10.12.2026 Edition

Smoke Signals Newsletter

Travis Rohrig, Principal

Trina Schutte, Dean of Students

School website: https://www.milan.k12.in.us/o/mes
Link to Milan Spirit Store:
http://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/indiana/milan/milan-high-school

MILAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL NEWS

Weekly Breakfast and Lunch Menu
Link to the folder of cafeteria menus: https://bit.ly/3h9v1ju

Tuesday 29	Wednesday 30	Thursday 1	Friday 2	Monday 12
Warm Biscuit Sausage Patty Chicken & Noodles Mashed Potato Carrots Roll Fruit	Cereal Bar String Cheese Pizza Burger Green Beans Corn Fruit	French Toast Sticks Sausage Link Chili/Crackers Wow Butter & Celery Sticks Kidney Beans Juice	**FALL** **BREAK**	Muffin Sausage Link Cheeseburger Sweet Potato Fries Peas Fruit
Tuesday 13	**Wednesday 14**	**Thursday 15**	**Friday 16**	**Monday 19**
Cereal Buttered Toast Corn Dog Baked Beans Corn Applesauce	Mini Pancakes Sausage Link Chicken Nuggets Mashed Potato Carrots Roll Fruit	Breakfast Pizza Graham Cracker Sloppy Joe on Bun Cole Slaw French Fries Fruit	Breakfast Bar Sausage Link Pizza Tossed Salad Cucumber Slices Baked Apples	Cereal Bar Sausage Link Chicken & Gravy Mashed Potato Carrots Roll Fruit

IF YOUR CHILD HAS A TRANSPORTATION CHANGE, **PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE**. DO ***NOT*** RELY ON JUST SENDING A MESSAGE OR EMAIL TO THE TEACHER. WE CAN NOT GUARANTEE THAT THE TEACHER WILL SEE THE MESSAGE BEFORE DISMISSAL.

