

## **Meade Middle School**

1103 26th St.

Ft. Meade, MD 20755
(410) 674-2355
(410) 674-6590 (fax)

School Hours 8:20am—3:00pm

#### A Message from the Principal

Hello Meade Middle School Families.

Happy New year! I can't believe that we are not only in a new year, but a new decade. What an exciting time to talk with our academic scholars about their accomplishments of the past and hopes and goals for the future. We started our New Year here at Meade Middle with a focus on "New year, New Start". We reset our expectations for student success with a focus on the uniform policy, tardy policy, lunch protocols, and transitioning to and from classes. You can be a great support and help at home by reviewing and encouraging your student to follow all expectations and strive to scholarly greatness.

We now have <u>two</u> completed marking periods for this school year! We have been supporting all 845 of our students, striving for student growth and academic achievement. Please continue to encourage him or her to stay for HELP Day on Tuesday or Thursday. I also want to remind you that your student receives a progress sheet outlining all their grades every Thursday morning during Advisory. Please review parent portal and your student's progress on a regular basis. You are an important part of your student's education and we can't do it without you. Please encourage your student to complete their homework and classroom and to be respectful to themselves and others. Working together we can create great successes for all our scholars.

A friendly reminder that our next parent/teacher conference date is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10th. The conferences on this date will be slightly different as they will be student-led. If you wish to attend in March, please bring your child. He or she will guide you in reviewing their work samples and discussing what steps needed to increase academic success. Our teachers will also be present to answer any questions you may have.

I am proud of the growth of our students. We are working together as a staff to make sure all students know we care for them, support them, and are invested in their academic success and future.

Sincerely

Larla M. Stimbach

Principal

<u>Principal</u> Karla Steinbach

Assistant Principals
Troy Hermann
6th gr (Last Names A-L) & 7th gr
Erica Garren
7th (Last Names M-Z) & 8th gr

School Counselors
6th grade- Amy Canterbury
7th grade- Katy Kreft
8th grade- Bryan Bauer







### Vision and Hearing Screening

Vision and hearing screening for 8th graders and students new to AACPS will take place on

Feb. 19, 2020

All 8th grade students will be screened. Screenings will also be completed for all new students to Anne Arundel County schools. Parents will receive a letter if their child does not pass the screening. If you have any concerns please contact your school nurse <u>Denise Woodard</u>, RN at 410-674-2355 ext.211.

# Remember To Bring Your GLASSES On Screening Day!



Anne Arundel County Department of Health School Health Services

#### Meade Middle School M-Power Sweatshirts on Sale Now!

We have a limited number of navy blue Meade Middle School M-Power Sweatshirts in stock! They are \$13 each (tax is already included) and come in ADULT sizes Small-Large (XL is sold out) and 2XL. If you are interested in purchasing a sweatshirt, please send the order form and payment (exact change or check made out to Meade Middle School) in with your child and have them see Ms. Wagner in the main office. When they are gone, they are gone!

Meade Middle M-Power Spirit Wear					
Name: Grade: _	Homeroom 1	eacher:			
Return this form, with payment, to Ms. Wagner in the main office.					
Get yours before they sell out!  Navy Blue Sweatshirt with white M-Power Logo  \$13.00 (tax is included in this cost)  M-Power Sweatshirts may be worn DAILY over appropriate uniform shirts and bottoms.					
All Shirts are available in <u>ADULT sizes only</u> - Small- 2XL.	Size <u>ADULT</u> Sm-2XL	Qty	Cost		
Circle Payment Method				1	
Cash (exact change only please)				]	
Check (made out to Meade Middle School)  Check #	Total Due:			]	
Name on Check	Date Paid:		Collected By:		
	Shirt(s) Received:		Given By:	1	
				•	

Sweatshirts will be available for sale until they are sold out.

