

Mitchell Junior High School **Bluejacket Bulletin**



1010 W. Bishop Blvd.
Mitchell, IN 47446
www.mitchell.k12.in.us

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MJHS Welcomes New Teachers

Mitchell Junior High would like to welcome the following new teachers to our building.

Although she is not a new teacher, Ms. Joanne Symcox has moved from teaching applied skills to 8th grade science. She replaces Miss Anna Sullivan who took a position at Jackson Creek Middle School in Bloomington.



Mrs. Jean Sowders is the new art teacher at MJHS. She replaces Mrs. Abigail Bill who moved back to her hometown of Mishawaka to teach. Jean holds a degree from Lipscomb University and is currently working on a degree and Indiana Wesleyan University. She is the wife of MHS teacher and girls' basketball coach, Matt Sowders.



The second new teacher is Mrs. Kedra Burris. She replaces Tyler Phillips who left MJHS for a teaching position and his first basketball head coaching job at South Spencer. Mrs. Burris spent the last four years as ECA tutor at Mitchell High School. During that time, she worked toward her math degree through Western Governors University. She completed her student teaching at MHS and has her first public school teaching position.



And our final new teacher this year is Mr. Larry Burton. Mr. Burton brings a wealth of experience over 17 years in music instruction, choir and band. He holds degrees from Morehead State and Indiana Wesleyan. He has been either the choir or band director at several Southern Indiana school districts. He replaces Miss Tara Ramey who is now the music teacher at the elementary schools.

Attendance

Students who are on time and present at school will likely evolve into young adults who are on time and present in college and/or a future career. This is a life skill that could result in keeping or losing a job someday. Remember to call the office if your student will be absent. Up to 10 absences can be excused by a parent. After the 10th absence, a doctor's note is required.

After 15 total parent excused and/or unexcused absences, the attendance officer for the school MUST submit the student and parent/guardian to the Lawrence County Probation Department's Truancy Intervention Program. The Truancy Intervention Program involves a letter from the probation department, a meeting at school with a probation department representative and Ms. Jones (assistant principal, MJHS), and/or an intake into the Truancy Intervention Program which requires an appearance in front of the probation judge and officers.

If you have questions about attendance, please contact Ms. Jones, MJHS Assistant Principal at (812)849-3747.

School Reach System

MCS will be using the School Reach Phone system again this year. You will receive a recorded message from the school to announce cancellations, early dismissals, or emergencies.

Late arrivals, early dismissals, cancellations and emergencies will continue to be reported to local television and radio stations as well.

Please be sure to update your phone number in order to receive the recorded message. For more information, contact the school.

Calendar of Events

September 2014

- 1 Labor Day NO SCHOOL
- 2 4:30PM CC @ Shawswick
6:00PM VB @ Crawford County
- 4 4:45PM CC @ E. Washington
6:00PM FB @ Salem
6:30PM VB @ Perry Central
- 5 PROGRES REPORTS
- 8-12 BOOK FAIR in the library
6:00PM School Board Meeting
- 9 4:15PM CC @ Bedford Middle School
6:00PM VB v. Medora H
- 10 5:00PM CC @ Eastern Greene
- 11 6:00PM VB v. Orleans H
- 15 6:00PM VB @ Salem
- 16 6:00PM FB v. Paoli H
6:00PM VB v. W. Washington H
- 18 4:30PM CC @ Salem
- 20 11:30AM FB v. Perry Central H
- 22 6:00PM VB v. Shawswick H
- 23 5:30PM CC @ Paoli
6:00PM FB v. Trinity Lutheran H
- 24 8th Grade LA Acuity Testing
- 25 7th Grade Acuity Testing
4:30PM CC @ Oolitic
- 29 6:00PM VB @ Bedford Middle
- 30 6:00PM FB v. Springs Valley H
6:00PM VB @ Paoli

October 2014

- 2 5:00PM CC @ BNL Invitational
6:00PM VB v. Brownstown H
- 4 9:00AM VB Co. Tourney @ Shawswick
10:00AM CC @ Crawford County
- 6 2nd 9 weeks begins
4:30PM CC @ Orleans
- 7 7:00PM Fall Band Concert
- 20-24 FALL BREAK NO SCHOOL
- 28 6:00PM 6GGB @ Shawswick
- 29 Picture Retakes
- 31 Next Online Newsletter



Jackets Are P.R.O Students

We have implemented a school-wide Positive Behavior Support plan titled "Jackets are P.R.O Students!"

P.R.O stands for Prepared, Ready To Learn, and On Time. We are asking students to review expected behaviors for the classroom, hallway, cafeteria, school assemblies, outdoor activities, restroom, and dismissal.

Students can be nominated by a teacher to be the teacher's P.R.O student of the week. Chicago's Pizza has donated a large one-topping pizza for two students who are randomly chosen from the P.R.O student of the week students.

Students can be given a P.R.O student card for being caught with exceptional P.R.O student behavior. Cards are given out by every staff member at MJHS.

