



February 26, 2016

RON PACHECO- PRINCIPAL
www.manhattan114.org

MAKE YOUR LUNCH PAYMENTS ONLINE

Pay for your children's lunch and registration fees online with a credit card through Homelogic. You may continue to pay for lunches with cash or check by sending it to school in an envelope with your student information on it. Lunch payments made online with a credit card must be a minimum of \$10.00.

If you should have any questions about your balance, please feel free to call.

STUDENT ABSENCES

Please be sure to leave a message in the main office before 8:00 a.m. if your child will be absent. Our voicemail system is on continuously enabling parents to call the school at **anytime** to leave a message.

REGISTRATION FOR THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR

Manhattan School District 114 will be Online Registration for the 2016-2017 school year. Registration for current and new families will be done at home through your personal computer. We have learned that sometimes Internet Explorer does not always work for registration, as it is not as up to date as it should be. If you encounter this problem, please try registering through Firefox or Google Chrome. This process will result in substantial savings in paper and printing costs for our district and make the registration procedure much more convenient for our families. Online registration will open February 1, 2016. Please watch your email for further information.

SUBSTITUTE AIDES NEEDED

We are in need of substitute nurses and teacher aides. If you or someone you know would like to substitute please have them contact me at: gjohnston@manhattan114.org

REMINDER FROM THE NURSE'S OFFICE

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, 2016. 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. These forms are available in the nurse's office and are completely confidential.

Please contact the nurse's office if you are unable to obtain the required dental examination at this time, so we can discuss the steps that will need to be taken to assure your child's compliance with the state's regulations regarding dental exams.

TEXAS ROADHOUSE FUNDRAISER

We will be selling Texas Roadhouse frozen rolls and Honey Cinnamon butter. The fundraiser runs from February 23rd - March 8th, when all orders and money is due. The orders will be placed in the main office. The rolls are frozen with a voucher attached for free appetizer. Pick will be at the Jr. High. Make checks payable to: MJHS

Here is a snapshot of the fundraiser:

- Start selling Feb. 23
- Mid-point turn in Morning of March 1st (Great prizes awarded)
- Order Due: March 8th
- Order pick-up: March 16, 17 or 18th (Date and time of pick up will be sent to you)
- Student prizes for the 4 top sellers.

Top seller in the school-\$150-\$200 Dinner for 6 at Texas Roadhouse.

2nd top seller-2 movie tickets and concession money

3rd top sellers-1- \$25 Target gift cards

4th top sellers 1- \$25 Target gift cards

We have not participated in a school wide fundraiser in a long time, our goal is 100% participation. If every student sells just one dozen rolls Dr. Pacheco will get taped to a wall with duck tape.

The proceeds from this will go towards helping to off-set the cost of our various field trips. As always, thank you for your support and participation.

SPRINGFIELD TRIP

7th Grade Springfield Trip is scheduled for Wednesday, April 27, 2016. The students will be traveling by coach bus to visit several Springfield sites. These include the Abraham Lincoln Museum, Lincoln's home, Lincoln's tomb, the Old State Capitol building, and the current State Capitol. The students will leave school at 6:00 a.m. and return at approximately 8:30 p.m.

Students need to bring a lunch but dinner is provided in the cost of the trip.

MATHLETES

Please wish the 7th and 8th grade Mathletes good luck at their first competition. We have been working hard at practices the last couple of months! It takes place on Monday, March 14, (Pi Day) at Lincoln-Way West. We are hoping to have news of awards to share in the next newsletter!

7th grade Mathletes: Luke Denny, Nick Dudeck, Nathan Fields, Aidan Fitzpatrick, Levi Gentry, Zach Lomalie, Zach Lunde, Robert Macie, Louie Martinez, and Max Shepherd.

8th grade Mathletes: Dylan Bothwell, Gregory Briseno, Brady Forsythe, Sydnie Lenz, Jessie Marshall, Grace Pearse, Rory Stencel, Ryan Towner, Griffin Vaughn, Ethan Whiting.

ART NEWS

Square 1 Art Time is here! We will receive order forms and stickers during the first week of March and they will have to be back into us by March 18. Orders can be made on line also.

This sale is for for 6th and 7th grade art students during the 1st and 2nd trimester at the JH. Third trimester Art students will bring home their packets in April. 7th grade Spanish students do not participate in Square 1 Art.

6th grade artists will have their beautiful radial symmetry designs of their name on their order form and stickers.

7th grade artists will have their cut paper self portraits...which are Amazing!

