



February 27, 2017

RON PACHECO- PRINCIPAL
www.manhattan114.org

SUBSTITUTE

If you or someone you know would like to sub for the District as a teacher, aide, or nurse contact Diane Ponshe in the Business Office 815-478-4527.

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 2017-18 SCHOOL YEAR

Manhattan School District 114 will be Online Registration for the 2017-2018 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.

Please login to your Home Logic account and register your students for next year. Fees for the 2017-18 School Year are now on your account. Please login to your account to pay fees for 2017-18 and any outstanding fees.

If you have any problems or questions regarding registration or fees or if you child/children will not be returning next year please contact Michele Zmigrodski at 815-531-3302 or mzmigrodski@manhattan114.org.

FANNIE MAY FUNDRAISER

We are going to sell Fannie May Spring Candy starting February 28. Each student will receive a order form and catalog. The orders need to be turned back in by March 15. The orders will be shipped to your house for you to deliver to your customers.

We will have prizes for the highest in 3 levels.

8th GRADE PLAY:

Auditions for the 8th grade play, "THE HIGH SCHOOLER'S GUIDE TO THE GALAXY" (a comedy about the "black hole" known as freshman year) will be held on Wednesday, March 8th from 2:30 PM to 4:30 PM. All students auditioning will have a part in the play. Students must be in attendance at school that day in order to try out. Our performance date will be May 3rd at Anna McDonald. Questions may be directed to Mrs. Nass at MJH. Mrs. Nass and Mrs. Shafer will be the play's co-directors this year.

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, 2017. 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. (cont.)

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.

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 13, (Pi Day) at Lincoln-Way West. We are hoping to have news of awards to share in the next newsletter!

7th grade Mathletes: Zander Bird, Ryan Hochhalter, Michael Korpitz, Joey Martin, Clayton Noland, Adam Pearse, Kristen Shepard, Emmett Thompson.

8th grade Mathletes: Robert Macie, Holly Brown, Glenn Jackson, Zach Lunde, Zach Lomalie, Louis Martinez, Nick Dudeck, Nathan Fields, Jared Medlin, Max Shephard, Aidan Fitzpatrick and Luke Denny.

ART NEWS

Square 1 Art time is here! We will receive order forms and stickers during the last week in February. They will be due back to us by Friday, March 10. Orders can be made on line also.

This sale is for 6th and 7th grade Art students during the first and second 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 names on their order forms and stickers.

7th grade artists will have their Cut paper self-portraits on their stickers and order forms...which are Amazing!!

Artworks will take place on Saturday, March 18 from 10:00- 3:00, at LWE high school in Frankfort. Everyone is invited to come and take part in free workshops and see artwork from all of the LW high schools, LW area junior highs and LW area elementary schools, including many from our own MJHS art students, as well as Anna McDonald and Wilson Creek elementary schools.

Any questions please contact me at kambrosini@manhattan114.org

BAND

Thursday, March 15: IGSMA Pep Rally Concert 7pm in JH gym. Concert Band and Symphonic Band will be performing at this concert as a dress rehearsal for band contest on March 18. All students are required to attend.

Students are to report to the JH by 6:30pm wearing the following: band pants, band jacket, royal blue Manhattan Jr. High Band shirt, BLACK knee high socks (NO white socks please) and black tennis shoes. No cape or sash.

Saturday, March 18: IGSMA Band Contest at Manhattan JH. All students are required to attend. Concert band performs at 9:30am and needs to report to the JH by 8:15am. Symphonic band performs at 1:00pm and needs to report to the JH by 11:45am.

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

ORCHESTRA/CHOIR

The Demon Orchestra, Demon Choir, Lady Demons and Madrigals have their first group I.G.S.M.A competition on March 11. The orchestra competes in Orland at 10:00 a.m. and the choirs travel to Hufford in Joliet in the afternoon. Madrigals compete at 1:20, Demon Choir at 2:20 and Lady Demons at 3:40. Everyone is invited to come and cheer on our amazing singers and stringers; there will be a small admission to enter the competition. GO DEMONS!!!!

STUDENT COUNCIL NEWS:

Student Council will be hosting a two - part fundraiser in March and April to raise money for the Manhattan Food Pantry. In March, in honor of St. Patrick's Day, we will be giving students the opportunity to purchase shamrock lollipops for each other ("I'm lucky to have you as a friend.) In April, students will be able to "pick an egg" that will contain different prizes. Updates on these fundraisers will be posted in our parent newsletters.

SCHOOL WIDE ASSEMBLY:

On March 15th Manhattan Jr. High will be having a school-wide assembly on the topic of Internet Safety. Megan Brooks, an Investigator from the Will County Sheriff's Office, will be the featured speaker.

