

MANHATTAN JR. HIGH NEWSLETTER
RON PACHECO – PRINCIPAL
October, 2014

WEBSITE

Please use our website: www.manhattan114.org to obtain important information about school operation. You can find lunch menus, activity calendars, and directions to sporting events.

PARENTS

If you have changed your email address, or not supplied us with one, please email Glenna Johnston: gjohnston@manhattan114.org

SUBSTITUTE NURSES NEEDED!!!

If you know anyone who is a nurse and is interested to sub at any of the schools, please direct them to contact the business office, located at Wilson Creek School. (815) 478-4527

STUDENT ABSENCES AND OFFICE HOURS

All parents/guardians are required to contact the school in order to report a child absent. You may call anytime (24 hour availability) at (815) 478-6090. Absent reports will ONLY be accepted by parent/legal guardian. Please supply your name, child's name, and the reason for absence. Failure to report a child's absence will result in an unexcused absence. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday - Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Friday. If your student is absent more than two (2) consecutive days, you may request homework.

NO CLASSES

There are no classes scheduled Monday, October 13 in observance of Columbus Day.

END OF THE 1ST QUARTER

October 24 marks the end of the first grading period. Report Cards will be ready October 31.

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Guardians will be receiving notification for conferences before October 24, if a teacher requests a conference. Please contact us immediately to set-up a conference. If you do not receive a letter by Oct 25, staff members have not requested a conference. If you do not receive notification, but would still like a conference, please call 478-6090 before November 7, and we will make the necessary arrangements.

MESSAGE FROM THE NURSE

All 6th graders are required to have a current school physical on file with the Nurse. If you have not done this, please do so immediately. Any 6th grader without a completed physical signed by a licensed practitioner, by October 15, 2014, will be excluded from school. Please call the Nurse at 815-531-3207 with any questions.

Vision/Hearing Screenings will be conducted during the month of October. Also a Tdap Booster is required for all students in grades 6 through 12. Proof must be presented in order to attend classes for the 2014-15 school year. Current 5th grade students should receive this booster during their required 6th grade physical.

SCHOOL MEDICATION POLICY

Just a reminder to parents/guardians: Manhattan School District 114 policy states that any medication prescribed by a licensed physician requires the physician's written order, signed by the physician as well as the parent/guardian. Any over-the-counter (OTC) medication such as Tylenol, Advil, cough drops/syrups also require an authorization. All required forms are available in the nurse's office. All meds must be brought in by a parent/guardian and must come in original container labeled with student's name.

DENTAL EXAMS

All Illinois children in kindergarten, second, and sixth grades are required to have an oral health examination. A licensed dentist must complete these dental exams and he/she must sign the examination form. Each child shall present proof of the dental examination by May 15, 2015. The examination must have been completed within 18 months prior to the May 15th deadline. The dental examination forms are available in the nurse's office. The state has also provided "Waiver" forms for families who may have difficulty obtaining a dental examination at this time.

HEROES HELPS FUNDRAISER

Heroes West Sports Grill in Joliet is hosting a fundraiser for the Manhattan Athletic Boosters. Ten percent of all proceeds from patrons on **Monday, October 13** will be given directly back to the Athletic Boosters. Your support of this event is greatly appreciated!

Date: Monday, October 13, 2014

Place: Heroes West Sports Grill – 1530 Commerce Ln, Joliet

Time: From open – close / dine in or carry out

You must mention Manhattan Athletic Boosters or Run for Palesh to your server, who will then ask you to fill out a form. Manhattan Athletic Boosters = our organization.

GIRLS BASKETBALL TEAM

6th gr. Team: Chloe Erwin, Tristan Lucas, Faith Mikos, Lucy Newtoff, Danyelle Pantoja, Lydia Sears, Sophia Sestak, Madison Stahulak, Rachel Anhalt, Elyse Black, Lizzee Bettenhausen, Larissa Eick, Olivia Froling, Bella Gira, Macenna Kamrowski, and Rylee Tomasik.

7th gr. Team: Alysa Aleo, Madilyn Bernhard, Emily Doyle, Haley Fitzer, Abby Jenkins, Hailey Kara, Lia Krohe, Kirsten Leitshuh, Sydnie Lenz, Rylee Lynch, Jessie Marshall, and Grace Pearse.

8th gr. Team: Julianne Hobson, Alondra Chavez, Sara Ott, Mary O'Brien, Theresa Beck, Kalie Korpitz, Lindsay Wilson, Erica Estrada, and Madeline Davis. Manager – Emily Stigler.

CHEERLEADING SQUAD FOR 2014-15

The cheerleaders for 2014-15 school year are: Alyssa Abrecht, Sophia Balis, Brooke Bergeron, Marisa Crawford, Abby Daletski, Zoe Dauer, Abby Dudeck, Ashley Hein, Alyssa Kemp, Corinne Roemer, Kelsie Skaggs, Sydney Szeman, Emily Trull.