812-654-2922



10.12.2026 Edition

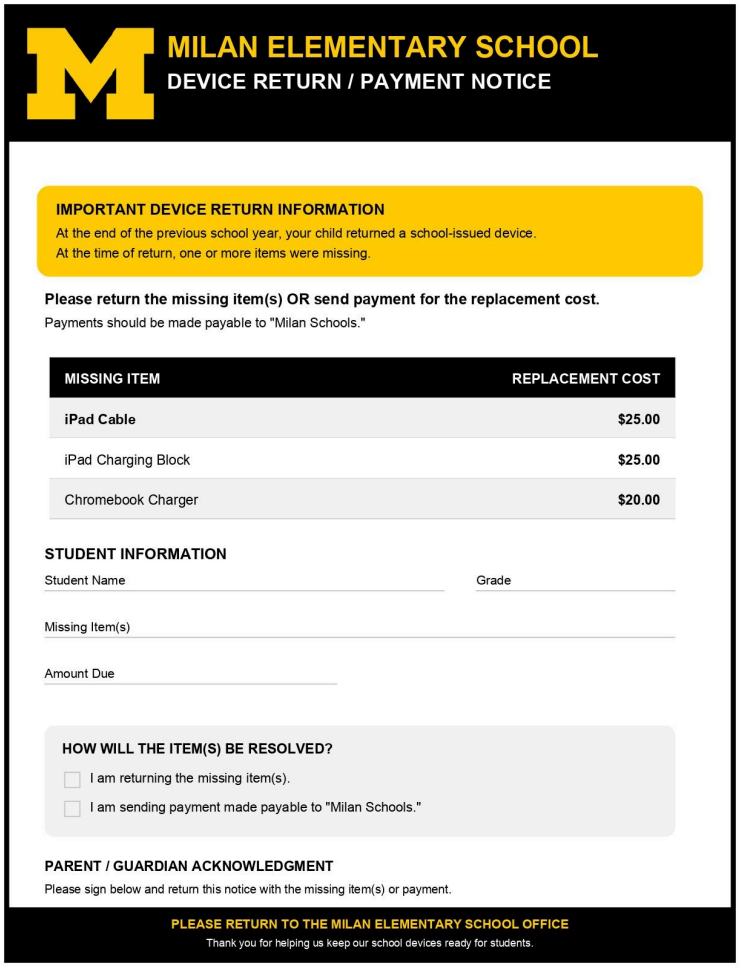
Important Dates

⭐ Tutoring - Oct 12
⭐ Tutoring - Oct 12
⭐ Early Dismissal - Oct 14
⭐ Tutoring - Oct 15
⭐ End of Q1, MMH Flu Vaccine Clinic - Oct 16
⭐ Tutoring - Oct 19
⭐ Tutoring - Oct 20
⭐ Early Dismissal - Oct 21
⭐ October Birthday Celebration, Tutoring - Oct 23
⭐ Tutoring - Oct 26
⭐ Tutoring - Oct 27
⭐ MES Picture Retake Day, Early Dismissal - Oct 28
⭐ Tutoring - Oct 29
⭐ CARES Halloween Costume Dance 12noon MES Gym - Oct 31

bloomz	We apologize for any connection issues from Bloomz. If you have Bloomz connection issues, email Travis Rohrig at travis.rohrig@milan.k12.in.us for assistance. Mr. Rohrig will work with you to get things corrected or organized for you. Several of you have done so already, and that has been super helpful!

VERY IMPORTANT CAFETERIA UPDATE

We are close to the cut off date for rollover meal assistance. Your student will lose their meal benefits if parents do not reapply soon. Please let parents know they need to reapply using the Family Portal or they can request a paper application from any of our offices.
If parents received a Direct Certification notice they do not need to apply for this school year. Parents can Ginny Shannon if they have questions or need help.



MILAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
DEVICE RETURN / PAYMENT NOTICE

IMPORTANT DEVICE RETURN INFORMATION
At the end of the previous school year, your child returned a school-issued device.
At the time of return, one or more items were missing.

Please return the missing item(s) OR send payment for the replacement cost.
Payments should be made payable to "Milan Schools."

MISSING ITEM	REPLACEMENT COST
iPad Cable	**$25.00**
iPad Charging Block	**$25.00**
Chromebook Charger	**$20.00**

STUDENT INFORMATION
Student Name _____ Grade _____
Missing Item(s) _____
Amount Due _____

HOW WILL THE ITEM(S) BE RESOLVED?
☐ I am returning the missing item(s).
☐ I am sending payment made payable to "Milan Schools."

PARENT / GUARDIAN ACKNOWLEDGMENT
Please sign below and return this notice with the missing item(s) or payment.

PLEASE RETURN TO THE MILAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL OFFICE
Thank you for helping us keep our school devices ready for students.

Device Return Information

At the end of the school year several students had missing items from their device collection.

If your child has a missing item, they will be bringing home a paper that looks like the image to the left.

If you have questions, please contact the MES office.

Milan Community Schools will be partnering with Margaret Mary Health for a Flu Vaccine Clinic. The clinic will be offered during the school day for all students and staff on **October 16, 2026.**

If you would like your student to receive the flu shot, please fill out the attached form and return to your child's school by **October 1, 2026**.

If you have any questions or need a copy of this form sent home with your student please contact one of our school nurses.

Liana Sohmer - MIS/MMS/MHS - 812-654-1616 ext 228 or email liana.sohmer@milan.k12.in.us

Helen Hixson - MES - 812-654-2922 ext 290 or email helen.hixson@milan.k12.in.us

Attachments:

- Flu Consent

SEE THE IMPORTANT DATES!!!



Good News Club (GNC)

Information about Good News Club will be going home very soon. GNC will be held after school on Thursdays beginning on October 22 and ending on December 3rd.

GNC will not be held on November 5th.