February		
Jazz Band Field Trip (Meade High)	Tues. 2/11	
AVID Family Night- 5:00-7:00pm		
2- Hour Early Dismissal	Wed. 2/12	
PBIS Valentine's Dance (after school)	Thurs. 2/13	
SCHOOL CLOSED- President's Day	Mon. 2/17	
Vision & Hearing Screening for 8th graders	Wed. 2/19	
ACC CBI Field Trip (Arundel Mills)		
Honor Roll Assemblies 6th grade– 8:30-9:00 7th grade– 9:15-9:45 8th grade– 10:00-10:30	Fri. 2/21	
Black History Month Celebration PTSA Meeting- 6:30pm	Thurs. 2/27	
March		
National School Social Workers Week	Mon. 3/2-Fri. 3/6	
ACC CBI Field Trip (Arundel Mills)	Wed. 3/4	
Interims Go Home with Students Today	Mon. 3/9	
AVID Field Trip (Naval Academy)		
SCHOOL CLOSED for STUDENTS-	Tues. 3/10	
Student-Led Conferences	10:00am-6:00pm	
Vision & Hearing Rescreening (8th graders)	Wed. 3/11	
Media Ctr Field Trip (Beyond Comics,)	Fri 3/13	
MISA Testing (8th graders)	Wed. 3/18-Thurs 3/19	
ACC CBI Feld Trip (Arundel Mills)	Wed. 3/18	
2- Hour Early Dismissal	Tues. 3/24	
6th gr Field Trip (Arlington Echo)- Ist group	Wed. 3/23	
6th gr Field Trip (Arlington Echo)- 2nd group	Thurs. 3/26	
PTSA Meeting- 6:30pm		
6th gr Field Trip (Arlington Echo)- 3rd group	Fri. 3/27	
6th gr Field Trip (Arlington Echo)- 4th group	Mon. 3/30	
6th gr Field Trip (Arlington Echo)- 5th group	Tues. 3/31	
April		
ACC CBI Field Trip (Laurel Shopping Center)	Wed. 4/1	
2- Hour Early Dismissal	Tues. 4/7	
End of the 3rd Marking Period	Wed. 4/8	
2- Hour Early Dismissal		
SCHOOL CLOSED- Spring Break	Thurs. 4/9-Mon 4/13	
Beginning of the 4th Marking Period	Tues. 4/14	
ACC CBI Field Trip (Laurel Shopping Center)	Wed. 4/15	
AVID College Fair Field Trip (Baysox Stadium)		
Volunteer Appreciation Week	Mond. 4/20-Fri. 4/24	
Earth Day	Wed. 4/33	
Report Cards /Newsletters Go Home Today	Thurs. 4/23	
PTSA Meeting- 6:30pm		
SCHOOL CLOSED- Election Day	Tues. 4/28	
	<del> </del>	

## Kudos to the Meade Middle Dance Company!

The Meade Middle Dance Company performed at North County High School for the AACPS Dance Festival on January 28th and 31st. The dancers were AMAZING! They received many compliments on their performance and were a great representation for Meade Middle School!

#### PBIS Valentine's Dance

The Valentine's Dance will be held after school Thursday, February 13th. Students will turn in 20 Meade Bucks to attend. A DJ will be providing music and pizza and snacks will be for sale.

#### **Black History Month Celebration**

On February 27th, Meade Middle School will host a Black History Month Celebration. The event will honor the accomplishments of black

Americans in every area of endeavor throughout our history.

Black

HISTORY

The event will feature the dance company, step team, and performances by staff and students.

#### News from the Science Department

We welcomed the Annapolis Maritime Museum to 6th grade in January for in-class instruction for

Oyster Restoration projects and human impact in Maryland.

We will also be welcoming the United States Navel Academy Engineers and Scientists who are providing an in-school field trip experience for 21st century M-Powering Girls in STEM group. This experience is provided in cooperation with USNA& AFCEA International Education Grant.

Our 8th graders are working hard to move forward in the 2020 Regional Science and Engineering Expo. We are so proud of our Bulldogs! The Regional Science EXPO will be at Annapolis High School in March.

#### A Message from the School Counseling Office

Hello Parents, Guardians, and Students!

As we conclude the second marking period, please take this time to review your child's report card. Report cards will be distributed on February 10th. The new marking period comes with new opportunity for academic success.

To be promoted to the next grade level, students must pass three of four Core courses (Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies). Additionally, a student may not fail a class they have previously failed during their time in middle school. Final middle school course grades are determined by averaging the four marking period percentage grades. Students will be required to attend summer school for failed core courses. Summer School tuition has been \$300 per course in the past and is held at Meade High School; transportation is the responsibility of the parents.