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 student's family members who served our country.

MJHS BOOK CLUB

The 2014-2015 MJHS Book Club will be forming this month. Students interested in joining can come to the library for a permission slip. Permission slips are due by October 14th, the first meeting will be October 21st. Book Club meets once a month in the library during homeroom. If you have questions about Book Club please contact Mrs. Zmigrodski at mzmigrodski@manhattan114.org.

ONE BOOK, ONE MANHATTAN

A group of MJHS students spent the summer working on a project called One Book, One Manhattan. Five books were chosen from the Rebecca Caudill Book nominees. The students met over the summer to review these books and vote on their favorite title. The students will be revealing the winning title on October 10th as well as handing out copies of the book in the school and around the community. There will be raffle drawings and prizes for Jr. High kids who read the book leading up to a Book Club for the entire community. Look for our "winning book" around town and be on the look out for details about our Community Book Club this winter!

LIBRARY NEWS

MJHS Book Fair is October 14 – 17, 2014.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION PROGRAM

Please go to www.boxtops4education.com and register for our school. It is free!! We also ask that you save box tops, and send them to Manhattan Jr. High - please check the **expiration dates** on the box top. If they are dated 10/30/14 or earlier, we cannot use them. This is a great way during these tough economic times to additional revenue for our school. Once you are registered, we can also earn money from on-line orders. Many stores have teamed up with Box Tops for Education to give a percent of the purchase back to the school. The only way for our school to receive this additional benefit is to shop through the web site. For example: If I were going to purchase shoes from Famous Footwear, I would go to www.boxtops4education.com. Under the EARN tab Click "Shop Marketplace" find Famous Footwear and click "shop and earn." Famous Footwear will give Manhattan Junior High 7%. This is a great way to help your school while you get your Christmas shopping done. If you go to <http://www.boxtops4education.com/coupons> you can get coupons for box tops products. We are very excited and hope you will help us to exceed our goal of \$1,439, last year. Total since we started in 2011 is \$4,441.98.

BAND NEWS

Good luck to the following band students who will be auditioning for the IMEA Honor's Band on Saturday, October 4:
Danielle Litman, clarinet; Elizabeth Kaminski, trumpet; Calvin Horsely, trumpet; Abigail Zombek, flute; Emily Wisinski, bassoon.
Good luck to Emily Wisinski, alto sax, who will be auditioning for the IMEA on Jazz Band on Saturday, October 4 as well.

The band will be having their MANDATORY Fall Fundraiser from October 13-27. We will be selling Little Caesar Pizza. All band students' grades 6-8 are required to sell 10 items or do a buyout of \$50.00. 5th grade band students are required to sell 5 items or do a buyout of \$25.00. Please contact Mrs. Pedziwater for more details.

The 6-8 grade Marching Band will be performing with the LWC Marching Knights and Martino JH at the Sounds of the Stadium on Monday, October 27 at LWCHS. More details will follow as the date gets closer.

Please feel free to contact Mrs. Pedziwater with any questions: cpedziwater@manhattan114.org.

ORCHESTRA & CHOIR NEWS

The IMEA auditions will take place at Homewood at James Hart JH. Please have your child arrive at the school 30 minutes prior to their audition time! Good luck, auditionees, and GO DEMONS!!!

October 6th The Demon Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra, Jr. Demon Orchestra, Demon Choir, and Lady Demon Choir will be taking their professional photographs.

October 7th The Madrigals and the Beginner Orchestra will be taking their professional photo, The Fall "Sing and String" concert will take place on October 23rd. Everyone is invited to come out and listen to the incredible music of our junior high orchestras and junior high choirs. 7:00 p.m. at MJHS.

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS

Manhattan Jr. High is proud to announce the following students who will serve as Student Council members this school year: 8th graders: Sean Ash (President); Claire Lunde; Rhiannon Seaborg; Adriana Zuniga; 7th graders: Chris Augustine; Collin Black; Brody Ceh; Griffin Vaughn; 6th graders: Alex Ciabattari; Ellie Davis; Aidan Fitzpatrick; and Louie Martinez. We are looking forward to a fun and productive year.

Student Council will be gearing up for Red Ribbon Week which we will celebrate the week of October 20th – October 24th. Students will have the opportunity to participate in Dress-up Days; a "Don't be a Sucker for Drugs" fundraiser; a slogan contest with prizes and more!

CRAFT CLUB

Students interested in making crafts are invited to join the school's Craft Club. This free club meets once a month during homeroom to do crafts for the senior citizens who attend the Over 55 Luncheon group at the Manhattan Park District. Twice a year, in November and May, we do crafts together at our school. Permission slips (available outside the Main Office) are to be turned in no later than Friday, October 10th.

