— A Mark of Excellence: August 2024 —

Middle JAGS

Newsletter Brought to You by Madison Middle School PTO



Join the PTO





\$35 - Orange
PTO Membership and
MMS Car Decal



\$70 - BluePTO Membership MMS Car
Decal and Jaguar Backpack

Join Now
All swag available while
supplies last!



Shine Bright, MMS!

Our theme for the 2024-25 school year is "Shine Bright, MMS!" We are emphasizing the opportunity that each student has to make the most of all that is available at MMS not only in academics but extracurricular activities. We want to help them grow during their middle school years, and the idea that all we need is "sunshine and you" to grow is central to this idea!

-MMS Administration

to Our Teachers and Staff!

August

- 1 Cortney Robertson
- 5 Kimberly Fletcher
 - 7 Renee Adams
- 11 Latarsha Manning
 - 12 Anna Given
- 19 Gari Lynn Sanders 20 – Joey Abels
- 24 Jobrielle Winfrey
- 27 Morgan Trowbridge
 - 27 Cameron Groke
 - 30 Jamie McQuirter

School Pictures WEDNESDAY!



PTO News



Welcome Back, Jags!

By Melanie Hataway, PTO President

We kicked our PTO year off with early schedule pick up and we had a great time. I want to thank the parents and teachers who took the time to deck our halls with the perfect decorations so MMS could Shine Bright for the big day. I hope you were able to come and snap a picture or two with all your friends.

A special Thank You to our Membership Team, Counselors, and Teachers for making it all run smoothly.

As we continue to get in gear for the new school year, I invite you to join us for our next PTO meeting on **Tuesday**,

September 3rd at noon in the library. We will have a Zoom link available for those who cannot join us in person but would like to listen to the discussion. Keep an eye out for the link which will be emailed ahead of the meeting or located on the PTO Facebook page.

There is a lot planned for the 2024-2025 year and we want you to be a part. Our website, newsletter, Facebook, Instagram, and X pages will always have the most current information for you. Like and Follow us and make sure we are bookmarked for quick reference! We are excited to see how our students Shine Bright this school year!



PTO members brought so much energy to the August 6th meeting! Whether you were in the room or tuning in online, everyone was focused on a great start to the school year! Families who join the PTO are encouraged to get involved! Come to PTO meetings, either in person or via Zoom, and hear the latest and greatest from our PTO leaders! Want to get involved but not sure where to start... email us at ptomadisonmiddle@gmail.com.





AUGUST	
1st	First Day of School
6th	PTO Meeting - Library
5th	7th and 8th Grade Meet the Teacher
6th	6th Grade Meet the Teacher
12th	New Student Breakfast
14th	School Picture Day
SEPTEMBER	
2nd	Labor Day Holiday
3rd	PTO Meeting - Library
5th	Progress Reports
26th-28th	Fall Musical

Be in the Know



PTO: <u>madisonmiddlepto.com</u> School: <u>madisonmiddlejags.org</u>



Madison Middle Jaguars PTO



@madisonmiddlejaguars



@MMSJaguars



Nurse Notes

Medication Drop Off

- Forms signed from Physician and Parent.
- Action plan from Physician, if needed, with student's condition.
- If your student will self-carry an inhaler or epi-pen, please fill out that form.
- Medication labeled in original bottle from pharmacy with correct dosage.
- OTC meds need to be new/unopened.
- Prescription meds will be counted and dual signed-in with Parent and Nurse.

Forms are to be filled out with each new school year.

- Nurse Lauren Girod, RN -

Action Plans and Medication Forms







For any school-related questions, please contact the MMS office at 601-605-4171



PTO Events



The Membership Committee, led by **Kelsey Dennis** and **Olivia McKay** along with a team of parent volunteers and teachers orchestrated a fantastic welcome back to school event, complete with several amazing balloon arches for perfect photo opportunities. It was a memorable day to be a **JAG!**





It's never too late to become a part of the

PTO Family!

Attend and vote at all PTO meetings

Receive meeting minutes

Volunteer opportunities 💙

Join hands with us and make this school year truly extraordinary!



Tips from School

Counselors are here to help



Hey, MMS family!