ArtWorks will be taking place at LWE in Frankfort on March 19 from 10-3. Everyone is invited to come and take part in free workshops and see artwork from all of the the LW high schools, LW area Junior Highs including many from our own MJHS and elementary schools

ORCHESTRA/CHOIR

The Demon Orchestra will be performing on Tuesday, March 8th at Lincoln-Way, at 7:00 p.m.

The Demon Choir, Madrigals and Lady Demons Choir will have their first competition of the year for IGSMMA at Jerling JH, in Orland, on Saturday, March 12 Times are coming.

The Demon Orchestra will be competing in the their first competition for IGSMMA also at Jerling JH, on Saturday, March 19th. Times are coming.

Thank you to all who purchased flowers for the Valentine's Carnation sale.

BAND

Fri. March 4: If you sold Little Caesar Pizzas, please pick up your orders between 2:30-4:00pm in the band room. We cannot guarantee the quality of your order if it is not picked up on time.

Tues. March 15: 8th grade band students audition at LWWHS. Times should be received soon.

Thurs. March 17: IGSMMA Pep Rally Concert for Concert and Symphonic Band at 7:00pm in the JH gym. All band students are REQUIRED to attend. Everyone is to report to the band room by 6:30pm. Students are to wear their band pants, band jacket, royal blue Manhattan Band shirt, black KNEE HIGH socks, and black shoes. No cape or sash. Parents are welcome to attend this performance.

Sat. March 19: Concert and Symphonic Band will be participating in the IGSMMA Band Contest to be held here at Manhattan JH. Symphonic Band performs at 9:00am and needs to be at the JH by 8:00am. Concert Band performs at 11:30am and needs to be at the JH by 10:30am. Students are to wear their band pants, band jacket, royal blue Manhattan Band shirt, black KNEE HIGH socks, and black shoes. No cape or sash.

Please contact Mrs. Pedziwater with any questions at cpedziwater@manhattan114.org.

8th GRADE PLAY

Circle March 8th on your calendar now! That is the day the 8th grade class of 2016 will perform USHER: A TOTALLY TEEN COMEDY at Anna McDonald at 6:30 PM. This skillful adaptation of Poe's classic tale "The Fall of the House of Usher" takes a grand mix of his writing and characters and weaves them together into a teen savvy comedy with more laughs and a much brighter ending. The House of Usher doesn't fall at the end in this show, but USHER will bring down yours! We hope to see you there!

STUDENT COUNCIL

On March 17th everyone is Irish and wearing of the green is an annual tradition. To that end, Student Council will be selling green leis to students for 50 cents before first period that day. Let's bring a little Hawaiian flavor to St. Patrick's Day!

TEAM ASSET OF THE MONTH:

The TEAM asset for the month of March is politeness/courtesy. We will be honoring students who consistently demonstrate these manners with both adults and peers. Speaking kindly to others and not interrupting them, saying please, thank you and excuse me, going out of their way to help others in need is behavior that will be focused on this month.

What can parents and teachers do to ensure that this important asset does not become a relic of the past? It is first important for us to let our teens know that when we emphasize the importance of manners to them and expect them to exhibit these manners on a daily basis, we not doing so to make them conform to rules that have no bearing on real life. We need to emphasize to our teens that we are doing this because being polite helps them distinguish themselves from the crowd in a positive way. We need to let our teens know that when they act politely they are less likely to find themselves in potentially harmful or dangerous situations. Teens who are rude to other teens risk becoming physically injured. If a teenager speaks to an adult in a sarcastic way or is testy with a peer, he creates conflict, which could have been easily avoided, by being polite.

We also need to repeat (again and again) that the "Golden Rule" or acting toward people as you would like them to act toward you is a significant part of good manners. When a teen is polite to another person, it is likely that the other person will be polite in return. Teenagers who have good manners earn the respect of their peers, of younger children and of adults. In addition, being polite can indicate that more good things will happen to a teenager. For example, a teen in the habit of writing "Thank You" notes to people for gifts or favors is more likely to continue to receive gifts, because the giver feels appreciated. Teens who are polite to others also find themselves having more friends. It is always easier to like someone who is kind to you than someone who is rude.

And lastly, being polite and courteous also help teens get ahead both in school and in life. Good manners are rare enough in teenagers that any sign of manners makes a teen shine in the eyes of people in positions of authority. We need to help our teens realize that being polite and courteous are habits that will help them succeed in college, work, and in future relationships.

