

## Marauder Memo - October 31st, 2020

Dear Parents & Community -

Parents & Community Members, we are honored to once again host our annual Veterans Day 2020 Ceremony at Mt. Vernon Middle School on Wednesday, November 11, 2020. I admire the Mt. Vernon Community for its patriotism; and this will continue to be a very special day for our Students, Staff, Families, and Veterans.

Video Message from Mr. Williams - Click [HERE](#)

Important! Please use this link to RSVP for the Veterans Day Ceremony - Click [HERE](#)

Due to the current pandemic, MVMS will be limiting the number of guests to the school building. Please be advised that we are holding 3 different ceremonies in the MVMS Main Gym to reduce our numbers and maintain social distancing in guidance with the Hancock Co. Health Dept. Also, please note that the majority of students and staff will be watching a live stream of the ceremony in their separate classrooms.

The following are welcome to attend the Veterans Day 2020 Ceremony at Mt. Vernon Middle School on Wednesday, November 11, 2020:

- All Veterans and All Active Service Personnel in our US Military
- A Family Member of a Veteran and or Active Service Personnel in our US Military
- Any Student who is a Family Member of a Veteran or Active Service Personnel in our US Military
- A Family Member of a MVMS BAND Member performing in the ceremony (limited to 1 family member per child)
- A Family Member of a MVMS CHOIR Member performing in the ceremony (limited to 1 family member per child)

Veterans Day Ceremony Schedule for Wednesday, November 11th, 2020 in the MVMS Main Gym

7th Grade - 10:00am - 10:55am

8th Grade - 12:00pm - 12:55pm

6th Grade - 1:45pm - 2:40pm

Other important notes:

- All Guests and Participants are required to mask while entering and exiting the school building, when moving about the facilities, and when social distancing of 6 feet or less is not possible.
- Please do not attend if you or any member of your household has Covid-19-like symptoms, or has currently tested positive for Covid-19, or is awaiting a test related to Covid-19.
- Veterans and Family Member are welcome to attend multiple ceremonies if applicable to your Family.
- Parking is available in our South Lot by the MVMS Main Entrance and the West Lot by the MVMS Field House. Overflow is also available in our North Lot by the MVMS Football Field.
- Please enter the MVMS school building at either Door #1, Door #2, or Door #8.

Do you have a recent Mt. Vernon graduate now serving in the Armed Forces? If so, we would like to add their picture to our permanent display honoring those that serve. Please send a picture, their graduate year, and military branch information to [brigitte.bussen@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:brigitte.bussen@mvcsc.k12.in.us)

If you have any questions, please contact the MVMS Main Office at 317-485-3160.

Be strong! Be courageous! Be a Marauder!

Benjamin Williams - MVMS Principal

Follow MVMS on social media at:

**Twitter:** @MtVernon\_MS

**Instagram:** @Mt.Vernon\_MS

**Facebook:** MtVernonMiddleSchool

**Mr. Williams YouTube Channel:** Click [HERE](#)

**Skyward** - Click [HERE](#)

**MVMS News** - Click [HERE](#)

**MVMS Counselor Webpage** - Click [HERE](#) \*full of many resources for Students & Parents

**MVCSC 20-21 School Calendar** - Click [HERE](#)

**20-21 MVMS Black & Gold Day Schedule** - Click [HERE](#)

**Next Week at MVMS -**

Monday, 11/2 - Gold Day

Tuesday, 11/3 - Black Day

Wednesday, 11/4 -Gold Day \*Early Release Wednesday

- Car Rider Pick Up begins at 2:45 p.m.
- Bus Rider Pick Up begins at 3:00 p.m.

Thursday, 11/5 - Black Day

Friday, 11/6 - Gold Day

From Dr. Parker (MVCSC Superintendent) - Please be advised that Hancock County has now been elevated to a yellow status with a 1.5 factor on the [state COVID-19 dashboard](#). This means there has been an increase in weekly positive cases in our county. We are sharing this information with you for two reasons:

- As of today, we do not foresee any immediate school closures, however, we want to make sure you are prepared for this measure to be taken. We will continue to follow the guidance of the Hancock County Health Department through every step of this pandemic.
- We also ask you to continue to keep your family's health and safety measures as a priority, now and always. MVCSC will continue with requiring masks, hand-washing, and will social distance as much as possible when children are in school, and we ask you to please be vigilant outside of school hours with these same measures.
- As a reminder:
  - If your child has COVID-19 like symptoms, please keep your student home from school and consider keeping siblings home too.
  - If your child tests positive for COVID-19, please inform your school's health clinic **immediately**. If you learn that your child has tested positive outside of school hours, please **immediately** contact the school principal or the corporation nurse at [tracy.furnas@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:tracy.furnas@mvcsc.k12.in.us).
  - If anyone in your household is being tested for COVID-19, ***please keep ALL students at home from school until results are received***
  - When your child stays home, or your virtual student is unable to do schoolwork, please call your school's attendance office.
  - If there is any doubt whether a student should attend school, please keep everyone home and call your school's health clinic for guidance.