Your counselors are excited to see you on campus! Our goal is to provide your students with social, emotional, and academic support throughout the year.

Middle school is all about learning who you are, where you're going, and what you stand for. We are here to facilitate that learning process.

First things first, your student is at a critical point in their education. Some of you are just starting your middle school experience, and others are on their last year at MMS.

7th and 8th graders will be earning

<u>Carnegie units</u>, or high school credits.

This means those courses go on their high school transcript, and are factored into their GPA.

Please encourage your student to develop strong study skills and diligence in schoolwork. Many students make the mistake of not taking their coursework seriously in middle school and then must work extra hard later in high school to raise their GPA for college admission and scholarship eligibility.

We hope to set them up for success early by encouraging students to do their best always. It's the MMS Way! Please reach out to us if you have any questions or concerns with your student- we are happy to help!

Lindsay Bouchillon, 6th **Karen Boutwell**, 7th **Lindsey Montgomery**, 8th

Car Pool Tips

Please encourage your child to actively <u>look</u> for your vehicle in the afternoons.

Pull your vehicle down as far as space allows, and your child will walk down to you. This helps us keep traffic off of Hwy. 463 and keeps cars moving.

For sixth graders, we will move car riders to the front circle at approximately **3:30** each day. Once buses are moving at the south end of the school, we are not allowing sixth graders to be picked in this area due to safety concerns. If you arrive on campus around 3:30 or after, you will be directed to the front circle for pick-up.

What if I Need to Change my Child's Transportation for the Day?

Call the front office at 601-605-4171 prior to 2:30 PM and let them know about any transportation changes (e.g. "My child needs to be a car rider today."). The front office will get the message to your child before the dismissal bell.

Please note that any time a student needs to ride a bus, they need an official "orange transportation change" note from the front office.

Bus drivers are <u>required</u> to collect this note prior to letting the student on the bus. Send a note from home about the details of the transportation request by your child to the front office and they will write the official note for your child to give to the driver.

Bus Information in Real Time

Track your child's bus in real-time using the **Durham Bus Tracker App!** This is the most efficient way to get up-to-the-minute information about your bus status.



For information on how to set up the app.

Please call Mrs. Lovitt at MMS if you need additional assistance.

Exciting Projects and Events Sponsored by the PTO!



The PTO is thrilled to share the new covered outdoor seating areas and walkways at the back of the school! This is fantastic news for our students, who now have even more space to hangout and enjoy nature.









A "sign" of good things!
Signage and polls across the
campus were replaced over the
summer. Campus is looking sharp
and professional!

Teacher Appreciation Breakfast
Our Staff Appreciation Committee,
led by Christy Borge, welcomed
our teachers back to school on
July 31st with a Breakfast Bar. The
teachers enjoyed Breakfast
Casserole, Cheese Grits, Cinnamon
Rolls, Fruit.

A HUGE thank you to CUPS in Madison for fueling the morning with their amazing coffee!







Corporate Sponsorship Opportunities

Want to support Madison Middle School PTO and promote your business?

Check out our sponsorship opportunities for the 2024/2025 school year.

Note: If you join at the Jaguar, Orange, or Blue level and have children at MMS, you will receive a PTO membership at the highest level and 10 raffle tickets for each child enrolled at MMS!

For more information



PTO Spotlight

Meet our PTO Membership Team!

The Membership Committee is responsible for our annual membership campaign and membership relations. It is led by Membership Chair, **Kelsey Dennis**, Membership Co-Chair, **Olivia McCay**, and team members **Del Adams, Erin Meyer,** and **Kimberly Witcher**.







My name is **Kelsey Dennis**. I am a counselor and partner at Stillwaters Counseling in Ridgeland. I am married to Josh. Josh is a marketing director. We have two daughters. Elizabeth is in 9th grade at Rosa Scott, and Sydney is 6th grade. We are always on the go with basketball, soccer, and dance. We love cheering on our girls and the Jags!

This is my 3rd year co-chairing the membership committee. I love getting to see all the families and students as we gear up for a new school year. It's so fun to see the excitement of new teachers and reconnecting with friends!

