## MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWS

## September

2022

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## Start of the School Year

The school year is off to a fantastic start! Thank you to all the students and families that were able to attend the Orientation Night. Thank you to those that had a conflict for making time to check with us at the middle school before the $1^{\text {st }}$ day of school. These times give a great boost of confidence and courage to students and helps them get off to their best start. Thank you as well to our tremendous middle school staff. Teachers, administrative assistants, nurses, paraeducators, custodians, kitchen staff, and bus drivers have all prepared well and helped launch us into a great school year. Our current enrollment breakdown is:
$6^{\text {th }}$ Grade -103 students
$7^{\text {th }}$ Grade -105 students
$8^{\text {th }}$ Grade -123 students
Total -331 students

Middle School ( $7^{\text {th }} \& 8^{\text {th }}$ Grade) Fall Sports have begun practices and we are looking forward to the start of competitions. Band, choir, and orchestra all started in the first couple of days of school. Our numbers for Fall Activities have been wonderful. It is great to see the positive participation. We promote involvement at MOC-FV Middle School! Our numbers for Fall activities are:

Middle School Cross Country - 42 students
Middle School Football - 54 students
Middle School Volleyball - 61 students
$6^{\text {th }}$ Grade Band - 48 students
$7^{\text {th }}$ Grade Band - 46 students
$8^{\text {th }}$ Grade Band - 43 students
$6^{\text {th }}$ Grade Choir - 60 students
$7^{\text {th }}$ Grade Choir - 44 students
$8^{\text {th }}$ Grade Choir - 43 students
Middle School Orchestra - 30 students
Research suggests that students that are connected to school through activities tend to have a greater self-worth, they manage their time and stress at a more efficient level, and they learn confidence through the activities. Being active and connected to activities also promotes healthy relationships with other students and with adults that sponsor those activities. Middle school is a great time to explore gifts and talents and to make connections with others through the activities offered.

## Pick Up and Drop Off

The beginning and end of school can be a hectic time for students and/ or parents. Please use caution when dropping off your student and picking them up. As a reminder, the bus loading zone (on the north side of the school) is a one-way only zone from 7:45-8:05 am, and from $3: 15-3: 45 \mathrm{pm}$. This is done to keep kids safe and prevent "cross traffic" as we load and unload kids from the buses. Thanks for using caution during this time. In addition, please speak with your son or daughter about using caution when walking from your car to the middle school north doors and as they walk behind and in front of parked buses.

## Stay Informed

Middle school-age students are gifted at responding with one-word answers to questions you might ask them about school. "Good", "Fine", "Cool" are common responses. Look to ask questions that are open-ended and do so when they are in the car with you...they can't get away when you are driving down the road. Parents, you also have ways that you can stay informed if your student is not giving you the information you may be looking for. A lot of the resources can be found on our school webpage www.mocfv.org -> Schools -> Middle School. There you can find a lot of resources including:

Homework Assignments: Purple Button "Assignments". It will go by day of the week (M-F) and by Grade level $\left(8^{\text {th }}, 7^{\text {th }}, 6^{\text {th }}\right)$. If your student did not write down their assignment in their planner, this is a great place to look.

Daily Announcements: Purple Button "Announcements". Various information will be posted in our announcements. Announcements are read to the students during Homeroom

Weekly Bulletin: Purple Button "Bulletin". This is a weekly snapshot of what is going on at the MS and throughout the district; games, schedule changes, etc. In addition, there are "upcoming events" that are posted that give you an idea of what is coming up in the next month.

Newsletter: Purple Button "Newsletter". This is a monthly newsletter (starting in October) where teachers will provide information about what is going on in their classroom. I will also provide some general information and reminders in the newsletter as well.

Staff Directory: Purple Button (right hand side) "Staff Directory". This provides you with the email address for your student's teachers.

Sports/Activities Schedules: On the very top of the webpage (purple banner) there is a link for the Daily Calendar. This link takes you to the Siouxland Conference page for MOC-FV. Here you can access schedules, bus leave times, and links for livestreamed events.

In addition to these "buttons", there is information on the right hand side of our webpage. There is the district calendar, lunch menu, etc.

If you have not signed up for a Parent Portal account, please do so. This account allows you to see how your student is doing in the classroom. Assignments, tests, etc. are posted in the parent portal and you can also track your student's attendance and lunch account balance. If you have not set up an account already and are interested in getting one, please contact Mr. Ryan Noteboom (district technology coordinator) at: rnoteboom@mocfv.org. He can get this set up for you and walk you through this process.

## Middle School Fundraiser

Once again, the Middle School will be conducting the discount card fundraiser for our school. This fundraiser is our main fundraiser for the school year and covers the cost of various school activities such as party nights, pizza parties, field trips, activity days and covers prizes and acknowledgements for the PBIS system. Students are encouraged to sell these cards. The school makes a profit for each card sold. The percentage that we make per card is based on the total number of cards that we were able to sell. Prizes are given to students when they reach a certain level of cards sold. The winning STAR group from each grade level will win a Pizza Lunch.

We will begin our Fundraiser on Thursday, September 8. During our fundraiser, we will have check-ins where students can bring in their money and report the number that they have sold. Check-ins will be on Sept. 12, 16, 20. Our fundraiser will end on Thursday, September 22..

Thanks in advance for your help with this fundraiser.

## Picture Day

School pictures will be taken on Thursday, September 8. Students will be given a paper order form a few days before pictures and Mrs. Van Es will email out a link to order pictures online, if you would rather do it that way. Every student will be required to take a picture, even if they do not choose to order any. We use the pictures for student database information and yearbook information.

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## October 2022




[^0]:    Special points of Interest:

    - Start of the School Year
    - Picture Day
    - Middle School Fundraiser
    - Stay Informed
    - Pick up and Drop Off