PARENT RESOURCES

This month Lincoln-Way District's #210's asset of the month is the value of **Integrity**. As parents we play a pivotal role in ensuring that our children grow up with strong values and positive behaviors. What steps can we take in their formative years to teach our children the value of integrity? Consider the following:

- 1) Take your child's integrity seriously. Be attentive to your child's behavior and relentless in teaching your child the importance of honor, trust, and honesty. Instill in them that is crucial to do what is right for the right reasons, not for attention, accolades, or rewards, but simply because it is the right thing to do.
- 2) Discuss your own values and establish ground rules. Don't be value-neutral. Tell your children that it is very important to you that they possess integrity. State unequivocally that no matter the pressure, no matter the temptation, that you think that being dishonest is wrong. Tell them that you expect them to have the strength of character to be honest no matter what is going on around them. Discuss with them the consequences on their reputation, relationships, and their future job opportunities if they are caught being dishonest. Determine and clearly state what consequences they can expect if you learned that they were being dishonest. Make sure that the consequences are something they really don't want to happen.
- 3) Continually reinforce the value of integrity. Look for teachable moments (from news stories, TV shows, and movies) to highlight, discuss, and comment on situations revealing the presence or absence of integrity.
- 4) Lead by example. How would you rate your own level of integrity? Remember our children are watching us.

DIGITAL CORNER: Digital Drama

Today drama is not limited to inside the school walls. Digital drama plays out in texts, on social media, and on popular teen websites. From forums that let teens pose hurtful questions to self-destructing messaging apps, new technologies enable novel ways to get attention, provoke, and try out online personas – and they go viral fast.

Each month our newsletter will bring you an example of an igniter that as parents we should be aware. This month we will focus on Apple's Spotlight Search.

Apple's Spotlight Search is an iOS super-sleuth that unearths any name on your phone from people you texted to those simply mentioned in a text. It can cause a lot of problems if the phone gets into the wrong hands. Teens use Spotlight to incriminate the device's owner by searching for persons of interest (such as exes, crushes, or themselves) to find out what was said about them. As parents require your teen to password protect their device or simply disable this app yourself.

DIGITAL CORNER: OF INTEREST TO PARENTS

Forty five minutes of daily screen time is the maximum a child can handle before his or her educational, emotional, and social development are affected according to a new "superstudy" that polled 50,000 parents from over 4,600 American cities over a 3 year period. According to this study spelled out in the new book "The Learning Habit: A Groundbreaking Approach to Homework and Parenting that Helps Our Children Succeed in School and Life" (Perigree), students who spend 45 minutes per day consuming media- computer, phone, tablet, or television, can maintain an A average. After 45 minutes however, grades slowly but steadily declined. After 3 hours of use, grades rapidly declined. After 4 hours, the likelihood of academic success was virtually zero. Knowing that many of our kids spend between 6 and 8 hours per day of screentime it is no surprise that our kids can't read a book longer than 10 minutes or focus on a challenging math problem or make sense of a few paragraphs in a history book. As parents we need to set firm guidelines upfront in our homes about how much screentime we will permit. The more guidelines families have in place, the less complaining, negotiating, hiding, and nagging there will be. Kids know when we are serious about something that aligns with our values and goals.

IMPORTANT DATES BELOW

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- Oct. 1 GBB @ Home vs. K. G.
6th GBB @ Peotone 4:30pm
- 2 BVB @ Martino 4pm
- 3 Open Gym 2:30 – 4pm
- 6 GBB @ Peotone 4:30pm
Open Gym 4 – 5:30pm
- 7 7th BVB @ Homer
GBB @ Martino 4pm
6th GBB @ Bentley 4pm
CC Conference Meet @ Home 4:15pm
- 8 8th BVB @Homer
- 9 BVB @ Homer
GBB @ Home vs. Liberty
6th GBB @ Anna McDonald vs. Nelson Ridge 4pm
- 11 CC Sectionals
- 13 NO SCHOOL – Columbus Day
- 14 GBB @ Homer 4pm
6th GBB @ Hadley 4pm
Open Gym 2:30 – 4pm
- 15 Open Gym 2:30 – 4pm
- 16 GBB @ Troy 4pm
6th GBB @ Orenic 4pm
Open Gym 2:30 – 4pm
- 18 CC State
- 20 BBB Try-outs 2:30 – 4:30
GBB @ Mokena 4pm
6th GBB @ Mokena 4pm
- 23 GBB @ Summit Hill 4pm
6th GBB @ Hilda Walker 4pm
Sin g& String Fall Concert 6-8th gr. 7pm @ MJHS
- 24 End of 1st Qt.
- 27 Band at Sounds of Stadium @ LWC
- 28 GBB @ Home vs. Hickory Creek 4pm
6th GBB @ Anna McDonald 4pm
- 30 EARLY RELEASE – NOON
GBB @ LWN 4pm
6th GBB @ Oakview 4pm
Halloween Dance @ MJHS 6:30 – 9pm
- 31 NO SCHOOL – TEACHER'S INSTITUTE
Report Cards will be ready