

# MANHATTAN JR. HIGH NEWSLETTER

RONALD PACHECO - PRINCIPAL

[www.manhattan114.org](http://www.manhattan114.org)

October 31, 2014

## **SCHOOL CLOSING INFORMATION:**

Call your child's school phone number (Manhattan Jr. High – 815-478-6090), or the district phone number (815-478-6093). Then, press 5 to hear updated information about school closings.

Parents have other options to receive information on whether our school will follow PLAN A: School is closed or PLAN B: School will begin one hour later than usual. These options are as follows:

1. Listen to WJOL Radio (1340 AM), WGN Radio (720 AM), WBBM Radio (780 AM), CBS Channel 2, NBC Channel 5, ABC Channel 7, WGN Channel 9, Fox Channel 32 and CLTV Cable.
2. By touch-tone phone call 312-222-SNOW. You will be prompted to enter our main phone number 815-478-4527.
3. Access the website [www.emergencyclosings.com](http://www.emergencyclosings.com). Once connected, search for Wilson Creek School for information. Parents can sign-up to receive an e-mail notification through this website.

**EARLY DISMISSAL:** If it becomes necessary to close school during the day, an announcement will be made on WJOL (1340 AM) radio. Our school will attempt to contact Wilson Creek, Anna McDonald, and requested Manhattan Junior High parents, only in the event of an early dismissal. Make sure your child has proper instructions as what to do!

## **NOTE FROM THE VILLAGE**

Trick or Treat hours within the village limits are 3:00pm to 7:00pm on October 31, 2014.

## **PARENTS**

If you **haven't** sent in your email address or it has changed please send me an email with your changes to: [gjohnston@manhattan114.org](mailto:gjohnston@manhattan114.org) so we can send you the newsletters, and other important information.

## **PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES**

Parent/Teacher conferences are on November 24, 2 - 9 PM and November 25, 8 - 1 PM. There will be no school on these days. If you need to set-up an appointment, please call 478-6090.

## **HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

There will be **NO SCHOOL** on Wednesday, November 26, Thursday, November 27 or Friday, November 28. On behalf of all faculty and staff, we wish you and your family a Happy Thanksgiving!

## **2014-15 BOYS BASKETBALL TEAMS**

Congratulations to the members of this year's Manhattan Junior High School 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade boy's basketball team.

**6<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball team:** Grant Balis, Raymond Becker, Cam Brady, Payton Branch, Kaleb Delaney, Luke Denny, Guy Fitzer, Aidan Fitzpatrick, Logan Frank, Ben Guzek, Zach Lomalie, Dominick Martinez, Orlando Martinez, Drew Murphy, Joe Ott, Ryan Rodgers, Dean Ruble Colin Sparks, Cam Sparks, TF Slazyk. Managers: Karson Bainbridge, Tom Corbett, Anthony Markowski, Anthony Zombrano.

**7<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball team:** Collin Black, Brody Ceh, Damian Chowanec, Josh Davis, Jeremy Koerner, Ryan McCoy, Logan Oliver, Jake Paymaster, Dylan Schimmel, Ryan Towner, Ching Wilson.

**8<sup>th</sup> grade boys basketball team:** Dylan Adair, Martin Bender, Travis Bernhard, Steven Brink, Dom Dal Polo, Christopher Dargan, Kaiden Lingle, Jace McWilliams, Ben Pluskota, Jeremy Roseen, Tyler Rushing, Drew Summers.

## **VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY**

On November 11, 2014, Manhattan Junior High School will be hosting its annual Veterans Day program. All veterans are invited to attend the program that morning. Beginning at 7:30 A.M. coffee and doughnuts will be served followed by an assembly in the gym. MJHS's outstanding choir and band will be performing for the veterans.

We look forward to seeing local veterans as well as all students' family members who served our country.

### **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM**

Thanks to everyone for participating in our Box Top Competition. The winning homeroom was Mrs. Smith homeroom class who collected a total of 795 Box Tops. 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to Ms. Tooley's/Mr. Minuth's homeroom class, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place was Mrs. Hallihan's homeroom class. Total box tops collected from everyone is 5566, great job everyone. Mrs. Smith's homeroom will receive a pizza party and special prizes for the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place homerooms. Please keep sending in your Box Tops or save them for the Spring competition we will be having starting in January.

Thank you for your support.

### **BAND NEWS**

Band members who sold Little Caesar Pizza Kits are reminded to pick up their orders between 2:30-4:30pm on Thursday, November 6 in the Band Room. The Band Boosters will not be responsible for any items not picked up on time.

Good luck to the 3 Band Students who will be representing Manhattan Jr. High at the Illinois Music Educators Association Honor Band Festival on Saturday, November 8 at Lockport HS:

Calvin Horsley, trumpet; Elizabeth Kaminski, trumpet; Emily Wisinski, bassoon.

Congratulations to all these students for auditioning and being accepted into this prestigious organization!!

The Fifth Grade Band will be having their second concert of the year on Thursday, November 13 at 7:00pm in the JH gymnasium.

Please contact Mrs. Pedziwater with any questions at [cpedziwater@manhattan114.org](mailto:cpedziwater@manhattan114.org).

### **ORCHESTRA/CHOIR NEWS**

Our only fundraiser of the year is coming: Lottery Tickets. Each family is asked to sell numbers that coordinate with the Illinois Lottery. Winning numbers receive cash prizes of \$25.00 Monday- Saturday and \$100 on a Sunday. Good luck! Checks will be mailed out to the winners.

November 6th is MOCB Booster Meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the O/C room

November 8th is the Illinois Music Educator Association Festival in Lockport. Congratulations to Claire Lunde, Lizzy Pryn, Sebastian Tous and Ilya Jucius on being selected for this prestigious ensemble!

