

NEW (and returning) Parents *a quick reference on a few often-questioned*

topics that are covered elsewhere... but might be buried!

For more detailed information on these topics and many more, see the Families tab on our website. <https://www.mhasd.k12.wi.us/schools/middle/>



The Truth about Houses at MHMS

As you may be aware, students at Mt. Horeb Middle School are assigned to an academic **interdisciplinary house**. Our social studies, science, language arts, and math teachers meet several times a week to plan instruction as well as special events/activities and handle student/family issues collectively for their team/house of students. This is one way of making our school feel a little smaller for students and parents alike.

Like anything, there may be some misconceptions about our housing structure:

- ✓ It doesn't matter if your child is in the Tree, Club, Light, Harbor, Discovery or Adventure House; the designation has nothing to do with a student's ability. Students are **NOT** placed in a house by academic ability. Actually, with few exceptions, students are placed in classes through the use of Infinite Campus.
- ✓ Teachers all teach the same curriculum, no matter which house they're in. It's the same course with the same outcomes for all students no matter which house or teacher your student has... and yes, all of our teachers are **great** - no matter which house they're in!
- ✓ Some Houses may do different activities than others, but school operations and expectations are the same for everyone.

Attendance Procedures

- If your child will be absent from school or needs to leave early, simply call the Main Office at 608.437.7306

School Lunch Deposits & Balances

If your child needs to add money to his/her lunch account:



- Checks and money can be deposited in the Main Office. Please contact the School Nutrition Program with any lunch questions from the website <https://www.mhasd.k12.wi.us/domain/37>
- Credit card payments and all other lunch program information can be found on the School Nutrition Program web page linked from our website. <https://www.mhasd.k12.wi.us/domain/13>
- Breakfast is available from 7:45-8:00. Breakfast includes three items and one must be a fruit or vegetable for \$1.60. Breakfast is free if you are on free or reduced meals. A la carte items are also available for purchase at this time. If you do not want your child to make a la carte purchases at breakfast, please contact us to put a limit on their account.
- Students in middle school and high school are allowed to make a la carte purchases. They may purchase extra portions of the main entree for \$2.00, PBJ Uncrustables for \$1.25, or extra milk for \$0.40. Additionally, we may have other items available for purchase.. If you do not want your child to make these purchases or would like to limit them, please contact Michelle Denk. Your child will not be denied a lunch but can be denied a la carte purchases if they do not have money in their account.
- We do have field trip sack lunches available for purchase on field trip days. Please let the office know if you need a field trip sack lunch. These lunches are \$2.65 if you receive full price lunches, \$0.40 if you qualify for reduced price lunches or free for those who qualify for free lunches.
- Please note that all meals are free through the 2021-2022 school year. This was made possible by a USDA waiver extension. However, you will need money in your lunch account for any a la carte purchases.

Infinite Campus

Infinite Campus is a tool that will help your child and you keep up with what's happening in his/her classes as well as how things look in the gradebook. More information as well as secure login information will head your way early in the fall, keep an eye out! The parent portal login can be found [here](#).

The Middle Years:

A monthly publication called Middle Years is shared with families monthly. This is a publication specifically designed for parents of middle school aged children. These are a quick read and have some very helpful tips. They are posted on the middle school webpage under the [families/newsletters tab](#). Middle Years show parents how to improve their children's school success—and behavior—during the middle years.

Middle grade children go through dramatic changes and desperately need their parents' support. Many parents want to help, but aren't sure what to do. Articles will help parents:

- understand their middle graders' behavior
- build respect, responsibility, empathy, and more
- support homework and study skills
- stay involved—middle-school style
- set age-appropriate rules and expectations
- promote health and safety
- emphasize the importance of education

As always, please do not hesitate to reach out to us directly if you have any questions. 608.437.7306

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