Ask your student to tell you how they have made our school a better place by being a P.R.O student at MJHS!

Spell Bowl Team

Students are getting an early start practicing for this year's Spell Bowl. It will be held on Tuesday, November 4th. We would love to have some strong spellers join our team. If there's interest, we would have a spelling club that would continue through the first of the year. If any students are interested, please contact Mrs. Grace in Room 220.

2014 7/8 Girls Volleyball Team

Congratulations for the following girls who are playing on the 7th and 8th grade volleyball teams this year:

Anna Beaty, Lisa Eager, Abby Leonard, Aubrey Martin, Shelby Ooley, Allie Passmore, Marah Pennington, Annie Tipton, Brooke Tredway, Amy Wilkinson, Callie Blais, Alissa Blake, Makayla Butler, Sierra Cox, Brianna Granger, Ashlen Grimes, Amber McCracken, Jayden Shaff, and Shyanna Yokley.

Yearbooks

Congratulations to the new 2014-15 Yearbook Staff: Akacia Howe, Brina Wilcoxon, Callie Blais, Gabbie Willoughby, Adrienne Young, Gracie Canada, Kiara Terry, and Nikki Edwards.

Yearbooks are now on sale for \$23.00. The price goes up to \$25 after 9/30. See our school website for ordering information.

21st Century Scholars

If your student qualifies for free or reduced lunch, he or she is eligible to apply for the 21st Century Scholar program. This program is a way to help Indiana students further their education after high school. This is a great way to help offset the costs of education and training.

Income eligible 7th and 8th graders who enroll in the program and fulfill a pledge of good citizenship are guaranteed to receive up to four years of undergraduate tuition at any public college or university in Indiana. If your child attends a private or independent institution, the state will award an amount comparable to that of a public institution.

As a 21st Century Scholar, your child can get help finding free tutoring, a mentor and a part-time job, and once he or she gets to college, students who are 21st Century Scholars receive support to finish their college degree.

But first you have to apply. Students and parents must complete the application by June 30th of the 8th grade year. Applications are only available online at:

<http://www.in.gov/ssaci/2429.htm>

Homework Help Available

MJHS teachers and staff volunteer to help students with homework on Tuesday and Thursday after school until 4:00 PM. Anyone who would like to attend may stay after school for this service.

Students should listen to the announcements for the room number and supervising teacher to know where to report.

Homework help is available in Math and Science for all Indiana students in grades 6-12 through the Rose Hulman Homework Hotline by calling 1-800-Ask-Rose.

Rose Hulman students have been trained to tutor middle and high school students and have access to all state-adopted textbooks.

Language Arts 8

In eighth grade language arts, students are currently working from their literature books. The unit of study is called, "Can All Conflicts Be Resolved?"

They are reading short stories, including "Raymond's Run", "The Tell-Tale Heart", and "Flowers for Algernon". Students are working on their own, as well as in pairs, and small groups. We are starting off to a great year.

2014-2015 MJHS Student Council

The new Student Council Members for 2014-15 are:

6th Grade—Hannah Bell, Jon Drake, Macy Graves, Mandie Leamer, Trevin Lee, Makenzie Schultz, Collin Spear, Savannah Terrell, Isaac Terry, Kiara Terry

7th Grade—Lauren Beeler, Lucas Brown, Jessica Eubanks, Lauren Goldfuss, Ashley Holt, Mia Nicol, Hanna Pugh, Jayden Shaff
Sponsors are Mrs. Laura Walton and Miss Jessica Jones

8th Grade—Anna Beaty, Kamryn Bridges, Dalton Chowning, Nathan Gratzner, Matthew King, Lauren Woods Eliza Zeeks

Officers—Co-Presidents Addie Myers and Gabbie Willoughby, Vice President Lauryn Davis, Secretary Abigeil Briscoe, and Treasurer Tatelyn Terrell.

Book Club

The Book Club will have its first meeting Tuesday, September 3rd during 2nd Jacket Pride in the library. Any 8th grader who plans to attend may eat first lunch or bring lunch to the meeting.

The first meeting will be an introduction and we will start planning the Book Fair coming in October. Students should have a signed permission form to participate.

Asbestos Emergency Response Act

In 1987, Congress passed the Asbestos Hazard Emergency Response Act. This law required that students and parents be informed each year of activities related to the management of asbestos containing materials. Since 1989, Mitchell Community Schools has employed Environmental Management Consultants, Inc. of Evansville, Indiana, to direct the management of our asbestos containing materials.

Each school within Mitchell Community Schools has an asbestos management plan book developed by Environmental Management Consultants. These plan books contain the original 1988 inspection materials, the three year re-inspection materials, building material analysis report and copies of the semi-annual reports. These management plan books are available for your review by contacting the appropriate building principal.

During the 2013-14 school year no asbestos abatement activity occurred.

You may contact Dr. Steve Phillips at 849-4481 for additional information.