If you have questions, contact Robin Laws.
robinlaws89@gmail.com





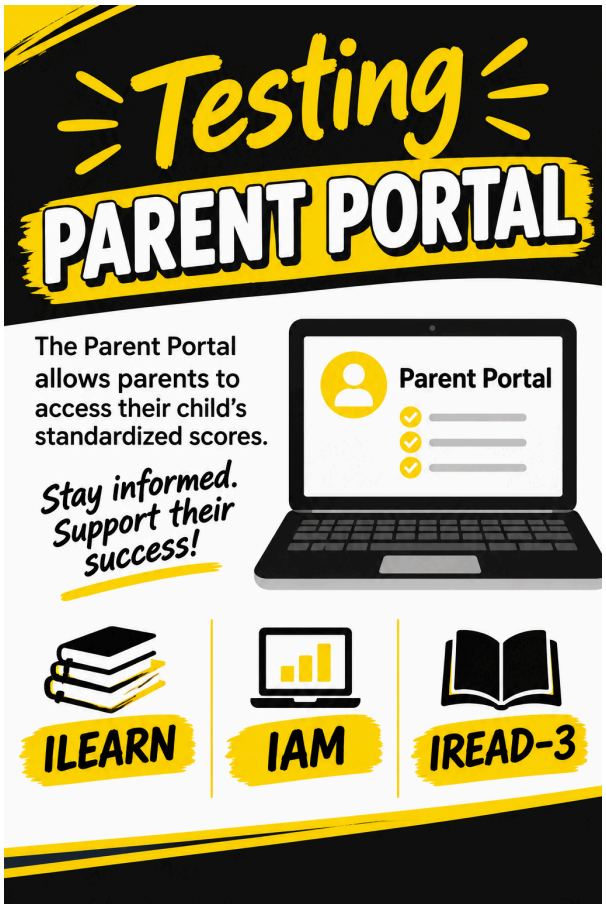
Princess Night is Back!

Princess Night will be this Wednesday.

Forms were sent home before we went on Fall Break.

If you need another form, there are extras in the office and there will be forms at the door the night of the event.

If you have any questions, please reach out to Payton Carpenter at payton.carpenter@milan.k12.in.us.



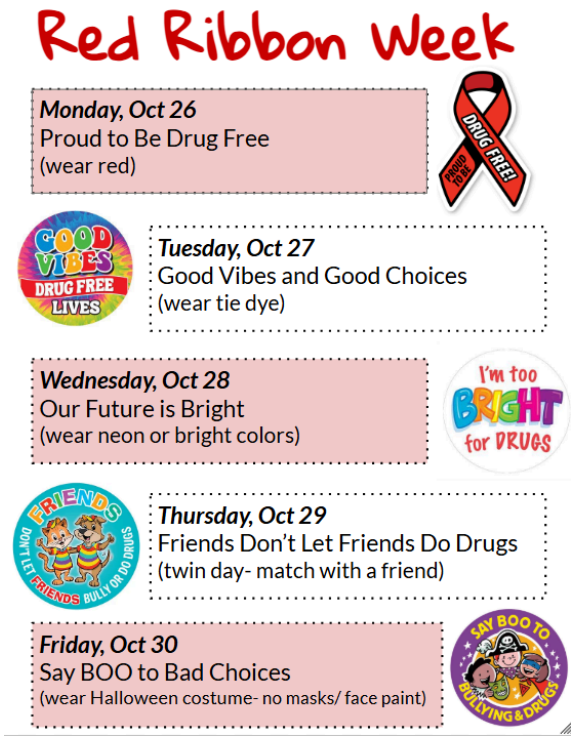
ATTENTION 3rd and 4th GRADE PARENTS

This week your child will bring home a letter with information about their Parent Portal.

The Parent Portal allows you to log in and see their results on standardized testing. This includes ILEARN Checkpoints tests that we take throughout the school year.

SAVE THIS LETTER AS IT WILL GET ALL RESULTS ALL YEAR!!

NOTE: 4th grade parents, this is the same access code that you used last year.



RED RIBBON WEEK October 26-30th

Please note that students DO NOT WEAR COSTUMES TO SCHOOL ON OCT 30th. They will be able to change into their costumes in the afternoon.

Also, costumes should not have masks, blood, weapons, or face paint.

Picture Day Make Ups

OCTOBER 28th WE WILL HAVE OUR MAKE UP DAY FOR PICTURES. If your child was absent on our previous picture day, they will get their picture taken on that day. We will also get retakes if you did not like the picture from our first picture day. Here are some other details for Make Up Day:

1. Any student wishing to have a retake should bring their original picture package to exchange for the retake image.
2. When an order is placed online, the parent/guardian will receive a camera pass via email. This can either be printed or texted to the student and brought to picture day. The photographer will photograph the printed camera pass along with the student.
3. If a student is not able to print their camera pass, that is not a problem. We will match up the student to their order manually in the production process.



