

MANHATTAN JR. HIGH NEWSLETTER

RONALD PACHECO - PRINCIPAL

www.manhattan114.org

November , 2015

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. 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, 2015.

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 so we can send you the newsletters, and other important information.

PARENT / TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/Teacher conferences are on November 23, 2 - 9 PM and November 24, 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 7th and 8th grade boy's basketball team.

6th gr.: Nico Borrelli, Josh Boswell, Will Brandau, Jackson Cogan, Connor Dargan, Joey Falejczyk, Jayden Fehrenbacher, Aiden Healy, Ryan Hochalter, Payton Kink, Matt Lee, Carter Le Marche, Laz Liriano, Emmett Thompson, Colin Olsen, Preston Paulas, Tyler Pritchard, Evan Pruum, Isaac Shafer, Isaac Whiting.

7th gr.: Grant Balis, Cam Brady, Payton Branch, Luke Denny, Aiden Fitzpatrick, Ben Guzek, Zach Lamolie, Dominick Martinez, Orlando Martinez, Joe Ott, Ryan Rodgers, Aaron Ronaldson, Dean Ruble, Cam Sparks, DJ Wrobel.

8th gr.: Brody Ceh, Colin Christensen, Josh Davis, Mark Giordano, Ilya Jucius, Jeremy Koerner, Logan Oliver, Jake Paymaster, Preston Ruth, Rory Stencil, Marc Thrash, Ethan Whiting.

VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY

On November 11, 2015, 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. Hallihan's homeroom class who collected a total of 822 Box Tops. 2nd place went to Ms. Tooley's/Mr. Minuth's homeroom. Total box tops collected from everyone is 6,507, that's 941 more than last year, great job everyone. Mrs. Hallihan's homeroom will receive a pizza party and special prize for the 2nd place homeroom. 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

Saturday, November 7: Congratulations and Good Luck to Calvin Horsley and Libby Kamisnski for making it into the ILMEA Honor Band festival that will take place at Lockport HS on Saturday November 7! Great job Calvin and Libby!

Wednesday, November 11: Symphonic Band will be performing at the Veteran's Day Assembly at MJHS in the gym at 8:00am. Students are to wear their band uniform to band practice that morning. The uniform consists of band pants, band jacket, royal blue Manhattan band shirt, black KNEE high socks, and black shoes (no cape or sash). Students should bring a change of clothes and their garment bag to put their uniform in after the performance. Parents are welcome to attend this performance.

Thursday, November 19: Butterbraid pick up for the band fall fundraiser will take place between 2:30-4:00pm in the band room. Please be to mark your calendar for we cannot guarantee the quality of your butterbraids if they are not picked up on time.

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

ORCHESTRA/CHOIR NEWS

Congratulations to our orchestra and choir students that were accepted into the Illinois Music Educator's Association Festival: Lilah Hernandez, Courtney DeVenuto, Epiphany Shaw, Noelle Miller and Ilya Jucius. We are very proud of you!

The festival will be at Lockport Township HS on Saturday, November 7th.

All choir students will be performing for our Veteran's Assembly on November 11. Please remember to wear your formal to school that morning and bring a change of clothes in your labeled garment bag.

There will be no orchestra or Madrigal rehearsal on November 19th, due to the 3rd grade music show.

STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

STUDENT COUNCIL: Student Council hosted Red Ribbon week from October 19th to October 23rd. This year we tied in the message of Red Ribbon Week (anti-alcohol and anti-drug) with the monthly asset of responsibility. With the superhero quote "With Great Power Comes Great Responsibility", in addition to daily dress up days, we held a poster contest focusing on responsible decisions. Winners Kaylie LaBeau, Kaiden Ryan, and Sadie Santerelli received gift cards from Target. We also held a raffle that helped us collect hundreds of items and \$100 to give to Operation Care Package in support of our troops.

ASSET OF THE MONTH: This month Manhattan Junior High will focus on good decision-making. Students will be recognized for making smart choices that will get them to their goals. For example, students who have set goals to improve their grades might make such good decisions as taking advantage of extra credit opportunities or coming in before school starts or staying after school to get help from a teacher on an assignment. Students who have a goal to make new friends may decide not to give into peer pressure when deciding who their friends will be and choosing friends who themselves make safe and healthy decisions. Smart decision-makers take the time to analyze problems, think about the consequences of their decisions, and look back and evaluate the decision-making process. This does not mean that every decision they make turns out perfectly. It means that they think before they act and ask themselves whether their decisions leads them in the direction to, not away from, their goals.