LOOKING AHEAD: Next month our TEAM asset will be Positive Influence on Others. In addition to honoring students internally for demonstrating this asset, Manhattan Jr. High will also be holding our annual Giraffe Award Nominations. Parents, teachers, community members, and students will have the opportunity to recognize student(s) of Manhattan Jr. High that demonstrate a positive influence on others by volunteering their time to help others in their community. Winner(s) of the Giraffe Award will be recognized at the Village of Manhattan's Board Meeting as well as receive a gift card from Target. Nomination forms will be available in our April newsletter.

Sneaky Camera Apps Parents Should Know About: Most parents are aware of such social apps as *Snapchat*, *Instagram* and *WhatsApp*, where teens flock to share photos with other teens. Parents may not be aware however of a new crop of photo apps being used to hide photos instead of share them. Sometimes called "ghost apps," these secret-camera and hidden-photo-vault apps let you snap pictures or video without anyone knowing and stash them in secret folders. Use of these apps is also increasing sexting among teens.

Apps such as *Stealth Cam*, *Private Ninja Cam*, and *Top Secret Camera* can be used to spy on people. Here are some of the methods they use to deceive the unsuspecting:

- blanking the screen so no one knows you're taking a picture;
- muting the phone so the shutter doesn't sound;
- disguising the preview window so it looks like a Web browser; and
- activating the camera to record via motion sensor.

Hidden-photo vaults, such as *Calculator%*, *Keep Safe Private Photo Vault*, and *Best Secret Folder*, are places to keep photos out of view from a prying parent or friend. They share key features, including:

- requiring a password for access;
- hiding their true purpose (fake calculator apps actually do function as calculators but double as a way to input a secret code and stash secret pictures); and
- sounding an alarm or snapping a picture when accessed to catch anyone trying to break in.

Teens, naturally seeking privacy and independence from adults, could be tempted to experiment with these kinds of apps, but they also might appeal to kids who don't have much to hide. If you suspect your teen of using a secret-camera app, don't freak out immediately. Instead, open a dialogue with them about sexting (see next article) and using phones responsibly. If your teen doesn't follow your rules about responsible use of digital devices, you may need to do a spot-check. For iPhones go into Settings -> Privacy -> Camera to see which apps have used the camera. This will reveal any camera apps disguised as something else

THE ISSUE OF SEXTING: WHAT PARENTS CAN DO: Sexting among teens is unfortunately becoming more common. Technology now exists for the general public to see your teen's most intimate self. In the hands of teens, when revealing photos are made public, the sexter almost always ends up feeling humiliated. Furthermore, sending sexual images to minors is

against the law and some states have begun prosecuting teens for child pornography or felony obscenity.

Although our teens are taught about the dangers of sexting (i.e., their compromising image or message is posted on a social networking site or sent to others via email or text) it continues to happen for various reasons – so show off; to entice someone; to prove commitment; or even as a joke. With apps that make sexting easier coupled with teens’ impulsivity and interest in sex, opportunities abound for teens to experiment with this form of media.

Here is some advice for parents on the issue of sexting: 1) Don’t wait for an incident to happen to your child or your child’s friends before you talk about the consequences of sexting. It is better to have this talk now than before something happens; 2) Continually remind your teens that once an image is sent, it can never be retrieved and they will lose control of it. Ask them how they would feel if their entire school saw the picture because there will be a very good chance of that happening; 3) Talk about pressures to send revealing photos. It is important to know that teens may be harassed to send something revealing to their peers online. Tell them that no matter how big the peer pressure is, the potential social humiliation is always far worse; 4) Teach your teens that if they receive an inappropriate photo or message they need to delete it immediately. Forwarding it on or commenting makes the part of the problem, not the solution; 5) Check out Common Sense Education’s (commonsensemedia.org) SEXTING HANDBOOK. This resource gives families the language and support to take texting and cell phone power back into their own hands. It is also a great resource for parents who are uncomfortable dealing directly with this issue.

IMPORTANT DATES

March

- 7 NO SCHOOL – Casimir Pulaski Day
- 8 8th Gr. Play @ Anna McDonald School 6:30pm
- 12 IGSMO Orchestra Contest @ Plainfield
- 14 LW Math Competition
- 17 IGSMO Pep Rally Concert 7pm @ MJHS
- 18 End 3rd qt.
Early Release – Noon
- 19 IGSMO Band Contest @ MJHS
IGSMO Choir Contest @ Mokena
- 24 Early Release – 1:30pm
- 25-4/1 Spring Break

- April 4 School Resume
- 27 7th Gr. Springfield trip

- May 24 Graduation (if no snow days)
- 26 Last Day