ABSENTEE & RETAKE PICTURE DAY

BACKGROUNDS MAY VARY
– MORE CHOICES ONLINE!

RETAKE:
For a no charge retake, return the entire package to the photographer on retake day.

ABSENTEE:
Please Order Now!



DESIGN IT YOUR WAY!

You can select multiple backgrounds & build your package.

MUST PURCHASE ONLINE TO SELECT MULTIPLE BACKGROUNDS!

MILAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Absentee/Retake Picture Day is

October 28, 2026

0094241AR
order code for online purchases
(password expires 24 hrs. after picture day)

CLICK TO ORDER

THIS IS A PREPAY EVENT. PAYMENT IS DUE ON PICTURE DAY. *Este es un evento prepagado. Pago se debe entregar el dia de las fotos.*

BARKSDALE SCHOOL PORTRAITS | WWW.BARKSDALEPHOTO.COM
PICTURES WITH CLASS by Barksdale | WWW.PICTURESWITHCLASS.COM
QUESTIONS? 1.800.220.7667

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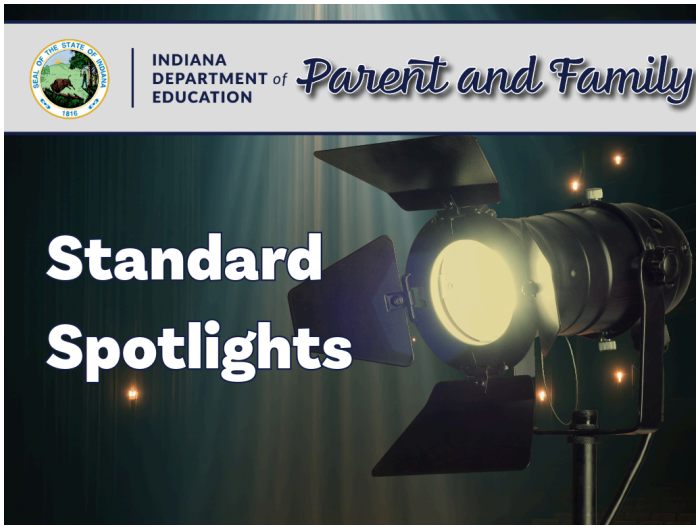


HAVE YOU EVER TRIED TO HELP WITH HOMEWORK AND YOU DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO HELP? MAYBE YOU DIDN'T LEARN IT THE WAY IT IS BEING TAUGHT.

HERE IS A HELP FOR YOU, THE STANDARD SPOTLIGHTS.

These documents are for helping in 3rd and 4th grade math. They have a video and a resource to help you!

3rd Math

4th Math

PTO NEWS



We want to thank all of you who sold soap for our PTO!! If you missed out in ordering, we did order some extras and we will post them once the soap is delivered. Thanks for helping make a difference for our students!!!

10.12.2026 Edition

Mrs. McKittrick Support Station

Elementary Homework Tips

Homework should not be a battle. Here are some steps you can take to encourage your elementary-age child to take responsibility for his own homework assignments.

Remove distractions - Do homework in a quiet place that does not have distractions. Turn off the TV; don't expect your child to do homework in a room where siblings are playing.

Establish a routine - Set a specific "homework time" such as right after supper. Require that homework be complete before your child can watch TV, use the phone, etc. Keep needed supplies (crayons, ruler, dictionary, etc.) in a designated area.

Prioritize - Encourage your child to work first on those assignments that are due tomorrow. Then tackle the tasks that are due later. Help your child plan his studying so that projects are not left until the last minute. Our assignment book can be a big help with this.

