

# 2023-2024 MCMS 5<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Transition Guide For Parents & Guardians

The mission of Madison County Middle School is to develop each student's maximum potential as a

life-long learner as well as a responsible citizen.

Madison County Middle School 3215 Hwy 172 Comer, GA 30629 Phone: 706.783.2400 Fax: 706.783.4390 https://www.madison.k12.ga.us/Domain/16

Please note that information contained in this guide is subject to change, as we are always trying to improve the education your child receives at MCMS.



5th Grade Parents & Guardians:

As your child approaches the end of his or her 5th grade year, you may be simultaneously excited to celebrate this milestone of completing elementary school, while also anxiously anticipating him or her moving into middle school. To help with this transition, we are asking that ALL 5th grade parents and guardians fill out the MCMS 6th Grade Student Registration Form.

This streamlined form will allow you to:

- Provide your child's information
- Provide your contact information
- Pre-register your child for the STUDENT ONLY 6th Grade Orientation held on Wednesday, August 2, from 8:30-11:30 am (Even if your child can't attend the 6th grade orientation, we ask that you fill out the 6th grade registration form.)
- Sign-up for Band
- Indicate your child's interest in MCMS sports and clubs
- Indicate your interest in becoming a parent volunteer

To fill out the 6th grade registration form, please visit this link:

bit.ly/6reg23

OR use your phone to scan the QR code:



ONLY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO REQUEST A PAPER COPY of the **6th Grade Student Registration Form**, please complete the information below and return to your child's homeroom teacher.

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I would like to request a paper copy of the 6th Grade Registration Form

Student's Name:

Homeroom Teacher:



We invite all rising 6th grade students to come for a half day to learn and practice their schedule, meet peers and teachers, and feel more confident about the first day of 6th grade!

What: 6th Grade Orientation For: Rising 6th Grade Students (STUDENTS ONLY) When: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 Time: 8:30-11:30 am (drop off begins at 8:00 am) Where: MCMS (3215 Hwy 172, Comer, GA)

# \*All students must be registered to attend \*This is a student-only event \*Parents/Guardians will drop off and pick up students in front of MCMS

# **Registration Options:**

- 1. **Pre-registration via the online form** (available April 25-July 31); see page 2 of the "5th to 6th Grade Transition Guide" for information about registering online
- 2. Day-of registration in front of MCMS on Wednesday, August 2, between 7:45-8:15 am \*Please make every effort to pre-register for the event\*

# Things to Know for the 6th Grade Orientation:

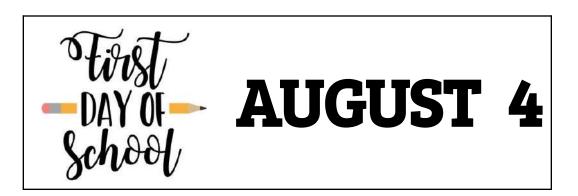
- The 6th Grade Orientation is not mandatory, but we highly encourage ALL rising 6th graders to attend!
- Students do not need to bring anything (book bag, lunch, etc.)
- Lunch will be provided at no cost to all students attending
- Transportation must be provided by parents/guardians
  - $\circ$  Parents/guardians should drop off students in front of MCMS between 8-8:30 am
  - $\circ$  Pick up will be in front of MCMS through the car rider line, starting at 11:30 am
  - Please expect the line to be long since all students must be a car rider and most parents will be learning a new system (all parents are usually through the line by 12:15 pm)
- If your child has a medical need that we should know about, please notify Mary Boykin at <u>mboykin@madison.k12.ga.us</u> or 706-783-2400 x 1223



# All rising 6th grade parents, guardians, and students are invited to the 2023–2024 MCMS Open House

What: MCMS School-Wide Open House For: All 6th, 7th, & 8th grade parents/guardians and students When: Wednesday, August 2, 2023 Time: 3:00-6:00 pm (drop-in) Where: MCMS (3215 Hwy 172, Comer, GA)

- Meet your child's 6th grade teachers
- Pick up your child's schedule and a car tag
- Walk through your child's schedule together
  - Pick up your child's bus route information



# MCMS INFO

# Front Office Contacts:

Principal (retiring): Georgie Bullock, 706-783-2400, <u>gbullock@madisonk12.ga.us</u> Incoming Principal: Brian Turner, 706-783-2400, <u>brian.turner@madison.k12.ga.us</u> Front Office/Principal's Secretary: Nicole Smith, 706.783.2400, <u>nsmith@madison.k12.ga.us</u> MCMS Registrar: Samantha Moss, 706.783.2400 x 1203, <u>smoss@madison.k12.ga.us</u> MCMS Bookkeeper:Tracey Cleghorn, 706.783.2400 x 1202, <u>tcleghorn@madison.k12.ga.us</u> MCMS Nurse:Tanya Dudley, 706.783.2400 x 1204, <u>tdudley@madison.k12.ga.us</u>





