



# MMS Bullpup Express Newsletter



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McPherson Middle School  
700 E. Elizabeth  
McPherson, KS 67460

September, 2016



## MMS EVENTS

Thursday  
September 1 Girls Tennis @ Valley Center 3:30pm  
FB-7 vs Salina South @ Grant 4:00pm  
FB-8 @ Salina South 4:00pm  
XCountry @ Concordia 4:15pm

Friday  
September 2 **NO SCHOOL**

Monday  
September 5 **NO SCHOOL**



Tuesday  
September 6 Girls Tennis vs Derby North 3:30pm  
XCountry @ Prairie Hills/Hutchinson 4:15pm  
VB-7 @ Salina South w/Newton 5:00pm  
VB-8 vs Newton/Salina So 5:00pm

Wednesday  
September 7

Thursday  
September 8 FB-8 vs Newton @ Grant 4:00pm  
FB-7 @ Newton 5:00pm

Friday  
September 9

Monday  
September 12 VB-7 vs Derby & Salina South 5:00pm  
VB-8 @ Derby w/Salina South 5:00pm

Tuesday  
September 13 Girls Tennis @ Derby 3:30pm  
XCountry @ Goddard Classic 4:00pm

Wednesday  
September 14

Thursday  
September 15 Girls Tennis vs Hutchinson 3:30pm  
FB-7 @ Derby 4:00pm  
FB-8 vs Derby @ Grant 4:00pm  
VB-7/8 @ Hutchinson 5:00pm

Friday  
September 16

Saturday  
September 17 VB-7 "B-Trny" @ Hutch 9:00am  
VB-8 "B-Trny" @ MHS 9:00am

Monday  
September 19 Girls Tennis @ Salina South 3:30pm  
VB-7 @ Hutchinson w/Salina Lkwd 5:00pm  
VB-8 vs Hutchinson & Salina Lkwd 5:00pm

Tuesday  
September 20 Girls Tennis @ Maize South Inv. 9:00am

Wednesday  
September 21

Thursday  
September 22 XCountry @ Rolling Acres Golf Course 3:00pm  
Girls Tennis vs Maize South 3:30pm  
FB-7 vs Derby North @ Grant 4:00pm  
FB-8 @ Derby North 4:00pm

Friday  
September 23

Monday  
September 26 Girls Tennis @ Salina South 3:30pm  
VB-7 vs Newton & Derby North 5:00pm  
VB-8 @ Derby North w/Newton 5:00pm  
BOE Meeting @ Central Office 7:00pm

Tuesday  
September 27 Girls Tennis @ Hutchinson Inv 9:00am  
XCountry @ Salina South Inv 4:00pm

Wednesday  
September 28

Thursday  
September 29 FB-8 vs Salina Lkwd @ MMS 2:00pm  
Girls Tennis @ Newton Chisholm 3:30pm  
FB-7 @ Salina Lkwd 4:00pm

Friday  
September 30  Picture Retakes





We continue to welcome more of our new staff to MMS

**AUSTIN RUSSELL, Assistant Band Director:**

I was raised in McPherson and am a 2008 graduate of MHS. I attended school at Kansas State University, where I was active in nearly every music ensemble on campus. I played trumpet in the K-State Marching Band, Volleyball Band, Basketball Band, and Aggieville Band, and played French Horn in every concert ensemble at some point during my time there. After graduating, I taught three years in Great Bend, Kansas as the middle school band director, and high school assistant band director. I am excited to be back home, and ready to have a great school year!

**WENDY GOTTWALD, Literature/Social Studies:**

My name is Wendy Gottwald and I have been married 19 years. I have three children, Paige, who is starting her first year in college, Tyson, who is a freshman, and Dawson who will be starting his middle school journey with me. I've been teaching for 15 year, this is my 16<sup>th</sup>. I taught one year at Victoria Middle School in Victoria, KS. I then moved to McPherson to teach at St. Joseph for four years in Language Arts 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> grades. I was excited to be asked to teach at Washington Elementary 5<sup>th</sup> grade. I was there for 10 years. During this time I went back to school to get my first masters in Curriculum and Instruction. After a few more years, I finally started my journey to the most important goal, to become a school counselor. It's been an uphill battle being a student, teacher, and most importantly a mom! I'm on the downhill side now working on my practicum, of which I will do here at MMS. Now, I'm beginning my years here at McPherson Middle School teaching Social Studies and Language Arts. I'm so excited for my new life here at MMS!

**SARAH HENDRICKS, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Grammar & Comp and Bullpups Scholars:**

- Coaches Cross Country at MMS
- Grew up in McPherson and attended McPherson College
- Has three children: Rachael, a junior at MHS, Joel, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at MMS, and Renae, a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at RES
- Husband, Darren, is a graphic designer
- Two dogs, Marvel and Callie
- Enjoys being active, participating in church activities, teaching middle schoolers and spending time with family
- Always has bubble gum in the classroom so stop by and say Hi anytime!