There are so many ways to be involved and support our students and teachers. Joining the PTO is such an important way to partner with your student and their teachers to make this the best middle school around. Your membership fee goes directly to help fund teacher appreciation lunches, fun incentives for your kids, campus improvements, and much more.

If you have the gift of time to give, there are a lot of opportunities for you to be on campus to see firsthand how impactful this partnership can be! Let us know your interests and we will get you plugged in!!

Join the PTO

CLICK HERE

My name is **Olivia McCay**. My husband, Jim, and I have 2 kids. Alexis is in 7th grade, and Braden is in 10th grade. This is my second rotation on the membership committee at MMS. I helped one year when my oldest was a student at MMS and again this year.

I enjoy Early Schedule Pickup! I love seeing the kids excited about learning their schedules and sharing them with friends as they find their classrooms. Everyone is looking forward to the new school year, and it's contagious.

As our kids become more independent, I've had to find ways to stay engaged with the school and other parents. The PTO has been a great source of community and information that helps bridge the divide created by kids simply growing up! The staff at MMS are always so kind and grateful when the parents are there to help.

It's fun to be a small part of it all.



My name is **Del Adams**. I work for Digio Strategies (US96, Y101, Mix98.7, 93.5 Legend and 93.1 Blues).

My husband Chris is a Physical Therapist & Athletic Trainer at Capital Ortho. Our kids are 9th, 7th, 6th and 4th.

This is my first year on the membership committee. I love watching the kids come in, and their parents push them to check themselves in...love watching them grow up.

Our schools excel because of the little extra we all put in to support our teachers and administrators.

We have something special in Madison.

My name is **Erin Meyer**, and I am married to Chris Meyer. I serve as General Counsel to the Mississippi Department of Education. We have three kids. Jake is a 7th grader at MMS, Leah is a 5th grader at Madison Station, and Max is a 2nd grader at Madison Station. We love all things Mississippi State and the University of Michigan, and we love spending time on Pickwick Lake.

This is my second year on the Membership Team. I'm also serving on 7th grade activities. I love working early schedule pickup. It's great seeing friendly, familiar faces after a summer away and experiencing the excitement of the students as they find out who their teachers are and what friends are in which classes!

Joining the PTO is one of the easiest ways to help support MMS, the administration, teachers, and students and make it the best place for our students to learn and grow.



My name is **Kimberly Witcher**. I am married to Bennett, and we have two children.

Evie is in 6th grade at Madison Middle, and Bennett is in 2nd grade at Madison Avenue.

This is my first year to work on the membership team. I enjoyed getting to see how excited the students and staff were at early schedule pickup. Such a fun event!

One perk about being a member of the PTO is getting to know more parents!

The ARTS at MMS

Advanced Art

I'm looking forward to a fun and engaging year getting to know your students and helping them become more visually aware of the world around them!

Activity Sponsor

Mr. Johnson

tjohnson@madison-schools.com

BAND

Have you joined REMIND?

6th Grade: @6jagband 7th Grade: @7jagband 8th Grade: @8jagband to receive band-related messages!

All Beginner Band students must have an instrument by Fiday, August 16th.

8th Grade Band will be playing in the stands at all MMS Home Football Games!

Activity Sponsor

Ms. Ross

leigh.ross@madison-schools.com

CHOIR

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Kettler (6th Grade) ckettler@madison-schools.com

Kaleidoscope & Kadence

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Bruening (7th and 8th Grade) jbruening@madison-schools.com

Musical



Performances Sept. 26 -28

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Bruening

jbruening@madison-schools.com

Athletics at MMS

Archery

Activity Sponsors

Coach Britt

abritt@madison-schools.com

Coach Stoltzfus

cstoltzfus@madison-schools.com

Girls Basketball

Activity Sponsor

Coach Matthews

zar100@madison-schools.com

** Schedule Coming Soon**

Boys Basketball

Activity Sponsor

Coach Reed

Travis.Reed@madison-schools.com

** Schedule Coming Soon**

Girls Golf

Activity Sponsor

Coach Bayliss

tbayliss@madison-schools.com

Boys Golf

Activity Sponsor

Coach Beach

tbeach@madison-schools.com

Cheer

2024-2025

MMS Cheerleading

Sophia Aguilar

Blake Bayliss

Bella Berry

Lily Chandler

Lucy Gates

Kynsley Hamilton

Hailey Jung

Brilee Lillis

Serenity McCalla

Georgia Mitchell

Charlotte Norris

Lizzie Perry

Ava Putman

Ava Stricklin

Presley Wise

Activity Sponsor

Coach Peters

apeters@madison-schools.com

Cross-Country/ Track

8/17/2024 - Trail Workday 8:00-9:30 am

Bring your tools and help get the MMS trail ready for home meets!

