

Madison Messenger



Mark Your Calendar

- August 22: Meet the Teacher Night 4:30-6:00
- August 23: First Day of School.
- Every Wednesday school is out at 1:10.
- Sept. 3: Labor Day, no school
- Sept 28: Boogie on the Blacktop at 5:30-7*
- Sept 28: Popcorn Day
- Oct 9: School Pictures

*Pending PTO Approval

Des Moines Public School District Mission Statement

The Des Moines Public Schools exist so that graduates possess the knowledge, skills and abilities for success at the next stage of their lives.

Persons with disabilities who need information about accessibility to the building or who need sign or language interpreters, please contact Cory Heaberlin at 242-8420.

A Note From Mr. Heaberlin

Madison Families,

As most of you are aware, all Des Moines Public School's elementary buildings will have new hours this year. The specifics of these time changes are listed in the box below. However, I wanted to remind you that you may want to begin thinking of what your family's new morning and afternoon plans will be to make sure your kids are to school on time and safe after school.

Although many options are available, one that could be used is Metro Kids. Metro Kids is an afterschool program located at Cattell Elementary that runs from dismissal to 6:00pm. Students who attend this program ride to the bus to Cattell elementary and take part in various afterschool activities. The cost of attending Metro Kids is listed on the last page of this newsletter. Please note: Metro Kids no longer has a before school program.

Finally, please be sure that your child and his or her teacher know your families plan for afterschool care. This way we can make sure all of our students stay safe.

Have a great rest of the summer!

Mr. Heaberlin

Madison's Daily Schedule

| | |
|-----------|---|
| 7:15 | Students may enter the building |
| 7:15-7:30 | Free breakfast for all served in the classrooms |
| 7:30 | Tardy bell rings, classes begin |
| 2:25 | School dismissed |
| 1:10 | Wednesday Dismissal Times |

The Des Moines Public Schools prohibits discrimination based on age, race, creed, color, sex, marital status, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability in educational and employment programs and activities. The district prohibits acts of intolerance or any form of harassment toward employees or students. For information regarding procedures for discrimination complaints, contact the District Compliance Officer who is also the Title IX and 504 Coordinator, Des Moines Public Schools, 2323 Grand Ave, Des Moines, Iowa 50312, (515) 242-7781.



Meet the Teacher Night

Please join us on Tuesday evening, August 22nd, for Meet the Teacher Night. Stop by anytime between 4:30

and 6:00

This is a great time to help with those first day jitters and to drop off school supplies. We look forward to seeing you!



Parents of Kindergarteners

Kindergarten teachers will be meeting with kindergarten students before school starts to administer a few basic assessments and to teach students routines. This will allow the teacher a chance to get to know your child, both personally and academically, before the first day of school.

This will occur on Friday, August 10th. If you did not sign up for a time at registration, please contact the school office at 242-8420 ASAP to schedule the appointment.

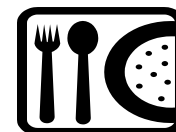


Lunch / Recess Schedule

| Grade | Lunch | Recess |
|-------|-------|--------|
| 5 | 11:05 | 11:25 |
| 4 | 11:15 | 11:35 |
| 3 | 11:25 | 11:45 |
| 1 | 11:35 | 11:55 |
| 2 | 11:45 | 12:05 |
| K | 11:55 | 12:15 |

Food Service

If you have questions regarding the school lunch program or your child's lunch account please call the Food and Nutrition office at 242-7636.



Before School Reminder:

We are continuing our *Breakfast in the Classroom* program. If you are new to Madison, this program provides every student a **FREE** breakfast as they walk into their classroom to start the day. **Because of this program, we will not be opening school doors until 8:30am.** Therefore, you will need to plan accordingly because adult supervision will not be provided prior to this time. If you need before or after school childcare please call the Metro Kids office at 242-7971.

Automated Telephone Messages

Madison school is able to send computer-generated phone calls to every student's home. Most of you are familiar with this from the past few years. In order to save paper and printing costs we will be using this process frequently for school reminders and emergencies. Please contact the school office if you are not receiving these calls. Also please keep us updated of any phone number changes.