**MELANIE MANN, Orchestra:**

Melanie Mann is originally from Hutchinson, KS, and went to school at Kansas Wesleyan University. She started playing the viola when she was 9 and is very excited to be teaching in USD418! Outside of teaching, Melanie teaches private lessons, plays in a church praise band, plays and creates visuals for the Salina Symphony Orchestra, and is playing in the pit orchestra for Monty Python's Spamalot at the Salina Community Theatre during the month of September.

**TAMI MALM, School Nurse:**

This is my 6<sup>th</sup> year in school nursing and I am so excited to be at MMS! I have served the smaller county schools the last few years and am happy to be in one building all day long. Washburn University is where I received my nursing degree and before getting into the schools, I worked in a local Dr. office and also did Hospice/Home Health Care.

My family includes my husband Larry, daughter Megan-a junior at K-State, son Brock-a senior at MHS, and daughter Carley-a 7<sup>th</sup> grader here at MMS. In addition to attending my kids' events, I like to read, shop, travel and watch sporting events.



**Little Locker Libraries are coming to MMS!**

Little Locker Libraries will be open for business at MMS soon! These lockers--on each floor--are designated for books that students may borrow and return when they are done. There is no official checkout system--just on your honor. It's a wonderful way for kids to always have a book in their hand, even if they forget theirs at home. Currently, we are looking for book donations to fill our locker libraries. If you have middle school level chapter books you'd be willing to donate, please have your students bring them to Mrs. Hughes's classroom #202 (across from the library). If you have questions, contact [katherine.hughes@mcperson.com](mailto:katherine.hughes@mcperson.com). Happy reading!

**SCHOOL BUS**

**SCHOOL IS IN SESSION!**

**Drive carefully & obey the speed!**

## COMMUNITY SERVICE



Community Service hours for 6th-8th graders are 5 hours per year.

Some community service ideas for students could be:

- \*yard work for an elderly neighbor
- \*volunteering for different activities: at church, church dinners, bible school volunteer, etc.
- \*raking leaves for people in your neighborhood
- \*helping out at a daycare babysitting
- \*volunteering at the Humane Society or other agencies
- \*picking up trash in the afternoon

Students will need to have some sort of adult supervision to vouch for their hours. This can be their parent if their parents participate in their community service or are their witness. Otherwise, they will enter their supervisor's name, such as a pastor, someone they volunteered to babysit for, their neighbor, etc. Also, summer hours prior to the school year until May will count.



### FOOD 4 KIDS

**Because the most essential school supply is food**

Food 4 Kids is a Kid-Friendly School-based Program—because the most essential school supply is food. Food 4 Kids was established for students who are food insecure and who are not getting sufficient food outside of school on a regular basis. The Food Bank provides food and supplies to Food 4 Kids schools in Kansas, which are operated in partnership with community schools. The Food 4 Kids program allows participating schools to receive food and backpacks from the Kansas Food Bank at no cost so that we can provide food to chronically hungry children.

#### **FOOD 4 KIDS FOODBAGS CONTAIN:**

Different foods designed to provide nutrition and calories for chronically hungry school children on weekends. Kid friendly foods that require no preparation. Kids can just “open and eat”.

**FOR EXAMPLE:** Peanut Butter (12-ounce jar) and a sleeve of crackers—Beans and franks (pop-top can)—Beef Jerky (1 ounce)—Cereal (1-ounce bowl or box)—Fruit cups (peaches, applesauce, etc.)—Raisins (snack-size boxes)—Pudding cups—Juice boxes (apple, orange, or other juice)—Milk (aseptic pack boxes that do not require refrigeration)—Cereal bars or granola bars

Please see your school counselor to sign up for Food 4 Kids at your school!! At MMS, please call Kathy Button, Jeff Allmon, or Joan Schieferecke at 620-241-9470.

## NOTE FROM THE NURSE

Note from the Nurse



A reminder that if your child received any vaccinations over the summer, make sure to get a record of those to the school. Also, all 7th graders are required to have the Tdap (tetanus booster with pertussis component). Please check to make sure your child is up to date on that immunization.

There is a new policy for over the counter medications! Forms are available for online enrollment. For any students taking prescription medications, an order from the doctor with a parent signature must be provided before medication can be given. Medication must be in the labeled container/package that was dispensed by the pharmacy. Students are NOT ALLOWED to bring their own medication to the school nurse. If a parent is unable to bring the medication an adult designated by a parent may do it for you.

For any questions/concerns, call me at the Middle School, 620-241-9450 or email me at [tami.malm@mcperson.com](mailto:tami.malm@mcperson.com).