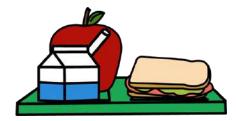
#### **MCMS House Concept:**

MCMS has 3 houses: house 1100, 1200, and 1300. Your child will be placed on one of these 3 houses before the 2023-2024 school year begins. Your child will remain on that house his/her entire time in middle school. Each house is like a small school. All of your child's core academic classes (ELA, math, science, social studies) are held on his/her house. If your child has a sibling who will be at MCMS in the 2023-2024 school year, he/she will be placed on the house that his or her sibling is currently on unless a parent/guardian specifically requests otherwise in writing to our principal, Georgie Bullock.

House	House 1100	House 1200	House 1300
Secretary	Tammy McHale 706-783-2400 x 1209, <u>tmchale@madison.k12.ga.us</u>	Brandi Willoughby 706-783-2400 x 1210, <u>bwilloughby@madison.k12.ga.us</u>	Danielle Egnoski 706-783-2400 x 1211, <u>degnoski@madison.k12.ga.us</u>
Assistant Principal	Britt Beaver 706-783-2400 x1207 <u>bbeaver@madison.k12.ga.us</u>	Doug Wood 706-783-2400 x1206 <u>dougwood@madison.k12.ga.us</u>	Jeremy Waller 706-783-2400 x1205 jwaller@madison.k12.ga.us
School Counselor	Mary Boykin 706-783-2400 x1223 <u>mboykin@madison.k12.ga.us</u>	Ashley Beard 706-783-2400 x1222 <u>abeard@madison.k12.ga.us</u>	Yolanda Smith 706-783-2400 x1221 <u>ysmith@madison.k12.ga.us</u>

# **Cafeteria Procedures and Expectations:**

- MCMS serves breakfast and lunch daily.
- Lunch cost: Full pay: \$2.50/ Reduced: \$.40
- ALL students will be required to fill out a Free and Reduced Lunch form in August. This must be returned at the beginning of the year, regardless of free and reduced lunch status.
- No more than 5 charges are allowed on a student's account.
- Commercially prepared foods (fast food and restaurant) and soft drinks are not allowed in the MCMS cafeteria.
- Free Breakfast for all will be offered again in the 2023-2024 school year.





# Media Center Info:

The mission of the Madison County Middle School Media Center is to provide the learning community with access to information and reading and research assistance, while promoting a love of reading that will provide a lifetime of learning. We check out two books for two weeks. You may bring your books into the media center to renew or checkout with a pass from your teacher. Please renew/return your books every two weeks or you might be put on the Restricted List from school activities.

Questions? Contact *Whitney Green*, MCMS Media Center Specialist, <u>wgreen@madison.k12.ga.us</u>, 706.783.2400 x 1226

# **Restricted List:**

Students with extremely overdue library books and students who have not turned in school-owned items (ex: uniforms) are added to the restricted list every month. They are also listed in IC as Flags and Fines. This list is sent to teachers and can cause students to miss breaks, field days, and end of the year reward days if the items are not returned or paid for.

# **Locker Procedures:**

- Students may rent lockers for the safekeeping of books and personal property. Only school assigned locks may be put on lockers which is covered with the rental fee.
- It is the responsibility of the student to guard his or her combination and to see that the locker is secure. Students are not to share lockers.
- Lockers remain the property of the school and are subject to periodic announced and unannounced inspections by school personnel at any time during the year.
- Locker rental fees are \$2.00. Fees are paid during the first week of school.
- Students with physical education are encouraged to bring a lock from home to be used for that period alone. We cannot provide locks for these as up to six different students could use the same locker daily.



# oarent Connect Student

# **Parent Communication:**

Madison County Middle School is a Title I School, and we offer ongoing events and programs to provide parents and students information about student progress:

• Report cards are sent home every 9 weeks. Progress report are sent home in the middle of each quarter to provide updated information on student progress.

• Infinite Campus is available 24/7 online via Parent Portal and allows access to a student's grades for parent(s)/ legal guardian(s).

• Teachers should call and check on a student if he/she is absent for 3 consecutive days.

• Once a student has 5 unverified absences, a blue letter will be mailed home informing the parent of what the law says about mandatory school attendance and the consequences that may occur if the school does not receive excuse notes for every absence. Once the

parent is informed, the next step is Truancy Panel for the parent and student if the student continues to be absent and/or excuse notes are not received by the school.

