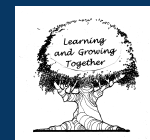


801 Northmen Drive
Petoskey, MI 49770
Main Line 348-2150
Attendance Line 348-2293
Fax 348-2234

PETOSKEY MIDDLE SCHOOL

September 2022 Edition

NEWSLETTER



Upcoming Dates

August 22 - Fall sports (Football and Volleyball) begin.

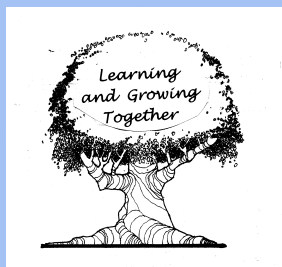
August 30 - Incoming 6th grade self-guided tour 10am - 2pm.

September 1 - PMS Open House 4:30 - 6 pm

August 31 & September 1 - Staff Professional Development.

September 6 - School Starts (Doors open at 7:55 am daily, school starts at 8:15, dismissal at 3:10)

Summer Office Hours - The main office will open back up on Monday, August 16, 2022 from 8am - 2:30.



For mental health resources and support, please visit [this site](#).

[School and Community Flyers](#)

The 2022-2023 School Year

We hope that you all are having a very deserved and restful summer break. We are already working and planning to make 2022-2023 another great school year. On behalf of our staff, we look forward to welcoming everyone back to school.

We plan to mail student schedules by Wednesday, August 24th. For those who already have PowerSchool login information, student schedules will be available online at that time as well. In addition to your child's schedule, the mailing will include a grade level supply list (which is currently available online) and PowerSchool login information for 6th grade parents.

Students will get a first day of school packet at open house or in homeroom, which will contain a student verification form that will need to be returned, field trip forms, a picture packet, and other pertinent information. The student verification form is extremely important as this ensures we have correct information to effectively communicate with you as parents.

We have several new staff members who will help continue the tradition of providing an excellent education at Petoskey Middle School. Becky Bell will be joining the middle school staff as a 7th grade ELA teacher. Becky comes to us from Lincoln Elementary, and will be a great addition to the middle school staff. Taylor Huitema has joined Petoskey Schools as a band director. Taylor is originally from Oscoda and has spent the last several years teaching in Tennessee. Taylor will be a great fit for our band program. Ellie Mendoza(Daniel) will be our new 8th grade science teacher. Ellie did her student teaching under Mrs. Neal last year and will bring tons of energy and enthusiasm to her classroom. Our new Art teacher is Liz Racignol. Mrs. Racignol has over 15 years of experience in the classroom and is looking forward to working for Petoskey Schools. Katie Harder will also be joining our staff to teach one section of Music. Mrs. Harder will be a great addition to our staff. All of our new staff members come very highly qualified and highly recommended, and we are excited to have them on board!

The Middle School will have an Open House on Thursday, September 1st from 4:30 to 6:00. Staff members will be here to greet you and welcome you to Petoskey Middle School. We also have the building open to tour on Tuesday, August 30th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm for all incoming 6th grade students and any students new to the district. On the 30th, however, staff will not be in the building for you to meet. It is our goal that these opportunities help ease the nerves of transition for any 6th grade student and students new to the district.

Again, welcome to the 2022-23 school year! Our staff is excited and honored to partner with you during your child's educational journey. We look forward to learning and growing together!

PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT OUR OFFICE IS AWARE OF ANY CHANGE IN CONTACT INFORMATION. IT IS IMPORTANT THAT WE HAVE CORRECT CONTACT INFORMATION SO WE CAN EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE.

IMMUNIZATIONS FOR 7TH GRADE

State law requires that ALL students entering 7th grade be current on their immunizations in order to attend school. If you wish to obtain a waiver, you must get one through the Health Department. To obtain a waiver, or if you have any questions, call the Health Department at 347-6014. Students that are not current on their vaccinations (or have a waiver on hand) will not be allowed to attend school.

When scheduling immunizations, remember that the COVID vaccine has to be given two weeks apart from other vaccines. We tell you this so you can plan accordingly to avoid a potential delayed start of the school year, should you choose to have your child receive the COVID vaccine or booster.

Attendance

If a student is going to be absent or tardy, a parent or guardian must call the attendance line at 348-2293 by 9:00 a.m., or the absence will be considered unexcused until we receive a phone call or note. **If your child does not feel well and you are calling to excuse them from school, please include their symptoms in the voicemail so we don't have to call you back. Thank you for your help with this.**



After School Study Lab

Study Lab is held from 3:15 to 4:15 pm, Monday thru Thursday in the

FOOD SERVICE INFORMATION

See last page of document for pertinent information

BE ALERT AND SCHOOL MESSENGER

Be Alert - Sign up for snow day notifications

- Locations: You can choose to receive emergency alerts about specific neighborhoods, including around your home, workplace, your child's school, etc.
- Alert Types: Choose what kind of alerts you want to receive, from weather to major road closures to water advisories
- Preferred device: Select how you would like to be notified: personal or work cell, email, phone, text message, etc.

School Messenger - Sign up for notifications and building newsletters from school administration

- Our superintendent and principals communicate important information via School Messenger. Please opt-in to this service by texting Yes to 67587 (please save this code and caller id to your contacts so you aren't blocked).