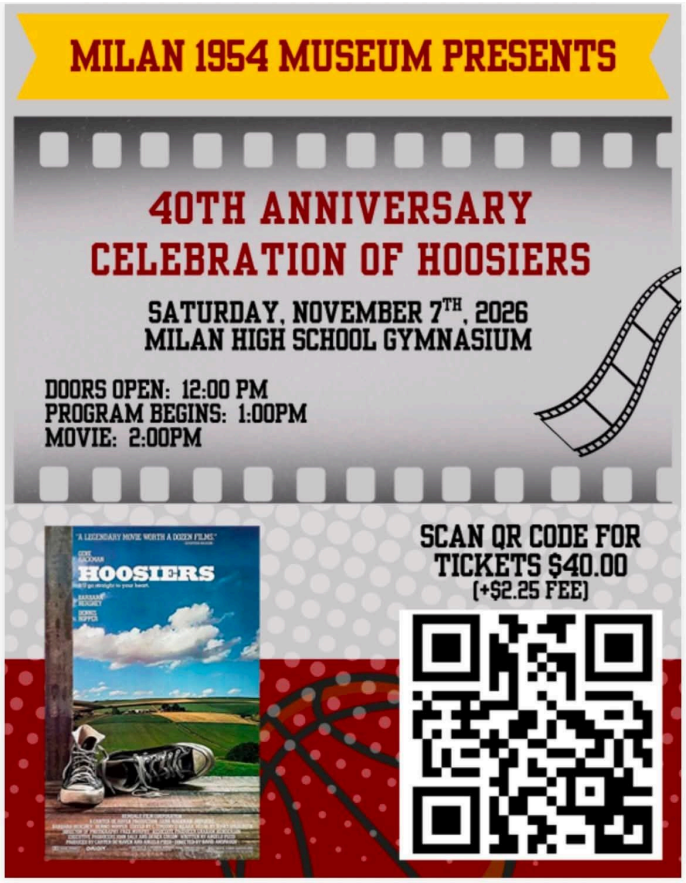
Check understanding - Be sure your child understands new assignments before he or she starts working on them. This one can save lots of late-evening tears!

Guide, but don't correct - If your child needs help, offer ideas that can help him/her sort out the problem, but don't give him/her the answers.

Get organized for tomorrow - Remind your child to pack the backpack before going to bed. Even the best homework effort does not do much good if it's left on the kitchen table!

COMMUNITY NEWS

Milan Elementary School is pleased to share information about local clubs, organizations, and community activities that may be of interest to our students and families. Please note that the inclusion of an organization or event in this newsletter does not indicate that Milan Elementary School is affiliated with, sponsors, or endorses the organization or activity. We share these announcements simply to help keep our school community informed and connected to opportunities in the greater Milan community.



You can also purchase tickets at this LINK.



DIRT ROAD BASKETBALL SIGN UPS

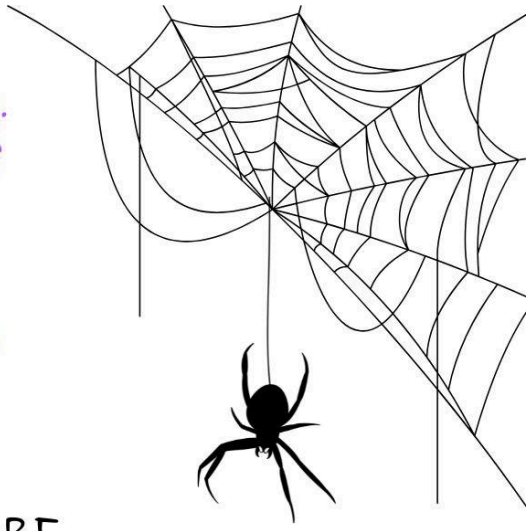
Milan Boys Basketball is looking to have Dirt Road teams for boys in grades 2,3, and 4.

Information sheets are going home this week.

If you have questions, please contact Coach Kirkhoff (joe.kirkhoff@milan.k12.in.us) or Mr. Rohrig.

WE WILL NEED COACHES TO HAVE TEAMS!!!!

SCARES with CARES



JOIN US IF YOU DARE
AS WE HOST OUR FIRST EVER

K-4 SCARES HALLOWEEN DANCE!