For reference, please see the [Covid-19 Screening Checklist](#) and the MVCSC Health & Safety Plan on our [www.mvcsc.k12.in.us/COVID](http://www.mvcsc.k12.in.us/COVID) webpage.

**Employment Opportunities at MVMS** - We have job openings available for a Permanent Substitute Teacher and an Instructional Assistant If you are interested, please click [HERE](#)

this link to view the job description. You may also email Assistant Principal Crystal Cooper at [crystal.cooper@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:crystal.cooper@mvcsc.k12.in.us)

**Mt. Vernon Community School Corporation has recently partnered with Ninestar Connect to expand technology support to 24 hours a day, seven days a week.** Students or their parents/guardians can now receive technology support for the student's device after school hours, weekends, during breaks, and anytime technology help is needed. Please use the following contact information for technology support:

**Technology Support Phone Number: 317-482-4112**

**Technology Support Email: [techsupport@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:techsupport@mvcsc.k12.in.us)**

NineStar Connect will assist with the technology issue, and if needed, pass the request to the appropriate Mt. Vernon technology assistant to resolve the problem during school hours. Additional information can be found on the [1:1 Technology Program webpage](#).

### **Attendance**

If your student will be absent please notify us with one of these methods:

1. Call 317-485-3160 which is available 24/7
2. Email [kayleigh.carrier@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:kayleigh.carrier@mvcsc.k12.in.us)

### **MVMS Picture Day**

School Pictures were taken Friday, October 9th for all of our students in attendance that day. Our picture retake day is scheduled for Tuesday, December 1st for any student needing a new picture, all students absent 10/9/2020, and for our Virtual students. More details for our Virtual families will be provided when determined.

Inter-state Studios will email a picture proof to each family with ordering information in the coming days.

Or, go to [inter-state.com/order](https://inter-state.com/order) and use order code: **52211FA**.

Don't forget to have your families sign up for our VIP Club to receive additional discounts and incentives throughout the year! It's easy and they are provided with a 10% off discount immediately after signing up! To sign up:

1) Go to <https://1stplacespiritwear.com>

2) Scroll to the bottom and enter an email address in the "Join the VIP Club" sign up box

3) Check your inbox for the savings!!

If you have any questions about this week's sale, please let me know! I am always here to help- 330.635.0103.

### **Book Rental Fee Statements**

A final statement for the 2020/2021 book rental fees was mailed out on Monday, October 19, 2020.

Fees were due by Friday, October 2, 2020. If your payment is not received by 10/23/2020 they will be turned over to Kinum our collection agency.

Any questions please contact Kay Burdine School Treasurer @ [Kay.burdine@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:Kay.burdine@mvcsc.k12.in.us)  
Or 317-485-3160 ext 2503.

### **Counseling Corner**

The Parent Guide to Resilience from [whytry.org](http://whytry.org) is worth checking out! The more I've been learning about the attachment styles and the importance of building healthy relationships with my own children, the more these types of resources influence me...even with upper teen kids.

<https://resiliencguide.org/>

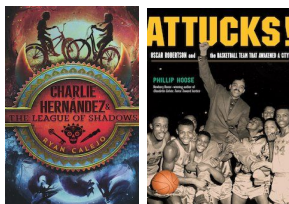
Follow the counselors on Instagram @mvms\_counselors.

Feeling stressed? Check out the resources available in the [Virtual Calming Room](#). Great for parents too!

**MVCSC Gleaners Food Pantry** - Please see the attachment for more information.

### **MV Reads: News from the Library**

Getting students to love books is not difficult. The struggle is finding the time and setting this time as a priority, especially as their extracurricular demands increase. Help us to help your teen love books by finding down time to unplug and unwind with a good book. Check out this informational article on the importance of reading: "[Why Kids Need Books.](#)" Here are this week's recommended reads:



Parents, just a reminder, you can now pay for lost library books via School Pay by accessing this [School Pay](#) link or logging into Skyward to pay.

