

04/06/2023

Good afternoon, MJMS Families,

I don't even know how to start my newsletter this week, with so much heartache in the air. Our path since last week's shooting has led to several meetings with district staff, principals, SROs, and others to review our safety protocols; look for areas where we need to improve; run practice drills; and consider countless "what ifs" to plan for situations that could occur. We will continue to drill, practice, and discuss, all while hoping we never need to use these procedures in a real situation.

With the recent events, we have also had to deal with reckless statements from students. Every time a student makes a statement that could be a threat, multiple administrators and law enforcement become involved. We must take every situation seriously and investigate thoroughly, which then pulls our resources away from other important aspects of school life. Please talk to your child again about the importance of being careful with words, both verbal and written.

Today, students in our 8th grade wrote profanity and derogatory comments (toward Mrs. Butcher and teachers) in the girls' restroom at GHHS. Black markers are all over the walls of the beautiful school. It will have to be painted. I do not know who did it, but I'm terribly disappointed in this behavior. They covered at least 7 blocks with the vulgarities.

So, how about some good news?

- **Honey Baked Ham Fundraiser:** There is still time to buy a gift card to Honey Baked Ham to support our PTO. If you purchase items from there, this is a win-win! They'll give us 20%, and you get the full value of the card. I bought my Easter ham online, and it was so easy!
<https://honeybakedfundraising.com/fundraisers/mjmspto>
- **PTO Board Positions:** We still need some new members on our PTO board for next year. Please email if you are interested in helping. There are lots of places to plug in, and you can do as little or as much as you have time for!
mjmspto@gmail.com
- **PTO Meeting:** Our next PTO meeting is April 21st at 11:00 a.m. in the library.

- **Teacher Appreciation Week:** The PTO is requesting donations for Teacher Appreciation Week, which is May 1st - 5th. If they ever needed a boost, it's right now. They have the weight of the world on their shoulders.
<https://my.cheddarup.com/c/ghhs-teacher-appreciation?cart=057d7f67-b950-458d-87dd-942c93210fca%21%2150410405>
- **TNReady:** Our testing begins April 17th. We are excited for students to “show what they know.” Please encourage your child to do his/her best every day. Students need to get enough rest, eat a good breakfast, and come to school with a positive outlook. They have learned so much this year, and this their chance to demonstrate all that knowledge!
- **TNReady Scores:** If scores are returned within five instructional days, they will be counted as 10% of the students 2nd semester final grade. Our policy states that the district will apply the minimum percentage. For grades 6-8, the minimum is 10%. Example: R3 = 45%, R4 = 45%, TCAP/EOC = 10%.
- **Walk to School Day:** April 14th, we encourage students in 6th and 7th grade to meet at Charlie Daniels at 7:45 a.m. We will walk to school at 8:00, going behind MJMS to get to the school. Members of the MJ Bicycle Pedestrian Advisory Committee and the MJPD will escort us.

That's all for now. I'm ready to head home and start the long weekend. 😊

Bear Pride in the Middle!

Candis Angle

Looking Forward:

- Sports dates and times are on our website at www.wcschools.com/mjms
- April 10 - Last day to purchase Honey Baked Ham gift card to support PTO
- April 14 - Walk to School Day
- April 21 - PTO meeting, 11:00 a.m.
- April 21 - Tentative Admin campout (We promise to do it before school is out, if this date does not work!)
- April 21 - Teacher of the Year Banquet (Dr. A will come to campout directly after)
- April 27-30 - Little Mermaid