ATHLETICS FOR 2022-23

*All athletic programs listed below require a current physical prior to participation.

Volleyball- Tryouts are scheduled for Monday, August 22nd - Wednesday August 24th from 4-6 pm at the middle school for 7th and 8th grade students. For more information contact Casie Parker at parker.ce.t@northmen.org or Becky Bell at bell.rj.t@northmen.org

Football- Football equipment pickup will be August 14th in the middle school cafeteria, 8th grade at 6 pm and 7th grade at 7pm. Middle School Football practice begins on August 22nd at 3:45 behind the middle school. For more information contact Kevin Pike at pike.kevin@gmail.com

Media Center. Students attending should come prepared with their books, homework, and a pencil. Our own academic aides supervise this study lab and are ready and willing to help!

Immunizations

State law requires that ALL students entering 7th grade be up-to-date on their immunizations in order to attend school. If you wish to obtain a waiver, you must get one through the Health Department. If you have any questions, call the Health Department at 347-6014.



Medications

If your student has prescription or non-prescription medicine that they take during the school day, a medication form must be completed for each medication and the medicine dropped off by an adult to the school office. A new form must be filled out each school year.



Cross-Country - First practice for cross country (6th, 7th, and 8th grades) will be September 6 from 3:25-4:45. Petoskey Cross Country is a competitive running sport. Cross-country runners compete in distance races that typically take place on non-paved running paths. It is a great sport that allows you to compete and improve both as an individual and a team. We hope that you will enjoy this opportunity to get in shape, compete, and have fun. As a member of the team, you get to participate in an ice cream run, cookie run, and a caramel apple run and more. No prior running experience is needed. The goal is for each runner to improve individually and have fun. [Please click for more information.](#)

Intramural Volleyball is open to all interested 6th, 7th, and 8th graders. IM meets after school twice a week beginning the second week of school. There are no tryouts, but students do need a physical on file in order to participate.

For the most up-to-date information, please visit the [middle school athletics website](#).

SPORTS PHYSICALS

Only MHSAA sports physical forms will be accepted at middle/high school athletic departments. Forms are available on the MHSAA website, and our offices have cardstock forms available. The submitted form must be the original form with the doctor's signature. You can obtain these cards in your middle/high school office prior to visiting your doctor for the sports physical. Remember, sports physical for the 2022-23 school year must be completed no earlier than April 15, 2022.

OK2SAY

We want to remind students and parents of the OK2SAY program. If you or your child feel unsafe or are worried about the safety of someone else, please speak up by contacting [OK2SAY](#). You can report suspicious or harmful activity anonymously by sending a text to 652729, calling 8-555-OK2SAY, or sending an email to OK2SAY@mi.gov. Tips are then shared with the appropriate agencies, who respond to keep everyone safe!

Support Staff

The Public School of Petoskey, including Petoskey Middle School, is in dire need of support team members. We have recently raised our Aide pay to \$14.50 an hour, and steps are available for longevity. There is also an opportunity to earn a \$500 bonus in December and again in June, pending attendance requirements are met. 10 leave days are also granted at the beginning of the year. Please have anyone interested visit our website for employment information, or have them reach out to Jason Purcell directly at 348-2151.

DROP OFF PROCEDURES

The parent drop off and pick up procedure is an extremely important process that everyone must abide by. There has been an article in this newsletter for the past several months explaining the procedure, but it is important to review for the safety of all our children. Parents should drop off and pick up students on the right side of the loop. The left side should be used for moving forward. If you need to park for an extended time, please use the parking lot. It is also important to not obstruct Northmen Drive. Please see the picture below. The school parking lot is usually extremely busy and congested before and after school, and it will likely be an even greater challenge this year. To help maintain safety and traffic flow, we ask that you use the parent loop and parking lot accordingly:

The parent loop is a designated area set aside specifically for parents to drop off or pick up their children. The left lane is a no parking area. Traffic must be moving in the middle and left lanes. If you are walking your children inside or waiting for them in your vehicle, please use the parking spaces in the lot so as to not block traffic. Also, remember that there is an alternate drop off location on the PHS side of Northmen Drive. Students dropped off there can walk to the Middle School through the tunnel.

No vehicles other than school buses are allowed in the bus loop. We appreciate your help in keeping our students safe.



Petoskey Food Service Informational News

Apply for Free & Reduced Breakfast & Lunch Meals On-Line

You can now receive your confidential approval or denial letter by applying on-line:

www.lunchapp.com

***** A free and reduced breakfast and lunch application is required to be completed for the 2022-23 school year.**

This will allow your family the opportunity for additional state aid and will be beneficial for a smooth transition into the 2022-23 school year.

***** Milk Purchases**

_There will be NO a la carte milk purchases this school year.

Please make sure to send a beverage with your child if they are bringing a lunch from home.

School Menus

Download the school menu right to your phone!!!!

Download Nutrislice and follow the prompts.

The Nutrislice app will tell you what allergens there are in menu items along with the nutritional information.

Parent Link & Payments On-Line

The Food Service Program has partnered with eFunds for Schools. eFunds for Schools allows parents to monitor their child's lunch account and make Food Service Payments on-line. Families set up and maintain their own login, password and payment preferences.

You can access the eFunds site by visiting www.Petoskeyschools.org. Go to: Parents, Food Service, Parent Link & Payments On-Line