In addition to report cards, students receive a copy of their grade report to bring home each Thursday. Parent Portal is available for 24/7 access to student grades. Sign up for Parent Portal online at <a href="https://powerschool.aacps.org/public/home.html">https://powerschool.aacps.org/public/home.html</a>. If your student needs additional support, please have them stay after for tutoring with their teachers on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Please contact teachers with specific question's regarding your student's grades.

In the upcoming weeks, students will receive information from the counseling department about their schedule and course options for next school year. Keep an eye out for information being sent home to review the information with your student.

The next Parent Conference day is scheduled for March 10<sup>th</sup> – more information will be sent home as we approach that date. Your presence and participation are welcomed!

National School Counseling Week 2020 is Feb. 3–7. The week, sponsored by the American School Counselor Association (ASCA), highlights the unique contribution of school counselors within U.S. school systems and the tremendous impact they can have in helping students achieve school success and plan for a career. Take a moment to thank your local school counselor(s).

6th Grade: Ms. Canterbury

7th Grade: Ms. Kreft

8th Grade: Mr. Bauer

The Meade Middle School Counseling team



#### Free Food for Families in Need

The Meade Middle Food Pantry is stocked and available for any families in need. Please call to arrange a pick-up. The backpack buddy program sends food home with students who need it every Friday. If you would like your student to receive food every Friday, please contact our school social worker Ms. Blake or have your student stop by the social work office to pick up a consent form.



# Family Night

Where: Meade Middle School: Media Center

When: Tuesday, February 11, 2020

ime: 5-7 PM

- → Learn about AVID!
  - Students can apply for the program
- → Interviews will take place on the spot for students!
- → Mingle with middle school teachers!
- → Enjoy FREE food and beverages!

Contact Molly Felton (AVID Coordinator)
mfelton@aacps.org for more information.



#### PARENT PORTAL

PowerSchool Parent Portal is a powerful, easy-to-use, secure communication tool connecting parents/guardians and schools. Using the PowerSchool student information system, the Parent Portal allows collaboration to improve student achievement. Online access to grades, attendance, and assignments makes it easier for parents to monitor, identify, and accelerate students in grades 1 through 12 progress in real time.

PowerSchool Parent Portal will allow parents/guardians with more than one child to access all their children at one time with one user name and password. If you would like to sign up, please contact the school.





#### **Communicating with your School Nurse**

Parents/Guardians -

Keep Your School Nurse Up to Date:

Be sure to inform your school nurse about your child's health conditions or other special health needs to plan for safe management at school. Chronic health conditions include but are not limited to: asthma, seizures, diabetes or life threatening allergies.

Remember to provide your school nurse with current emergency contact information.

Tell your school nurse if your child's health condition interferes with school attendance.

Make sure to tell your school nurse about medications and medical treatments your child requires during the school day.

Tell your school nurse about any changes in your child's health or mobility status, or about any infectious disease.

Any questions or health related concerns? Please contact your school nurse, Denise Woodard, RN at (410) 674-2355, ext. 211.

> Working Together for a Safe and Healthy School Year!

Anne Arundel County Department of Health School Health Services



#### ATTENTION 6TH GRADE PARENTS!!!



### PLEASE PROVIDE PROOF OF REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS **BEFORE YOUR CHILD STARTS** 7<sup>TH</sup> GRADE



**Tdap** (tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis) and MCV4 (meningococcal)

If your child has already received these vaccines, please send a copy of the shot record showing proof.

THANK YOU!

ANY QUESTIONS? Please call the school nurse!



Denise Woodard, RN 410-674-2355, Ext. 211



#### **Volunteers / Field Trip Chaperones**

ALL school volunteers and field trip chaperones will be required to complete an online Background Check, watch the Sexual Harassment and Child Abuse training video online and submit a signed Verification Form (new for this school year) to the school prior to volunteering or chaperoning.

If you are interested in volunteering with our students or chaperoning a field trip, please contact your child's teacher or Ms. Wagner in the office for a Verification Form. More information, including the links to the Background Check and video and a printable Verification Form can be found on our school's website.

Thank you for your support!