TIPS FOR PARENTS TO SUPPORT THEIR TEENS SMART DECISION-MAKING: At this stage in your child's development it is important for parents to shift from a control stance to a guidance stance when it comes to their child's decision-making. Teens do not always make the safest and healthiest decisions, but parents can provide the guidance necessary to help their teen make the best decision possible. Here is how: 1) Let your teen describe the problem in their own words. Remember, not everyone sees things the same way. What may be inconsequential to you may be very serious to your teen; 2) Listen to your teen and control your urge to offer advice. Much of the time, parents offer advice because we want to protect our children and not let them make the same mistakes we did. What our children need however, is our support and guidance and not for us to solve their problems for them. 3) Talk it out with your teen by asking them what they plan on doing to resolve the problem; what the consequences (good and bad) might be with different decisions they may be considering; and whether the decision they want to make will help them get to their goal(s); and lastly 4) ask your teen later how things worked out. Give positive feedback to your teen if their decision worked out well. If their decision did not work out as planned, allow your teen to learn from their mistakes without lecturing and show faith in their ability to make a better decision next time.

PARENT CORNER:

The "Talk". No, I am not referring to the birds and the bees rather this talk is about online behavior. It is always time to sit down with your teen and express a few basic expectations with the understanding that this "talk" will need to take place many times. Here are some basics to cover: 1) Stress kindness when online. Always let them know that there is a person on the other side of the screen. Have them put themselves in their shoes. Would they want to receive this message? Always stress posting constructive comments and avoid getting into flame wars with trolls; 2) Keep private things private. Teens have a tendency to over share. Stress never to share their locations, send photos to strangers, or share passwords with anyone. Also stress that when too much information is shared, they may be inviting others to make hurtful and mean comment. Teens need to press the pause button when online and think before they act. ; 3) Don't believe everything you see. Although the online world is often informative and fun, just because something is online doesn't make it true. Not everybody is who they say they are. Teens need to recognize red flags – if it or s(he) is too good to be true, it usually is; 4) Stand up for others. If they see someone getting picked on online, they need to speak up and report it. Stress the importance never to respond to a hateful post with another hateful post. They lose their power when they do.

IMPORTANT DATES

November

- 1 Daylight Savings Time
- 2 7th & 8th GBB @ Martino 4pm
6th GBB @ Spencer Crossing
- 4 BBB @ Bourbonnias 4pm
- 5 7th & 8th GBB @ Home vs. Trop 4pm
6th GBB @ Anna Mc. vs. Orenic 4:15pm
- 6 BBB Tournament @ J.T. West
- 7 BBB Tournament @ J.T. West
IMEA Band Festival @ Riverside High School
- 9 7th & 8th GBB @ Mokena 4pm
6th GBB @ Mokena 4pm
7th & 8th BBB vs. Mokena 4pm
6th BBB @ WC vs. Mokena 4pm
- 10 7th & 8th GBB @ Homer 4pm
6th GBB @ Hadley 4pm
7th & 8th BBB @ Home vs. Homer 4pm
6th BBB @ WC vs. Hadley 4pm
- 11 7th & 8th GBB @ Peotone 4:30pm
4th & 5th gr. BOC Concert @ MJHS 7pm
- 16 6th BBB @ WC vs. Coal City 4:30pm
- 17 7th & 8th GBB vs. Summit Hill 4pm
6th GBB @ WC vs. Hilda Walker 4pm
7th & 8th BBB @ Summit Hill 4pm
6th BBB @ Hilda Walker 4pm
- 18 7th & 8th GBB vs. Hickory Creek 4pm
6th GBB @ WC vs. Hickory Creek 4pm
7th & 8th BBB @ Hickory Creek 4pm
6th BBB @ Hickory Creek 4pm
- 20 Progress Reports Ready
6th GBB Conference Tourney
- 23 P/T Conference 2 – 9 pm
7th GBB Regionals
- 24 P/T Conference 8 – 1 pm
7th GBB Regionals
- 25 7TH GBB Regionals
- 25-27 NO SCHOOL
- 30 8TH GBB Regionals