**JOIN YOUR FRIENDS FOR BREAKFAST EVERYDAY!  
BREAKFAST IS A GREAT WAY TO BEGIN EACH DAY.  
BREAKFAST IS AVAILABLE 20 MINUTES BEFORE  
THE START OF THE SCHOOL DAY.  
BREAKFAST IS FREE TO STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY  
FOR FREE MEALS.  
BREAKFAST IS \$.30 TO STUDENTS WHO QUALIFY  
FOR REDUCED MEALS  
BREAKFAST IS \$1.80 FOR ALL K - 12 STUDENTS**

**THERE ARE NEW OPTIONS ON THE MENU ITEMS  
DAILY**

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTION, PLEASE CALL  
BILL FROESE AT 620-241-9490.**

# Tutorial

After-school tutorial began August 29<sup>th</sup> and is available for those students wanting additional help with their studies. Tutorial will be held Monday through Thursday at 3:15 p.m. until 4:15 p.m. in the Middle School Library.



**THROUGH THE EYES OF AN EIGHTH GRADER**  
(COMPLIMENTS OF MRS. VERNON'S PRE-AP WRITING CLASS)

**SEPTEMBER**

Going through the month of September, I love looking at the trees changing colors, meeting new friends at school, and a fresh new start. Just look outside; it's beautiful. Orange and yellow leaves. The temperature is just right. New kids walk down these halls all the time. Me, being a social butterfly, I love making new friends! Last year was so much fun, but now it's time to meet new teachers. Overall September is just the most perfect month out of the whole year for me. I can't wait to see what's in store for me this month. Maybe even another undefeated football season! Looks like we'll just have to wait and see.

~Blade Anderson~

**THE TRANSITION TO BEING AN 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADER**

I have to admit it's kind of weird thinking of my whole class and I being 8<sup>th</sup> graders. It feels like just a little bit ago we were all brand new to middle school stressing out about where our classes are and how to get to them. Trust me, even my mom says so. Now it's like we look at our schedules and know where everything is super fast. Yet, at the same time, it feels normal. Being in 8<sup>th</sup> grade hasn't changed anything besides our "title" in middle school and the classes we go to. I see all of my old teachers and I still have some of them. I'm sure it's because all of us are used to it here. It's most of our third year at the middle school and the rules aren't that different than when we were sixth graders. It's just the normal way of life now even though it's not even over with the second full week of school yet. I honestly really like it here with my amazing and crazy teachers as well as everyone in my graduating class. The people a class under us are a whole different story though.

~James Gesaman~

**8<sup>th</sup> GRADER!**

With this next school year approaching, I was excited and nervous. Me, an eighth grader, didn't feel right, I thought it would be years until that came. Anyway, this year they announced that we are getting Chromebooks. I was thrilled and super excited about it! Well...that was until I had to carry my volleyball supplies. I was holding a backpack, a binder, and a Chromebook. It seemed like I was going to drop everything, until I got the Chromebook strap on my shoulder. As a few days past, I got used to my routine. Every other day charge my Chromebook, keep my volleyball supplies in my gym locker, and keep my binder on me at all times.

~Alanna Golden~

**BIG DOGS**

For me it's weird being in eighth grade knowing that I'm at the top of the food chain, for two years, I've been looking at somebody taller than me (I still do) knowing that they're the big dogs and now I'm in that position and it doesn't seem right. Another strange thing that doesn't even particularly pertain to just eighth graders but to seventh graders as well is that our lockers are on different floors than last year and now you have to just go and erase eighth months of going to first or in our case third floor and have to rework any schedule you had worked out. Overall, being an eighth grader is pretty good.

~Liam Seron~



**Upcoming Events**

October	3	VB-7 vs Newton & Derby North	5:00pm
		VB-8 @ Derby North w/Newton	5:00pm
October	4	Girls Tennis @ Pioneer League Trny @Derby	9:00am
		XCountry @ Mulvane Inv	4:00pm
October	5	Fall Sports Pictures	3:30pm
October	6	FB-7 vs Hutch @ Grant Complex	4:00pm
		FB-8 @ Hutch	4:00pm
		VB-7/8 vs Derby North	5:00pm
October	10	Columbus Day	
		VB 7/8 @ Maize South	5:00pm
		BOE Meeting	7:00pm
October	11	XCounty @ Pioneer League @Rolling Acres Golf Course	4:00pm
October	13	FB-7 @ Valley Center	5:00pm
		VB 7/8 @ Goddard Eisenhower	5:00pm
		FB-8 @ Valley Center	6:30pm
October	15	VB-7/8 @ Pioneer League Trny @ Derby	9:00am
October	17	7 & 8 Orchestra/Vocal Concert	6:30pm
October	18	Cheyenne Bottoms Field Trip	TBA
		7 & 8 Band Concert	7:00pm
October	20	Fall Pops Concert	6:30pm
October	21	<b>NO SCHOOL</b>	
October	24	Parent/Teacher Conferences	TBA
		BOE Meeting	7:00pm
October	25	Parent/Teacher Conferences	TBA
		Scholar's Bowl @ Augusta	3:30pm
October	27	<b>NO SCHOOL Pre-K - 12</b>	
October	28	<b>NO SCHOOL Pre-K - 12</b>	
October	31	Halloween	