ASSET OF THE MONTH:

This month Manhattan Jr. High will be focusing on the character trait of reliability. We will be acknowledging students who exhibit the character traits of honesty, integrity, and positive self-worth. We feel that all of these traits are needed in order for a student to be considered reliable. These traits form the backbone of someone who follows through on what they say they are going to do and if they fail to do so, are honest about why, not blaming someone else or something else for their lack of follow-through. Reliable students are not only reliable with academic expectations but also are reliable with their friends and classmates. These students keep their promises to others and do not set up others to take the blame for their mistakes.

Being a parent isn't easy. We want our children to be happy and successful through life. Of course, this means we worry about our kids, the friends they have, their grades in school, and even their safety. Although it is natural to be protective of our children, there is a point where we have to start trusting our children to make positive choices so they will develop into individuals that are competent, confident, and reliable. We may unknowingly try to rescue our children from their own problems by shielding them from the consequences of their actions. This can take the form of bailing them out when they get into trouble or allowing them to get away with things instead of making them accountable for the actions that

they take. Some examples include giving them more money when they spend all their allowance so they can have money to go out with friends. Another example is doing their homework so they don't deal with bad grades. Yet another example is giving into their every desire because we can't stand seeing them upset. While we probably feel like we are doing the right thing to help our children, we are actually enabling them instead of empowering them to be successful and responsible children, and later, adults.

Here is a look at some tips to combat enabling and step up the empowering:

Tip #1 - Stop Fixing their Problems: In order to stop enabling our children, we need to stop fixing their problems all the time because by doing so, we don't allow them to admit they even have a problem. If we constantly do their homework for example, they don't realize that they are having a problem in school. Until we stop fixing this problem for them, they'll never realize where they are having problems and get the help they need to truly succeed academically. If you want to empower your children, let them make their own decisions, even if those decisions may be not be the best. It is OK for mistakes to be made. That is how we learn.

Tip #2 - Let Things Get Worse: Sometimes the best thing you can do is to let things get worse. Although it can be tough for us, we have to allow things to get tough for our children so enabling can stop and empowering can start. We need to let our children stand on their own two feet. Although parents like to be in control, letting our children make their own decisions will help them learn about the consequences of making those decisions. This is a critical life skill they must learn. And there is no better time to learn it when they are in your home instead of when they are adults on their own.

Tip #3 - Avoid Feeling Guilty: When we are trying to empower our children instead of enabling them, it is tempting to feel guilty. It's tough to give our children a bit of tough love. Stop those feelings of guilt in their tracks and realize that we are doing the best thing for our children by letting them deal with their own problems. In their future, it will be worth it.

Raising our children to grow up to be competent and reliable adults is not easy, but it does start with the realization that perfection should not be the goal. It is through our children's hard work and persistence that their reliability will become a reality.

PARENT CORNER RESOURCE:

A GUIDE TO ANXIETY: Parents sometimes need help in addressing their child's anxiety, especially if that anxiety disrupts normal activities. The parenting experts at Boys Town have put together a guide for parents that is easy to understand and is filled with ideas to help parents address this issue with their children. Included in this guide is a list of 50 Coping Skills that parents can use to help their child de-stress. This guide can be viewed at www.boystown.org/parenting/guides/Pages/anxiety.

(dates continued)

IMPORTANT DATES

March

- 1 Science Club Meeting til 3:30pm
Bowling @ Laraway Lanes 3:15pm
- 2 7th gr. GVB Regional
- 2-5 DC Trip
- 6 NO SCHOOL
7th gr. GVB Sectional
- 8 8th gr. Play Tryouts til 4:30pm
Bowling @ Laraway Lanes 3:15pm
- 9 8th gr. GVB Regional
- 10 2nd Trimester ends
- 11 IGSMA Orchestra Contest @ Jerling School
IGSMA Choir Contest @ Hufford School
7th gr. GVB State
- 12 Daylight Savings - Set clocks ahead one hour
- 13 Mathlete Competition @ LWW 6pm
8th gr. GVB Sectional
- 14 PI Day
7th gr. GVB State
- 15 Internet Safety Assembly 1:00pm
Science Club Meeting til 3:30pm
Bowling @ Laraway Lanes 3:15pm
- 16 IGSMA Band Pep Rally 7pm
- 17 3rd qt. ends
Early Release - Noon
- 18 IGSMA Band Contest @ MJHS
8th gr. GVB State
- 20 First Day of Spring
DPVC Math Competition @ MJHS 4:30pm
- 21 8th gr. GVB State
- 22 Bowling @ Laraway Lanes 3:15pm
- 24 Report Cards Available
Early Dismissal 1:30pm
- 24-31 Spring Break

April

- 3 School Resumes