference. If you did not receive any information regarding conferences, please contact your child's teacher.

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Late to School



There have been an increasing amount of students that are arriving late to school on a daily basis. Please be aware that if a student arrives after 9:00 AM, they are considered tardy. If the student is tardy an inordinate number of times without a note from a doctor, truancy procedures will need to begin. Please be sure your children arrive at MAE prior to the 9:00 AM start time.

Bus Lane Closed

Please be aware that the bus drop-off and pick-up area in front of MAE is closed from 8:00-9:00 AM and 3:00-4:00 PM daily.

Also, parents should not be parking in that area to drop-off or pick-up students throughout the day. Please use the parking

lot if you need to drop-off or pick-up your students during the school day. You will need to park in the lot and walk your children into the building.



Important Dates

February 13 – MAE PTO Valentine's Day Parties

February 18 – No School (Act 80 Day)

March 25 – Parent Teacher Conferences

End of School Year Update

With the recent snow days, the last day for students is currently scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 2019. Any additional cancellations would extend the last student day further into June.