#### **Before & After-School Hours**

Morning Drop Off: Please note that staff is not on duty to supervise students prior to 7:55a.m. We ask that parents not

drop students off prior to 7:55a.m. as students must wait outdoors, unsupervised, regardless of weather conditions. The only exception is when prior arrangements have been made with a staff member for reasons such as early morning band or orchestra rehearsal.

After-School Activities: After-School Activities will be held on Tuesdays and Thursdays throughout the school year from 3:10-4:10pm, where a light dinner will be provided. At the conclusions of activities, activity buses will be available to transport bus riders home.

Please note that we no longer require students to turn in a signed permission slip to participate in Tutoring Tuesday and Thursdays. Please touch base with your student to ensure they know when they can stay after and to communicate that information with you on a regular basis. We encourage our students to be self-advocates and to regularly communicate with their teachers, reviewing progress reports to determine any extra support that may be required. Thank you for your support!

#### **School Meals**



A light breakfast is provided free of charge to ALL students each day during homeroom. School lunches can be purchased for \$3.00.

#### Free and Reduced Meal Applications

Start your family's meal benefits early by going online to https:// applyformeals.aacps.org/ and entering the requested information as accurately as possible. All data will be instantly and securely sent to the school district for processing and you will receive a letter in the mail with the status of your application.

#### **MyPaymentsPlus**

Free registration gives you 24/7 access to:

- Student cafeteria balances and purchase history
- Prepayments for breakfast/lunch, with auto-pay capability
- Low balance e-mail reminders

To sign up, go to https://www.mypaymentsplus.com

#### **Uniforms and Uniform Policy**

Please help us stress the importance of following the Uniform policy by making sure that your child is coming to school dressed appropriately every day! Meade Middle believes uniforms can improve learning by reducing distractions,

sharpening focus on schoolwork and making the classroom a more scholarly environment, allowing students to perform better academically. In addition, please make sure that your child dresses in appropriate layers as temperatures vary from classroom to classroom.

**Tops**: Black, navy blue, gray or pastel blue long or short-sleeved polo (collared) style shirts with two or three buttons at the neck. Black Meade Middle M-Power polos may be worn daily. \*Students may wear Meade Middle School Spirit Wear, Club and M-Power shirts with the appropriate uniform bottoms on Fridays.

Pants: Khaki-style pants in black, navy blue, or a khaki color and must fit securely around the waist. Belts are recommended and must be plain black or brown. Jeans and sweatpants are not permitted.

Skirts/Shorts/Skorts: Must be black, navy blue, or khaki colored. The bottom of the garment must be no more than 3 inches from the center of the knee cap.

Additional Clothing: Solid navy blue or black V-neck sweaters, front button cardigans, sweatshirts or fleece jackets, and Meade Middle School sweatshirts may be worn over uniforms during the school day. College sweatshirts clearly stating the name of the college/university and that do not have hoods may also be worn.

Hoodies, coats, jackets, and hats must be kept in lockers.

All bookbags and string bags must be kept in students' main lockers during the school day. Students will not be permitted to carry their Gym or Dance uniforms in string bags .Only plastic grocery bags may be used to carry these items.

Purses should be 5x7 in size or smaller. All fanny packs should be worn around the waist.

<u>Consequences for not following the Uniform Policy:</u> Students that do not follow the policy will be addressed in homeroom.

1st Offense- Verbal Reminder to student

2<sup>nd</sup> Offense- Phone call home

3<sup>rd</sup> Offense-Lunch Detention

4th Offense- After-School Detention

5<sup>th</sup> Offense- Administrative Consequence

SCHOOL UNIFORMS

Thank you for supporting scholarly dress at Meade Middle School!

#### Meade Middle Tardy Policy

Please reinforce the expectation that students must get to class on time so that your child does not miss out on instruction and avoids the following consequences for being late to class.

The teacher will document each time a student is Late to Class Unexcused and parents will be notified via Parent Connect phone call.

1<sup>st</sup> time Late to Class Unexcused (LU) – Teacher warning

2<sup>nd</sup> (LU)- Teacher warning

3<sup>rd</sup> (LU) – Teacher - specific consequence: conference after class, lunch detention, etc.

