



Gahanna Middle School West

Newsletter

Upcoming Events

6th Grade Adventure Day

Date: August 23

Cost: \$20.00

Money and permission slips are due August 21

Parent volunteers are needed. Please email Mrs. Pagani if interested at paganig@gjps.org

Important Dates

August 27 – 7th Grade Open House. 5:15 pm in the auditorium

August 27 – 8th Grade Open House. 5:30 pm in the cafeteria

Week #1 is in the books!

The MSW administrative team is pleased to report that the 2019-20 school year is off to a great start at Middle School West. Students and staff have already begun forming and strengthening meaningful relationships, which is an essential part of the learning process. As we all know, children are much more receptive to new information when they feel welcomed, cared for, and safe.

Grade Level Meetings

The administrative team had grade level meetings with 6th graders on Wednesday and with 8th graders on Friday. The 7th grade meeting will be held on Monday. These meetings allow us to lay out our commitments to each other as students and educators, which helps to create a set of common goals.

After-school events

Starting next week, MSW will begin hosting home athletic contests for fall sports teams. Students are encouraged to support their classmates by attending these contests. Most of these events throughout the school year will typically have a start time of 5:00 pm or 5:30 pm. Students who wish to attend must leave campus at 3:30 when school dismisses and return prior to the start of the event. All school rules apply during after-school events and activities. Admission prices are \$2 for student and senior citizens and \$5 for adults.

Important Announcement

Wednesday, August 21

HR Imaging will be at MSW to take pictures of students who want to purchase pictures and/or were not in attendance to get their photo taken on schedule pick-up day. This is NOT picture retake day. Students who simply do not like the picture they took on schedule pick-up day will have a chance to retake their pictures on Wednesday, October 3rd.

Important information pertaining to PBIS (Positive Behavioral Interventions & Supports)

At Middle School West, we consistently try to recognize and reward students who are demonstrating positive behavior and commitments to the school environment. One way we do this is through Quarterly Incentives. These take place the last two hours on the last day of each quarter. At this point, every student at West is eligible to attend! As long as students continue to show positive behavior at school, they will be able to participate in these Quarterly Incentives. However, the following discipline issues will remove students from participation:

- 3 Unexcused Absences to School
- 5 Unexcused Tardies to School
- In-School Restriction
- Out of School Suspension
- Saturday School
- 3 Office Referrals

Also, please be looking for information coming home with your student or through email regarding our end of the year PBIS trip to Zoombezi Bay! Students look forward to this trip each year! Qualifications will be

PTO spirit wear orders need to be turned into the school office by August 31. Order forms are available on the school webpage or in the school office.

A Message From Our New School Counselor

Hello, it's nice to meet you! My name is Ms. Oates and I am so excited to join Gahanna Middle School West as the new School Counselor! I received my bachelor's degree in English Education from Miami University and my masters degree in School Counseling from Ohio University. This is my second year as a school counselor, my sixth year in education, and my first year in the Gahanna district. I'm so excited to be working with you this year! In my free time, I enjoy reading and spending time with friends and family. As your School Counselor, I am here to help ALL students be successful. I believe every student has the ability to learn and grow, and I want to help each student meet their unique levels of academic, social/emotional, and career needs.

I know the beginning of the year brings lots of excitement and a little nervousness. Part of my job as your School Counselor is to help with schedule changes and beginning of the year transitions. If you have questions about these things or anything in general, please don't hesitate to contact me via email (OatesS@gjps.org). I look forward to meeting you soon! Happy 2019-2020 school year!