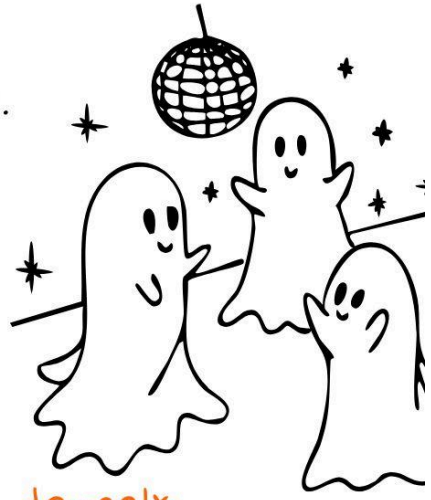
OCTOBER 31 AT 1-2:30 PM
@ Milan Elemantary Gym

*Entry fee is $5 per family.
*CARES students get in free.
*Snacks will be $1 per item

Trunk-or-Treat

Will also be happening after the dance from 4-6pm at the Milan Legion. Join us for treats!

Milan Legion
318 E Indian Trail
Milan, IN 47031



Adult MUST be present during dance!

Milan Aquatics- Sign Up HERE

Milan Aquatics Swim Team

Fall/Winter 2026/2027

"Building A Tradition One Stroke At A Time"

ATTENTION ALL SWIMMERS!!!

Interested in joining the fall/winter swim team? Our team is open to all ability levels (must be able to swim 25 yards unassisted) in the Milan community as well as any out of district swimmer that is interested. Milan Aquatics focuses on stroke technique, improving strength, improvement/goal setting, teamwork, and building confidence!

***New Swimmers**

Register online at www.gomotionapp.com/team/inmilan/page/home. Click "Online Registration".

- The season runs from October through February.
- Depending on the level, we practice 2-4 times a week. This is a club sport. All practices are optional. No one is penalized for missing a practice. We encourage everyone to attend as often as they can as consistency is a key to improvement in swimming.
- Our goal is to swim at least 1-2 USA meets a month starting in November which will be on weekends. Meets are optional but highly encouraged so your swimmer can measure their improvement!
- Dues are paid monthly so that if your child needs a break (due to the longer season) you can take the time off.

Levels: Bronze, Silver, & Gold

Fees: $60/mo (Bronze), $70/mo (Silver), $80/mo (Gold) **A $30 monthly discount will apply for families with 3 or more swimmers.

USA Card: A 1-time fee of $88 per swimmer. This membership is good for 1 year and allows your swimmer to participate in all USA meets. This fee is paid directly to USA Swimming. (There is an alternative Outreach membership for $5. If you qualify for reduced lunch thru your school, you will qualify for this program). After team registration, a link will be provided to you to purchase.

Tryout dates: Dates to be announced.

Practice begins the week of October 12th. A practice and meet schedule will be provided as soon as it's available.

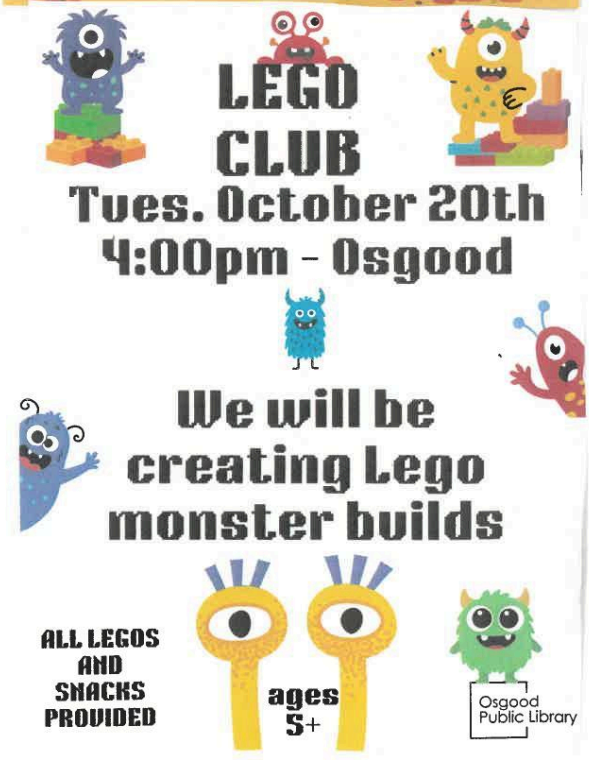
Communication: Most of our team communication goes through our website. You will receive emails on practices, team information, etc so make sure when registering you sign up by using an email that you check often.

