



Redbird Review

Spring Edition

2026



Dear MGS Families-

Similar to the old adage that it takes a village to raise a child, it takes many people and partnerships to make MGS a great place to learn. Each role impacts students on a daily basis. As we wrap up this school year and plan for the next, please consider if one of our current vacancies is something of interest to you or someone you know. As always, we encourage volunteers as well! Our employment webpage is linked below and is updated regularly. If you have any questions you can contact me or the Director of the appropriate department. Bus routes are \$110 per day. Substitute teachers make \$125 per day. Substitute teacher's aides is \$105 per day.

Bus Drivers	\$110 daily route
Substitute Teachers	\$125 per day
Substitute Teacher's Aide	\$105 per day

Special Education Aide	\$16-\$21/hr depending on role and experience
Kitchen Helper-Dishwasher	\$16 min. per hour depending on experience
Recess Monitor	\$16 min. per hour depending on experience

[MGS Vacancies for next school year](#)

April/May Events

- April 7th - Return from Spring Break
- April 17th - SIP Day (11:30AM Dismissal)
- April 30th - Instrumental Spring Concert 6pm
- May 6th - 5th-8th Spring Choir Concert @ MTHS 7pm
- May 13th - 8th Grade Graduation 7pm
- May 20th - Last Student Day (Early Dismissal SIP Day)

[Full District Calendar Linked Here](#)

[2026-2027 District Calendar Linked Here](#)



The Principals' Perspective - April 2026

K-4 Principal Tim Damery

5-8 Principal Ben Dirks

We are excited to share some updates about what's happening at MGS.

Academic Growth

- Monitored and supported student progress during the April 7–17 Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) testing window. This assessment data will be used to evaluate academic growth, identify trends, and inform instructional planning to support continued student achievement.
- Ongoing Review of the Station Rotation Model: Staff members are currently evaluating the station rotation approach to improve student engagement and support personalized learning, in collaboration with the Building Learning Team (BLT). The BLT is developing professional development sessions to facilitate the implementation of these strategies across the entire staff.
- MTSS problem-solving meetings were conducted to develop academic support plans for students experiencing academic difficulties.

Engaging Learning Environments

- Regular walkthroughs and formal observations have promoted reflective conversations that helped teachers strengthen and sustain engaging learning environments.
- K-4 educators have been developing a curriculum map to support the implementation of the Reveal Math program.

- 6th grade students went on a field trip to the Lincoln Museum in Springfield as a culminating activity for their "Chasing Lincoln's Killer" novel unit.

Social Emotional/Wellness

- SEL Day for the month of April will be April 17 where students will spend time with their buddy classrooms, participate in a grade level activity with peers, and have a whole school assembly.
- The Student Council will be hosting "Neon Night" Friday, April 10.

Community Engagement

- Our amazing PTO treated our staff to a delicious coffee treat on Tuesday, April 7th. We are so grateful for their kindness and continued support in making our school a warm, welcoming place for everyone.
- Had a great turnout to the family fun night over spring break at Plaza Lanes sponsored by the MGS PTO.

We appreciate your continued support and partnership. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Tim Damery - tdamery@mgsredbirds.org and Ben Dirks - bdirks@mgsredbirds.org



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UPCOMING EVENTS

- April 8-17: Illinois Assessment of Readiness (IAR) Testing
- April 10: Neon Night hosted by Student Council 6-8pm (\$5 entry)
- April 17: SIP Day (Early Dismissal @ 11:30am)
- April 30: Instrumental Spring Concert @ 6pm
- May 6: 5-8 Choir Concert @ MTHS 7pm
- May 8: 8th Grade Class Trip
- May 13: 8th Grade Graduation
- May 20: Last Day of School (Early Dismissal @ 11:30am)



We appreciate your continued support and partnership. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Tim Damery - tdamery@mgsredbirds.org and Ben Dirks - bdirks@mgsredbirds.org

PTO Teacher and Staff
Appreciation luncheon

Please consider signing up for one or more items to feed over 100 dedicated teachers and staff on Wednesday, May 6th. Sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E4EAFA729A4F4C61-63504266-staff#/>

METAMORA GRADE SCHOOL

teacher + staff
APPRECIATION WEEK

garden party luncheon
DONATION REQUESTS

ADD TO CART 



Newsletter

APRIL 26'

REACH OUT ✉ pto@mgsredbirds.org

FOLLOW US 📺 [Facebook.com/MGSPTO](https://www.facebook.com/MGSPTO)



RESTAURANT NIGHT: HANOVERS

- Tuesday, April 21st 5-7PM
- MUST present paper or digital flyer
- Dine-in or Carry-out
- 10% of food sales back to MGS PTO