Traffic Guidelines for Dismissal Time

- Hoffman Avenue and East 8th are for passenger loading and unloading. This means you may pull up to the curb **on the school side** to load or unload your children. **HOWEVER, YOU MAY NOT LEAVE YOUR CAR** or park for long periods of time.
- **The bus lane on Madison Avenue is for buses. This should help the car traffic to move more quickly on Hoffman and East 8th.** Stopping to load or unload children on Madison Avenue is illegal at all times. This is considered a major thoroughfare and loading and unloading is restricted.
- It is best to have your children meet you outside after school. The kindergarten teachers walk their children outside the west door facing East 8th and wait for parents on the blacktop area next to the building. Please contact me if you feel your child needs assistance getting outside the building and finding you.
- Always pull up to the curb on the school side of the street to load and unload your children. We will not allow children to go out into the street or cross the street to load into a car.
- We do our best to get people in and out of the loading spots quickly, but if one is not available you may need to circle around the block once.
- **You may not turn east on Hoffman Avenue in front of the school at drop off or dismissal time. It is only permissible to travel east to west during these time periods as noted by the sign.**
- There are signs on Hoffman near the intersection with East 8th and on East 8th near the intersection with Madison that indicate you may not park beyond those signs as you will block visibility at the intersection.
- Please be respectful of the Madison neighbors and do not park in, or block, their driveways.
- School dismisses at 2:25. Please do not come before 2:15 unless you are parking in the lot.
- Thank you for your cooperation and patience which will help us keep our children safe.



Appropriate attire

In an effort to provide a learning environment free from unnecessary distraction, all clothes should be worn in the way they were meant to be worn. All shirts should cover the midriff area. Undergarments should not be visible. No hats, including bandanas, may be worn inside the building. All logos and print should be appropriate for elementary children. If attire presents a distraction or disruption to the learning environment, the principal may meet with the child to solve the problem and may contact the parent. Please help your child in deciding on suitable clothing to wear to school.



Metro Kids Child Care Available

Before and after school child care is available for Madison students at Cattell. The district provides transportation from Cattell in the morning and to Cattell in the afternoon. There is a \$32 registration fee. The weekly fees are listed below.

Afternoon Care \$70

Just early out Wednesdays \$28

In addition, full day regional day care is available during school breaks. Call 242-7971 for more information. Financial assistance through the Department of Human Services may be available to those who qualify. More info can be found at <http://madison.dmschools.org/> under the Parent tab.



Textbook Fees

Textbook fees are \$30 for grades K-5. If you qualify for free or reduced lunches then you qualify for a waiver or reduction on book fees as well. However, if you did not pay book fees at registration and/or are later informed that you do not qualify for a waiver, you need to contact the office manager, Mrs. Sheesley to pay the book fees. We still have a few people who owe fees from last year. We appreciate your attention to this matter.



School Pictures

School pictures will be taken on October 9. Please watch for a packet to come home. You must send money on this day if you wish to buy pictures. **Yearbooks will not be included in picture packets and will need to be purchased separately.**



PE SHOES



In order to be safe, all students need appropriate shoes for PE days. Please be certain to send your child to school in athletic shoes on gym days.

Bicycles

The elementary district handbook states the riding of bicycles to school should be reserved for students in grades 4 and 5. A consent note must be signed by the parent and provided to the school before a student rides a bike to school. Consent notes are available in the school office.



Human Growth and Development

As part of the curriculum in Des Moines Public Schools, students will participate in the study of human growth and development. More information regarding this content is available by contacting the school nurse. A student may be excused from this instruction with a written request from the parent or guardian to the school principal.

Sexual Harassment

As part of the curriculum at Madison Elementary School students will participate in learning about sexual harassment. A copy of the curriculum is available in the school office for review. A student may be excused from this instruction with a written request from the parent or guardian to the school principal.

Is your child responsible? Are you up to date on school events? The monthly newsletters are packed with important information. Please watch for them around the first of every month. If you do not get a copy, contact your child's teacher, the school office, or refer to the school website. If you have read this, I thank you very much for showing interest in your child's education and in school activities. If your child brings you the newsletters every month thank him/her for being a responsible child!