Email – milanaquatics@gmail.com **Follow Milan Aquatics on *Facebook & Instagram***

Public Library Upcoming Events









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ATTENDANCE MATTERS

We have an attendance contest going on and the 4th grade is in the lead!!



Here are some best practices and reminders for attendance.

- If you have attendance questions, call our Attendance Secretary, Mrs. Jodie Hooker.
- If your child is not going to be at school, **CALL IN TO MRS. HOOKER**. If you only send a message to your teacher, it will not count as a parent call in absence.
- You get six parent call-ins a year. Even if your child is not going to be there and you have used all of your parent call-ins, still call in to let us know that your child will not be there.
- Tardies add up! Three tardies count as an absence!
- If you live outside the district, attendance could be a reason for having a transfer revoked.
- Attendance is a factor for attending field trips!

10.12.2026 Edition

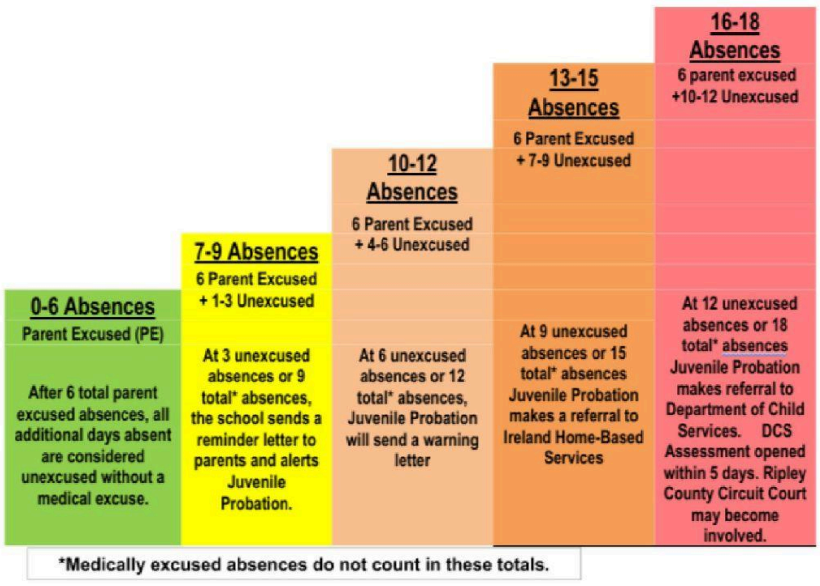
ATTENDANCE MATTERS AT MES!!!

Every MES student is able to have six parent call-in (PCI) days for unexcused absences this school year. In order to use a PCI day, the parent must call in to the office. After these six days have been used, parents will be notified on their 3rd, 6th, 9th, and 12th unexcused absences. It is a best practice to still call in to the office when your child is going to be absent.

Note:
STUDENTS WHO ARE OUT-OF-DISTRICT TRANSFER STUDENTS ARE AT RISK OF HAVING THEIR TRANSFER REVOKED DUE TO POOR ATTENDANCE.
STUDENTS WHO HAVE 12 UNEXCUSED ABSENCES MAY LOSE ELIGIBILITY TO ATTEND FIELD TRIPS. THIS WILL BE SUBJECT TO THE PRINCIPAL'S DISCRETION.

Best Practices for Attendance:

- ★ If your child is not going to be at school, call the office and let them know. If you do not call the office, it will not be considered a PCI.
- ★ If your child is at an appointment, make sure you bring in an excuse slip.
- ★ Know the attendance policy. You can read the student handbook on the school website.
- ★ Try not to be late to school, as three tardies count as one unexcused absence.



Attendance Reminder:

The graph to the left shows the method that is used for unexcused absences for students.

Please note that students who have previously reached the 100% threshold in previous school years will be subject to a lower threshold of unexcused absences