FUN DAY: K-4 STUDENTS

- Friday, May 15th for K-4 students
- Optional FUN Day shirts with student signatures on back \$15/each. DUE April 28th
- Volunteers needed for AM and PM sessions
- Students should wear athletic clothing, shoes, and bring water bottle



STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

- Monday, May 4- Friday, May 8
- Various opportunities for donations/volunteering
- Check email for sign ups
- Student and parent participation highly encouraged



PTO OPENINGS FOR NEXT SCHOOL YEAR

- Executive Board Voting: May 4th 6PM
- Chair/Co-Chair Openings: Family Fun Night, Staff Appreciation, Parent Outreach, Craft Show
- Nearly ALL committees have spots for committee members/volunteers
- Learn more: Monday, May 4th 6PM in Library

April 2026

GLO Bingo RECAP



METAMORA
GRADE
SCHOOL
FOUNDATION
FOR EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Total Raised
\$75,000+

From: Sponsorships, Ticket Sales, Raffle, Silent Auction, 50/50, and Booze Wagon

profits will be used for teacher mini grants and educational improvements

Thank you



Next Meeting: Monday, April 20th 7:00PM at MGS

questions?



mgsfundraising@gmail.com

12th ANNUAL

www.tri2beatms.com



SATURDAY JUNE 13 2026

**SHORE ACRES PARK • CHILLICOTHE, IL
KIDS AGES 6-15**

In 2009, the Stickel family faced a new challenge when Leann, the mother of four, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis (MS). Faced with a disease that threatened to be physically debilitating, Leann began researching alternative ways she could improve her diagnosis. Instead of waiting to see what happened, Leann became active in medical research studies and is now passionate about strengthening her body through consistent exercise and physical training.

Sixteen years later, Leann has participated in multiple bike races, triathlons and running events to not only sustain her health but to raise awareness and funds for MS research. Like their mom, the Stickel kids love to swim, bike and run. They are so excited to be involved in finding a cure for their mom and inspiring other kids to get active. This triathlon was created specifically for children, to foster a healthy lifestyle and sense of accomplishment.

This triathlon is designed for kids who love to have fun – and they don't need any previous experience to participate. 100% of proceeds will benefit Illinois individuals with MS through IL Chapter of the National MS Society & Central Illinois MS Council.

LEANN STICKEL RACE FOUNDER & DIRECTOR ☎ 217.855.2305 ✉ tri2beatms@gmail.com 📷 [@iamleannstickel](https://www.instagram.com/iamleannstickel)

HOW YOU CAN HELP:

Provide Grant Money
Sponsorship
Event Volunteering
Participation

WHY GET INVOLVED:

Tri 2 Beat MS will raise awareness and funds to support the IL MS Society and Central IL MS Council. This event is a great way to showcase our community and the local businesses of Chillicothe. With your involvement, we look forward to a successful event.

AT THE EVENT:

Kids ages 6 – 15
SWIM - 25 yards in Shore Acres pool
BIKE - 2 miles
RUN - 1/2 mile
FINISH - At Shore Acres Park
NO EXPERIENCE IS NECESSARY.



SUMMER CAMP by RAS

Make Summer Count at RAS CAMPS!

NINE ADVENTURE WEEKS. ONE UNFORGETTABLE SUMMER.

This summer, your child will dive into **nine** themed **Adventure Weeks** filled with creativity, exploration, and classic day camp joy. Every week brings a new world to discover. From messy experiments and creative builds to splashy water fun and summer games.



SUMMER CAMP by RAS

WITH FIELD TRIPS

Includes weekly field trips and experiences.

Weekly Cost: \$293

Location:

Germantown Hills School

Dates: 6/01/2026 - 07/31/2026

Grades: 1 - 5

Schedule: 7:30AM - 5:30PM

THE CLASSIC DAY CAMP EXPERIENCE, EVERY DAY:

- ✓ Hands-on experiments & creative projects
- ✓ Building & engineering challenges
- ✓ Team games & friendly competitions
- ✓ Water play, arts & crafts, sports & movement
- ✓ Social skill-building, community, & everyday summer joy
- ✓ Indoor & outdoor adventures



BECAUSE WHEN KIDS GET TO EXPLORE, CREATE, AND CONNECT, EVERY MOMENT COUNTS.