4<sup>th</sup> (LU) – Counselor and / or Student Advocate meeting with student

5<sup>th</sup> (LU) – Disciplinary referral written by teacher to Administration

Subsequent Tardiness = Additional referrals resulting in progressive consequences.

.\*This process is reset at the end of each marking period <u>if the student has 3 or fewer offenses.</u>

#### Cell Phones OFF and Out of Sight!

Cell phones are becoming an increasing distraction in school and teachers do not allow them to be used in class. Please help us reinforce the message that cell phones should be off and out of sight. Please also remind your child that if he/she has a cell phone, he/she must practice responsible behaviors. Students should not leave them unattended (such as out on their desk, charging against a wall, or laying on a locker room bench) and they should not be allowing others to use their phone. When we have students report their phone was broken or stolen, we often find that they left their phone unattended or gave it to another student to use. We rarely find stolen phones and we cannot force compensation for broken or stolen phones, which is why ask for them to be off and out of sight.

Finally, please help us keep a focus on learning by refraining from texting or calling your child on his/her cell phone during the day. If you have an emergency, we ask that you call the school and we can bring your child down to the office to speak to you.

#### **Classroom Visitation Guidelines**

At Meade Middle School, we welcome parents and guardians and look forward to partnering with you to better support your children. We ask that you follow certain guidelines to help make your classroom visit a positive experience for both you and your child.

Please make arrangements with the teacher that you wish to visit at least 24 hours in advance. When you arrive at the school, please sign in at the Counseling Office to get a visitor's badge. As a security measure, we aske that parents wear their visitor's badge where it is easily visible and that you do not bring bags into the school.



Also, classroom visits are meant to allow parents/guardians to see their child and his/her teacher as they go through a regular class period. We ask that visitors not interact with their own child, other students or the teacher so as not to disrupt the learning of any students and disciplining of students by visitors is not allowed.

Please ensure that your cell phone is turned off or on silent when visiting the classroom. In order to protect the privacy of our students and staff, taking pictures and recording videos is strictly prohibited.

Please remember that teachers will NOT be available for an individual conference before, during or after instruction without a pre-arranged appointment. If you would like to speak to one of your child's teachers, please contact that teacher by email to make arrangements. If you would like to meet with more than one teacher, please contact your child's school Counselor to make an appointment.

## **AACPS Digital Resource Information for Families**

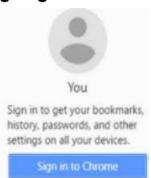
## **Google Chrome Browser**



You may not give a lot of thought to the web browser that is used at home, but in AACPS Google Chrome is the "instructional browser" that teachers have students use when working on the Internet in the classroom. Most of our instructional websites function best in Chrome; some require it! If you do not have the Chrome browser installed on your child's computer, click here to download Chrome for Mac or PC.

To install on an iPad it can be accessed in the <u>App Store</u>. Android devices will come with Chrome.

## Signing into Chrome



To maximize the student's experience in Chrome and ensure that they can access the same tools their classroom teachers have them use, we recommend they sign into Chrome.

Follow <u>these directions</u> to have your child sign into Chrome to gain access to their bookmarks and extensions.

Have more than one child in AACPS? Do your children share a computer at home? Perhaps they even share the computer with you! Watch this 10 minute <u>video</u> to find out how all Google users in your household can be signed into Chrome simultaneously so everyone has access to only their own online resources.

### ClassLink at home



When logged onto computers and Chromebooks in AACPS, students have an online homepage called Classlink. The Classlink dashboard contains the links to the websites and online textbooks that students use frequently in class so they don't have to waste instructional time conducting searches or typing in web addresses. Classlink is also a "single sign on service" that allows students to get into their AACPS online accounts without having to remember multiple logins or to waste time repeatedly typing in usernames and passwords.

Follow <u>these directions</u> for how your child can access their ClassLink from home.

## **Online Textbooks**



Links to access the online textbooks that students use in various classes are all available from the ClassLink homepage. If students follow the directions above to use Chrome, sign into Chrome, and access ClassLink, they can click and enter into any of their online textbooks from the Classlink page. This includes McGraw Hill, StemScopes and TCi.