November 20 - there will not be orchestra or Madrigal rehearsal due to the 3rd grade music revue.

### **STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES**

**RED RIBBON WEEK:** Besides daily dress up days with each day representing a positive anti-drug message, giving students the opportunity to send positive messages and suckers (Don't Be a Sucker for Drugs) to others, having the opportunity to buy and wear leis ("Lei" off drugs); and holding a slogan contest where students could enter their own original anti-drug slogan (winners of the slogan contest were: Chris Husa (8<sup>th</sup> grade); Collin Black (7<sup>th</sup> grade) and Makenzie Schussler (6<sup>th</sup> grade) students hopefully had a chance to learn new information about alcohol and drug abuse from the dozens of posters that filled our school's hallways. Thanks Student Council for all of your hard work the week of October 20<sup>th</sup>.

**TEAM ASSET OF THE MONTH:** The team asset for the month of November is Restraint. This asset focuses on the value of resistance to high-risk behavior such as alcohol/drug use and sexual activity. When teens feel pulled or pressured to engage in high-risk behavior, the value of restraint gives them strength to avoid the temptation. Parents can teach their teens this important asset by the engaging in the following steps: 1) Parents need to continually both model and monitor healthy habits. Teens who are raised in an environment where healthy lifestyles are important are less likely to engage in early sexual experiences or use alcohol and other drugs; 2) Know the facts. For example, parents often think that their teens are not engaged in alcohol/drug use when in fact they often are. One surprising statistic from a recent study indicated that 21% of parents thought their teens might have used marijuana, when actually 44% of their teens said they have. Give your teens accurate, appropriate information. Don't assume they'll learn everything they need to know in school and from their friends. Give them information a piece at a time and be prepared to answer questions.

## **PARENT RESOURCES:**

### **Erin's Law Presentation for Parents:**

On Monday, November 24th, from 5:15 pm-6 p.m. at Wilson Creek, prevention educators from Guardian Angel Community Services will offer parents an orientation to the new Child Sex Abuse Awareness and Prevention program that will be presented to District 114 students after winter break.

Erin's Law is a new Illinois mandate that requires this instructional component for students in Pre-Kindergarten through Grade 8. Permission slips for students to attend the "in-school" presentation will be forthcoming after winter break.

### **Free Breakfast:**

Grace Fellowship Church (located at 11049 LaPorte Road – one block east of Berkots/Wolf Road) will be hosting a free breakfast on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup> from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM where individuals and families who are hungry are invited to come and receive a delicious, hot, nutritious meal. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Rick, Pastor Bob, or Sue at 708-479-0300.

### **Joliet Area Community Hospice:**

Help for the Holiday for Adults, Teens, and Children - a special two-session grief program will be held at the Joliet Area Community Hospice (250 Waterstone Circle in Joliet) on Thursday November 6<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, November 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 – 8:00 PM. This program will provide helpful information and support as the holidays approach. This program is intended for ages 5 and up with separate groups for children, teens, and adults. For more information contact Mary Ann Burns, Bereavement Coordinator, at 815-460-3282 or [mburns@joliethospice.org](mailto:mburns@joliethospice.org)

## **DIGITAL CORNER:**

We covered Apple's Spotlight Search, an app that parents need to watch out for in a previous newsletter. This month our focus will be on anonymous question sites such as Ask.fm, Spillit, and Spring.me (formerly Formspring). There are many others but these are very popular. These sites let teens create a profile page where they can field questions from other users who can remain anonymous. Cyber bullying is common on these sites, as anonymity can encourage teens to be bolder –and crueler- than they would be otherwise.

What to do: Ask parents discourage your teens from using question sites. If that fails, encourage them to block anonymous questioners if possible and use the strictest privacy settings the sites allow.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES FOR FAMILIES IN NEED**

On Saturday, November 8th from 9 AM to Noon at Bolingbrook High School, 365 Raider Way, in Bolingbrook, school staff and community workers will be on site to assist families with the following services: Financial Counseling; Food, Hair Cuts, and Hygiene Products; Employment; Housing, Medical/Dental/Vision/Mental Health Services and Educational Services. Bring identification, Social Security Cards, Medical Cards, and income verification to help simplify applying for services through participating organizations. For more information or to register, contact Ron O'Connor at 815-740-4787.

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

### **November**

- 3 6GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Spencer 4pm
- 4 GBB vs. Wilmington 4:30pm
- 5 BBB @ Home vs. Bourbonnias 4:30pm
- 6 GBB @ Home vs. Troy 4pm
- 6GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Orenic 4pm
- 8 BBB @ Joliet West Conf.
- 10 BBB @ Homer 4pm
- 6BB @ Hadley 4pm
- GBB @ Home vs. Homer 4pm
- 6GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Hadley 4pm
- 11 Veteran's Day Assembly 8:15am
- 12 BBB @ Home vs. Kelvin Grove 4pm
- 17 GBB @ Home vs. Mokena 4pm
- 6GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Mokena 4pm
- BBB @ Mokena 4pm
- 6BBB @ Mokena 4pm

**IMPORTANT DATES con't.**

**November**

- 18 GBB @ Home vs. Summit Hill 4pm  
6GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Hilda Walker 4pm  
BBB @ Summit Hill 4pm  
6BBB @ Hilda Walker 4pm
- 19 GBB @ Hickory Creek 4pm  
6GBB @ Hickory Creek 4pm  
BBB @ Home vs. Hickory Creek 4pm  
6BB @ Anna McDonald vs. Hickory Creek 4pm
- 20-23 Washington DC Trip
- 21 Progress Reports  
6GBB Conference
- 22 7GBB Regional
- 24-25 Parent/Teacher Conference
- 26-28 No School