

August 8, 2023

Hello, Madison families!

It is finally time to come back to school and we couldn't be more excited to welcome your student(s) back for another great school year!

We thought it might be helpful to send a letter that had lots of information in one place so that you might reference later, bookmark links, or go *old school* and hang it on the fridge!

The first day of school is TOMORROW, August 9, 2023. Let's all give cheer for a Whoop, Whoop Wednesday!

Be sure to look for or REVIEW information already sent from your student's building principal on the specifics for your school. This document is intended to be a high-level reminder as we kick off the year. Sections are broken down into Transportation, Registration, Communication, and Links.

TRANSPORTATION

If your student is riding a bus, please know that safety is our number one priority and we will likely be delayed as students get back into the swing of things. Please be patient with our team for the first few days and first week or so as they take their time to make sure that all students are on the right bus, are familiar with bus stops for morning pick up and afternoon drop off, and know where they catch the bus at dismissal at each building. Being proactive early is our goal - <u>click here</u> to see our annual letter.

Here are a few pointers from our Transportation Team:

- Routes and times are similar to what they were last year if you rode the bus. Different bus numbers and drivers are a possibility.
- If you completed the Transportation Form during registration, the bus driver for your route will be reaching out to you before school begins tomorrow, if they have not already done so. They will be using the contact information you have on file in Skyward, so please make sure it is up to date!
- If you have a <u>young student who is either brand new to bus transportation</u> or may not quite know their address or where they go after school, PLEASE put this information on an index card or on a sticker and place it somewhere in their backpack where they know to find it and that it is okay to share with the bus driver or bus aide so that we make sure they get where they need to go.
- If you have not registered your child and they will use school transportation, you will need to alert transportation ASAP and let them know so they can update route information. Please call Jill Deputy at 812-274-8110. We will do our very best to get them on the route as quickly as possible, but depending on the timing, you may need to make alternate arrangements for the first day or so.

REGISTRATION

All students must be registered to attend school and can be done online by logging into your <u>Skyward Family</u> <u>Access</u> account and clicking on the ONLINE REGISTRATION button to begin the process.

If you need assistance with a password reset, please contact <u>Molly McCulley</u> by clicking on her name and sending her an email.

You can also visit the Main Office of your building to register your child.

If you have not registered your child and they will use school transportation, you will need to alert transportation ASAP and let them know so they can update route information. Please call Jill Deputy at 812-274-8110.

COMMUNICATION

All of our buildings use SchoolMessenger to communicate with families. This pulls contact data from Skyward each morning around 5 a.m. It is CRITICAL that your contact information is up to date and updated as **necessary as things change.** We will send emails or calls and will be mindful of quantity, however, this is the easiest way for us to keep a large number of families up to date with information from school. If your information is not correct, or you do not have a phone number or email address on file, you will miss important information from your school.

We will layer email, phone, social media, website, blog posts, and (when necessary) local radio to communicate with families. In the event of weather, we also utilize regional TV and radio coverage in addition to all of the above to communicate with families. Our annual winter weather letter will be coming later this fall.

<u>School Websites & Social Media Links</u>

We try really hard to keep information up to date on our sites. At the beginning of the year, we will be updating things with important dates, events, etc. Each site has a calendar of events that our clerks will be adding to as the year progresses. (You can see all of them on the <u>District Events link here</u>.)

Building contacts can be located under the Contact drop-down menu on each building's site.

Quick Links to Websites:

Madison Consolidated Schools (main site)

*We are going to work to utilize our blogging functionality more this year as an added level of communication!

- <u>Menu link</u>
- <u>Skyward Login</u>
- Document Library

Madison Consolidated High School

• Check out Mr. Lawhead's <u>NEW BLOG</u>! It will appear on the Home Page of the district website under the MCS News Feed on the main page.

Madison Junior High School

Anderson Elementary School

Deputy Elementary School

Lydia Middleton Elementary School

Rykers' Ridge Elementary

Madison Athletics (High School & Junior High)

Quick Links to Building Socials:

These are suggested starting points! There are many, many others to search for and follow - it is so much fun to find feeds and keep up to date on the great things going on within our district! Be sure to check out other feeds associated with your school - PTOs, classrooms, extracurriculars, fine arts, eams, etc. - our folks do a great job of keeping you posted via social media.

MCS_Indiana	<u>Facebook</u>	Instagram	<u>Twitter</u>
MCHS	Facebook		
MJHS	Facebook	Instagram	
Anderson	Facebook		
Deputy	Facebook		
Lydia Middleton	Facebook		
Rykers' Ridge	Facebook		

We hope you find this information helpful! We are very excited to get this year started and look forward to seeing your student(s) tomorrow morning for a wonderful first day of school!

Have a great year!