## Athletics

### WINTER TRYOUTS

**6th Grade Girls Basketball** tryouts will take place December 9, 10, and 11 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in the main gym.

**7th/8th Grade Girls Basketball** will take place December 7, 8, 10 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in the Fieldhouse.

**Wrestling** - Students need to sign up in the main office and pick up an informational packet. Pre-season conditioning will be held each Tuesday and Thursday beginning November 3rd at Mt. Vernon High School in the Mat room from 6:30 to 8:30 pm

Swimming (January) - Details will be provided when determined.

Any student wishing to participate in athletics must have on file with the Athletic Office all required forms and an IHSAA Sports Physical dated on or after April 1, 2019. Please click [HERE](#) to access all required documents which are located under the MORE tab.

Concerning questions of MVMS Athletics, please reply only to MVMS Athletic Director – Julie Shelton at [Julie.Shelton@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:Julie.Shelton@mvcsc.k12.in.us)

All forms and questions go to JULIE SHELTON at [Julie.Shelton@mvcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:Julie.Shelton@mvcsc.k12.in.us)

Parents & Students - Please note the MVMS Student Handbook (p. 45-46) on Academic Eligibility for MVMS Athletics. -

**Academic Eligibility** - Mt. Vernon Middle School has established the following policy for academic eligibility: 1. Academic eligibility will be checked at the end of each academic quarter. 2. A student who receives two or more failing grades on their quarterly report card will be ineligible from any athletic competition for the entire next quarter. 1st Quarter Academic Eligibility will be determined by the previous 4th Quarter report card for 7th and 8th grade student athletes. The athlete will become eligible at the end of the next academic quarter if there are not two or more failing grades on their quarterly report card. The MVMS Athletic Department reserves the right, at any time, to conduct grade checks on student athletes to determine the academic eligibility for an athletic competition or multiple athletic competitions.

**Student Handbook Guidelines for Mask Compliance** - Noncompliance with Safety and Health Procedures. Upon **first offense**, the student will be given a warning, and will be reinstructed by the teacher or staff member/administration regarding safety policy and regulations and a phone call will be made to a parent/guardian documenting the warning. A **second offense** will result in parent/guardian contact by a school administrator notifying the parent/guardian that the next offense will result in the student being designated as a virtual learner. A **third offense** shall be documented and the parent/guardian will be notified of the student being designated as a virtual learner and excluded from in-person enrollment at school for all curricular, extra-curricular, and co-curricular activities.

### **Short Term E-Learning**

Parents, if you have a student that has been asked by school Health Officials to be quarantined for a certain number of days please be sure your student is completing their classroom assignments. This short term e-learning should occur by having your student check email, Google Classroom, and Canvas daily. Teachers will utilize these three platforms to communicate student work. It would also be helpful to have your student reach out to their teachers via email.

### **At-Home Internet Information**

- **EXTENDING 60-DAYS OF FREE INTERNET SERVICE TO NEW INTERNET ESSENTIALS CUSTOMERS.** School districts across the country are announcing plans for when school starts again in the fall. To help provide additional support to students and families, Comcast will **continue to provide 60 days of free Internet service to new, eligible Internet Essentials customers through the end of this year.** In addition, Comcast will continue to waive, through the end of the year, the requirement that customers not have a past due balance with Comcast to qualify for the free offer. [Learn more here.](#)
- **EXTENDING FREE PUBLIC WIFI ACCESS TO EVERYONE FOR THE REMAINDER OF 2020.** To continue to help keep people connected, we are **extending free access to the 1.5 million public Xfinity WiFi hotspots to anyone who needs them,** including non-customers, through the end of 2020. [Learn more here.](#)
- **EXTENDING XFINITY OFFERING TO HELP UNIVERSITY STUDENTS STAY CONNECTED AS THEY PREPARE FOR THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR.** We are continuing to help college students stay connected to the Internet over the Summer and through the Fall back-to-school rush by **extending an Xfinity Internet offering that provides \$150 Visa prepaid card to students** who sign up for service by

September 30; more than enough to pay for two months of Internet service. [Learn more here.](#)

**MVMS Drop Off & Pick Up Procedures**

<https://www.mvcsc.k12.in.us/2/Content2/640>