



## MOUNT HOREB MIDDLE SCHOOL

Phone 608.437.7306 | Fax 608.437.6227 | Website [mhasd.k12.wi.us/ms](http://mhasd.k12.wi.us/ms)  
Middle School Office | 900 East Garfield Street, Mount Horeb, WI 53572

Friday, October 2, 2020

Hello Again Middle School Families,

Below are informational updates for parents and guardians of middle school students. I continue to share weekly student updates during Viking Hour and via email with our students.

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**Attendance:** You may be receiving an email from Ms. Hanson, assistant principal, regarding unexcused absences that have been changed to parent requested absences. Please contact the middle school office at 608.437.7306 if there is another reason for these absences. You can view your child's attendance in Infinite Campus.

**Google Classroom notifications:** We have shared details with your child about how to turn off or limit the number of email notifications our students are receiving from Google Classroom. If you are interested in what was shared you can view the "Google classroom assignments and notification" video on this webpage. [How to student videos](#). The notifications portion begins at the 4-minute mark. There are also other "How to" videos that you may find helpful.

**Infinite Campus:** If you are interested in keeping track of your child's grades through Infinite Campus, this link will give you general information about Infinite Campus, how to login, and how to use the Infinite Campus parent app.

<https://sites.google.com/mhasd.k12.wi.us/virtuallearningresources/infinite-campus>

**Middle Years:** This month's Middle Years publication can be found on the Middle School website under the Families/Newsletters tab [MHMS Newsletters](#). Tips this month include setting limits for your child, self-esteem, finding meaning in books, and academic honesty.

**Parent-Teacher Conferences:** We have parent-teacher conferences scheduled during the week of October 12, 2020. If you have not already been contacted by your child's homeroom teacher you will be shortly. This year all parent-teacher conferences will be conducted by your child's homeroom teacher only. Our hope is to continue building positive relationships with all middle school families during these meetings. While homeroom teachers will have general academic information about your child, if you have a specific question or concern about a particular subject please do not hesitate to reach out to that teacher via email directly.

**Personal Devices:** One question that has been asked is whether or not students are allowed to use their own devices even if they have a district-owned Chromebook. The answer is absolutely. If students find that using their own Chromebook, laptop, or desktop is more efficient for them they are more than welcome to use what they are most comfortable with.

**Science Olympiad:** The Middle School Science Olympiad Team is having informational meetings for students who are interested on Monday, Oct. 7 (2:00 PM), Monday, Oct. 12 (3:40 p.m.) and Wednesday, Oct. 14 (2:00 p.m.). Please use the Google Meet (code: msso). Attendance at only one of these is necessary. Please see this [flyer](#) for additional details.

**Week at a Glance:** Updated course information can be found [here](#) along the left-hand side. These Week at a Glance documents are updated each Friday for the following week.

**Work Habit Expectations:** Within the next week teachers will post work habit expectations. These postings reflect how your child is doing in each class in the areas of respect, responsibility, and readiness. [Work Habits Rubric](#) We understand that some of these expectations may be less applicable in a Virtual Learning Environment.

As always if you have questions please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Paul

Paul Christiansen, Principal  
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**A message from Ms. Baker, Librarian:**

Parents,

First of all, I would just like to send a great big thank you to you all! When we first talked about the idea of live teaching with Google Meet, I don't think we ever anticipated the number of bumps and setbacks that we have had. We are bound to experience a learning curve while using new technology and old technologies in new ways--I didn't even know what a Google Meet was before 2020! I appreciate so much your willingness to drive over to school to trade chromebooks, to walk through steps over the phone with me, and all the countless hours you are helping your middle school student with technology issues. Everyone has been so patient and understanding. I know many of you are doing this in addition to working a full day yourselves! Hang in there!

We are working hard to address technology issues. In fact, you may have seen your student watching some of my Tuesday Tech Tips--fun things like how to organize your email, how to find your to-do list in Google classroom--or you may have even watched them complete homework for me. Yes, I did ask them to take selfies with their chromebook cameras--we needed to make sure their cameras are fully functioning.

In an effort to help you, help your student with tech issues, I am sharing a list of videos and how-tos for many common tech problems. Most have already been shared with your student, but it is always nice to have them in one spot for your own reference.

[How to update a chromebook--written directions](#)

How to powerwash a chromebook, step-by-step video

<https://live.myvrspot.com/iframe?v=N2E4ZWYzNDM3N2ZmMWUwZjUzYjJhZTZjOTMwYTBmNTY>

[Google Meet Troubleshooting guide](#)

[How to clear your browser cache](#) video

The Virtual Learning Hub was also created to help with any program-specific issues. Here is the link to that site--<https://sites.google.com/mhasd.k12.wi.us/virtualllearningresources>

Please, don't hesitate to contact me. I always say--I am the first line of defense with technology problems. I am available by email all day ([bakerjacci@mhasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:bakerjacci@mhasd.k12.wi.us)) or by phone 437-7317. I can happily walk you (or your student) through any of the above troubleshooting steps and offer additional ones. I offer drop-in times on Wednesday and Friday mornings at 8:30 also. You or your student needs to simply go to [meet.google.com](https://meet.google.com) and join with the code Bakerlibrary at that time. Additional times can be available upon request. Please take me up on this. I am here to help!