8/24/2024 - Kick-off @ the Quarry 8:00-10:00am

MMS girls at 9am: MMS boys at 9:30am

8/29/2024 - MMS Home Meet @ MMS

4:00-6:00pm

MMS girls at 4:45pm: MMS boys at 5:10

9/7/2024 - The Opener

@ Mississippi College;9:45-12:00 pm

MMS girls at 10:45, MMS boys at 11:15

Activity Sponsors

Coach Shuster

kshuster@madison-schools.com

Coach Cook

rcook@madison-schools.com

Dance

2024-2025 MMS Dance Team

Catherine Brown

Carson Browning

Reagan Carman

Abby Easley

Loree Beth Lanford

Avery Grace Lott

Caelyn Love

Stella Madden

Lily McClure

Kate Oakley

Lindley Strain

Em Jay Swafford

Addison Warren

Activity Sponsor

Coach Collins

marll2@madison-schools.com





6th Grade Beta Club

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Furr

bfurr@madison-schools.com

7th Grade Beta Club

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Turpin

lturpin@madison-schools.com

8th Grade Beta Club

Interest Meeting

Tuesday, August 13th. @ 7:50am in the Library.

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Hudnall

car220@madison-schools.com

Chess

Activity Sponsors

Mrs. Dovle

adoyle@madison-schools.com

Mrs. Adams

chr136@madison-schools.com

FCA

Activity Sponsors

Mrs. Clegg

bclegg@madison-schools.com

Mr. Male

set100@madison-schools.com

Mrs. Walker

ashlee.walker@madison-schools.com

Math Counts

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Selph

jselph@madison-schools.com

Spirit Squad

Spirit Squad is a club for 7th grade girls designed to teach them to lead their grade in school spirit. We have 64 girls this year! They will perform at some 7th grade football games and basketball games. We also prepare the girls for 8th grade cheer and dance tryouts.

Mark your calendar 6th grade girls, signup is in May!

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Bouchillon

Ibouchillon@madison-schools.com

Student Council

Activity Sponsors

Mrs. Hawk - (6th Grade) chawk@madison-schools.com

Mrs. Gilmer - (7th Grade)

fgilmer@madison-schools.com

Mrs. Garletts - (8th Grade) agarletts@madison-schools.com

Mrs. Doyle - (8th Grade)

adoyle@madison-schools.com

Student Technology Association (TSA)

Activity Sponsors

Mr. Morgan

gmorgan@madison-schools.com

Ms. McQuirter

jmcquirter@madison=schools.com

Yearbook

Buy a 2024/2025

Yearbook!

\$50.00

*prices increase 9/1

Activity Sponsor

Mrs. Watkins

mor112@madison-schools.com

Robotics

At MMS, we participate in a program called VEX Robotics. Our students work in teams to BUILD and PROGRAM a competitive robot. Each team travels with their robot to competitions throughout the school year and competes against other robotic teams

Our teams had much success last year, and we are excited to do it all again! Check out our webpage for more information at madison-schools.com/robojags.

At the World's Vex Competition in Dallas, Tx. Our Robojags competed with students from all around the world and came home with three trophies! They won the Judge's Award, the Sportsmanship Award, and Division Finalist.

6th graders participate in VEX IQ competitions

First Competition: Tuesday, October 15 @ Mississippi State

7th and 8th graders participate in VEX V5 competitions

First Competition: Tuesday, Oct 29 at GMS

Activity Sponsors

Mrs. Berry (7th & 8th Grade) sberry@madison-schools.com Mrs. Rice (6th Grade)

mrice@madison-schools.com