Learn more and register your child for RAS Summer Camp at:

RASCAMPS.COM/SUMMER



RAS Camps are part of Right At School, your school district's chosen provider of Before & After School programs. Learn more at rightatschool.com



Notes From The Nurses:

Ashley Kline

Leslie Hodgen



Medical forms needed for the 2026-27 School Year

All incoming Kindergarteners need:

1. Dental exam - on State of IL school form
2. Eye exam - on State of IL school form
3. Physical exam - on State of IL school form
4. Kindergarten [immunizations](#)

All incoming 2nd graders need:

1. Dental exam - on State of IL school form

All incoming 6th graders need:

1. Dental exam - on State of IL school form
 2. Physical exam - on State of IL school form
- **A sports physical does not meet the state requirement for the 6th grade physical exam. However, the 6th grade physical can be used for a sports physical if needed.
3. Tdap and Meningococcal vaccines (on or after 11th birthday)

All exams must be conducted within one year prior to the start of the incoming school year. Forms can be submitted at any time but should be turned in no later than the first week of school in August.

Options for turning in forms:

1. Scan and email to nurse@mgsredbirds.org
2. Fax directly to nurse at 309-367-2999
3. Give to the secretaries in main office

Medication Reminders:

All medication must be dropped off in the main office by an adult.

Medication must have a doctor's note or medication authorization form in order to be given at school.



Food Allergy Precautions

All student classroom snacks, party treats or other class-wide treats must be nut-free. Per teacher approval, students may be permitted to bring a nut-free snack for themselves to eat in the classroom. Food containing nuts may only be brought in student lunches and consumed in the cafeteria during lunchtime only. Designated nut-free

tables are available in the cafeteria for all grade levels. Students are not to share food at any time.

Party treats or birthday treats must be store bought and pre-approved by the teacher. See below for a list of ideas. Other treats may be approved only if clearly labeled as "peanut/tree nut free" or "made in peanut/tree nut free facility."

***NO FRESH BAKERY ITEMS** (cupcakes, donuts, cookies, muffins, etc) unless specifically labeled by the manufacturer as nut free or manufactured in a nut free facility.

*Please check labels as manufacturing processes and ingredients can change

*Parents and teachers should communicate with each other about the child's food allergy and any special treats that may be distributed.

Nut free snack/treat ideas (not an exhaustive list)

Applesauce/fruit cups	Original or Golden Oreos
Fresh fruit/veggies	Original Rice Krispy Treats
Yogurt	Lofthouse cookies
Cheese sticks	Haribo gummy bears
Pudding cups	Jelly Belly jelly beans
Goldfish	Smarties
Snyder's pretzels	DumDums
Veggie Straws	
Skinny Pop or Pirate's Booty popcorn	

Annie's, Katz, MadeGood, Nature's Bakery, and Benton's brands have several nut free snack option.



YOU CAN

MAKE A DIFFERENCE FOR
METAMORA GRADE SCHOOL

GET STARTED TODAY



1

DOWNLOAD APP IN
YOUR APP STORE



2

CREATE AN
ACCOUNT

SCHOOL ID: 401845

3

BUY BOX TOP
PRODUCTS
(IN PERSON OR
ONLINE)

4

SCAN RECEIPT OR
SUBMIT DIGITAL
RECEIPT WITHIN 14
DAYS OF
PURCHASE

Scan the QR code or use code
X72U6NB8 to join.



SCHOOL ID: 401845



+



on-site at your school

RIGHT CLUB

Before & After School

a place to **BE A KID!**

HOSTED AT METAMORA GRADE SCHOOL

Next year's Right Club lineup is going to be the talk of the playground. Your kid will thank you—and so will your schedule when you've got reliable, enriching care you can trust. Win-win—but only if you're in!

This year's going to be the best yet with:



Hundreds of brand-new games, STEM experiments, and Disguised Learning® challenges to keep your kid on their toes (and off their screens!)



We're embarking on Language Adventures™, where younger learners (K-1) will say ¡Hola! to Spanish while grades 2+ will take on the challenge of French!



Endless take-home arts and crafts – clear some space on your fridge for these masterpieces!



Daily homework time with educator support – so you can reclaim the weeknight for family fun!

BEFORE SCHOOL

Starts at 7:00am

5 Days/Week \$110/Month
4 Days/Week \$101/Month
3 Days/Week \$87/Month
2 Days/Week \$65/Month
1 Day/Week \$40/Month

AFTER SCHOOL

Ends at 5:30 pm

5 Days/Week \$221/Month
4 Days/Week \$202/Month
3 Days/Week \$174/Month
2 Days/Week \$130/Month
1 Day/Week \$81/Month

BEFORE/AFTER COMBO

5 Days/Week \$303/Month
4 Days/Week \$275/Month
3 Days/Week \$239/Month
2 Days/Week \$180/Month
1 Day/Week \$110/Month

DISCOUNTS: Sibling: 10% • Military: 10%

REGISTER NOW!

RIGHTATSCHOOL.COM

You may be eligible for financial assistance!
Visit our website to learn more.