# Microsoft OneDrive & Office 365



All AACPS staff and students have a Microsoft OneDrive & Office 365 account. Your child's login to this account is <a href="mailto:studentid#@aacps.org">studentid#@aacps.org</a>, and the same password they use to logon to AACPS computers. This account includes a cloud drive with 1 Terabyte of storage for digital folders and files. It also includes a suite of productivity tools that include Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Excel online.

Along with the online tools, families in AACPS can install Microsoft Office Pro Plus on up to 5 computers to have access to Office at home. Follow <a href="these-blue">these directions</a> to install.



All AACPS staff and students have a Google for Education account. Your child's login to this account is <a href="mailto:studentid#@aacps.org">studentid#@aacps.org</a>, and the same password they use to logon to AACPS computers. This account includes a cloud drive of unlimited storage for digital folders and files. It also includes a suite of productivity tools that include Google Docs, Slides, Drawings and more. *Please note*: students DO NOT have Gmail accounts or any email with AACPS.

Our Google for Education accounts also include access to Google Classroom. If your child's teacher has assigned digital homework, they can access it through Google Classroom, and/or their Google Drive account.

## Google Classroom



Google Classroom is a paperless, digital class platform for teachers to share resources, announcements, assignments and assessments with students. Students can access, complete, and turn in their assignments and assessments. Teachers can grade, share feedback and return those assignments and student scores, without a piece of paper every changing hands. As our teachers work to reduce paper use, Google Classroom is gaining popularity. It is quite likely that at least one of your child's teachers is sharing resources through Google Classroom.

For more information about Google Classroom, check out the What is Google Classroom file created for families.



Most AACPS schools have available to families a **What's Happening page** on Blackboard for sharing important information (syllabi, field trip permission forms, calendar of events, etc). If your school uses this resource, they will send home information with specific login instructions for their site. For ongoing questions about a school's What's Happening page, please check your school's website, or call the school.

#### **Doing Research**



AACPS has a subscription to a variety of professional online databases that students can use in class and at home to conduct research for class assignments. Using these resources will alleviate the frustrations that students and their parents can experience when endless Internet searches fail to yield helpful or useful results.

The School's Media Specialist can share the login for the databases that students would need to use when accessing these resources from outside of school.

OR

Students can access all of their school's databases if they sign into MackinVIA. Go to <a href="https://www.mackinvia.com/">https://www.mackinvia.com/</a> and login with their Student ID number and the last 4 digits of their Student ID as their password.

#### Online subscriptions



Looking for quality instructional platforms your child can access online from home? These applications are accessible through Classlink:

<u>Discovery Education</u> - AACPS has a subscription to DE where students can access videos, audio files, images and articles that can all be incorporated into other projects.

Google Earth - Google Earth is free and online! Students can travel the world by simply typing in where they would like to go. Students can search for street addresses, landmarks, countries, continents, oceans and more.

The Math Learning Center- The Math Learning Center has free digital math manipulatives including geoboards, number frames, pattern shapes and more.

<u>Scratch</u> and <u>code.org</u> - students learn to code in online platforms, beginning with block coding and advancing into text-based coding.

Typing Club - Elementary students in AACPS have access to Typing Club to help them learn to type faster, more efficiently, and with more accuracy.

WeVideo - AACPS has a district license for the online video recording and editing platform. Students can record video or audio files, add narration and still images and perform advanced video editing to make a polished final project.

<u>Wixie</u> - elementary and middle school students in AACPS have accounts for Wixie. Wixie is an online whiteboard program where students can write, type, paint pictures and tell stories. They can even record audio narration for their slides.

#### Software to download



Want to maximize access to school platforms from home? AACPS has district licences for the following software programs that allow students and staff to install and use from home:

<u>SMART Notebook</u> - Notebook is a whiteboard program that allows users to make interactive presentations. If installed at home, staff and students can open, edit and create Notebook files. **Please note:** AACPS is currently using version 17.1.1, plans to upgrade to version 19 in October 2019. To ensure full compatibility between home and school, we recommend installing the same version at home.

<u>Microsoft Office Pro Plus</u> - families in AACPS can install Office Pro Plus on up to 5 computers to have access to Office at home.

#### Digital Citizenship



Concerned with *how* your child is using the Internet? AACPS has some great Internet safety and digital citizenship tools for students and families.

**Elementary school students** 

Middle school students

**High school students**