- The school sends home notices regularly so parent(s)/legal guardian(s) know of upcoming testing dates, parent-teacher conferences, and other activities.
- A monthly newsletter is posted online that informs families of the monthly activities, including extracurricular activities, such as sports and the performing arts.
- Many teachers use Remind to send home announcements and information.
- Daily announcements are posted on our school website.
- Announcements are posted on our school Facebook page.

# 2023-2024 School Supplies

All MCMS students will receive, at no cost, a set of school supplies at the beginning of the 2023-24 school year!

You will need to supply your own bookbag.

We suggest you buy a few extra of the following supplies in case you run out:

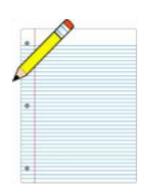
#2 pencils Loose leaf paper Glue sticks

# Appreciated, but not required, supplies for advisement class:

Kleenex

Disinfectant wipes

Hand sanitizer



# MCMS BUS & CAR RIDER INFO

## **School Bus Behavior Policy**



Riding on a school bus is a privilege, not a right, and students can be suspended or restricted from riding buses if misbehavior interferes with the safety of riders, drivers, and traffic.

Each driver has complete charge of the students riding his/her bus. The driver shall have the right to recommend suspension of any student who is disobedient or guilty of misbehavior. The driver shall furnish the administrator of the school with an

electronic report of all infractions on his/her bus, including any injury received by a child. The administrator and driver will cooperate to see that proper order is maintained on the buses. Parents shall be given written notice prior to suspension of their child.

An updated MCMS Bus Behavior Contract will be included in the 2023-2024 MCMS Student Handbook located in each student's agenda as well as online.

## MCMS Car-Rider Procedures for Drop Off and Pick Up

## MCMS Morning Car-Rider Drop-Off

All car-riders should be dropped off at the front of the school in the designated areas. Students may also be dropped off on the side of the building next to the three double doors at the gym between the hours of 7:15 AM and 7:45 AM ONLY.

Students are not to be dropped off or picked up behind or beside the school or at the main road.

While we would all like to drop off our students at the front door, the volume of car-riders at MCMS would cause the traffic to back up onto the main roads. With that in mind, please pull to the far cone or as far as traffic allows before stopping and letting out your student(s). During the first several weeks of school, an administrator will be directing traffic at the front to help with the process.

## MCMS Afternoon Car-Rider Pick Up

Last Year we averaged 200 plus cars a day during car-riders. We will provide a map at the beginning of the school year showing the pick up procedures we use to handle the large volumes of cars.

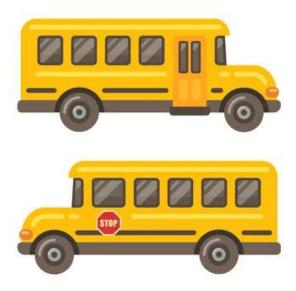


To make the process more efficient, each student will be given a barcoded car rider tag that should be used. If you need additional tags, please have your student notify his or her teacher.

- 1. Around 2:15 PM, MCMS personnel will begin scanning/entering car riders into a scanning program as their rides arrive in the front parking lot.
- 2. Daily, in each car rider classroom at 2:48 PM, a list will be posted that displays the students whose rides are in line and have been scanned. When a student's name is listed, he or she will report directly to the front to go home.
- 3. Around 3:00 PM, the remainder of the car rider students will be dismissed and required to report directly to the cafeteria. They will be separated by grade levels.

- 4. As cars arrive out front, these tags will be scanned and the corresponding students' names will be displayed in the cafeteria.
- 5. The names will be called in the cafeteria as well.
- 6. When displayed and/or called, the students should report directly to the front pick up area to go home.

As mentioned in the Morning section, we would all like to pick up our students at the front door. The volume of car-riders at MCMS would cause the traffic to back up onto the main roads. With that in mind, please pull to the far cone or as far as traffic allows before stopping and picking up your student(s).



## **Changes in Student Transportation:**

Should it be necessary for a student to ride a different bus or get off the bus at a stop other than his usual stop, the parents should notify the school in writing. This notification should be turned in to the office BEFORE FIRST PERIOD for verification by parents and approved before 2:15. Students are responsible to check back in the office to pick up a note.

Verbal permission is not sufficient. The following information MUST be included on the bus note: (1) student's full name and grade, (2) a phone number where we can reach parent/guardian for verification of change, (3) bus number and/or driver's name, (4) special instructions such as what address the student is riding to, who they will be going home with, reason for change etc.

No student is allowed to ride the bus to any other school to ride home

with a sibling, etc. – this includes the high school.

Note: some buses may be 'red-flagged' due to the bus reaching its transportation capacity for students. Students, not assigned to these routes, will NOT be allowed to ride these buses even with parental permission. Please make sure you know your bus number before you send in a bus note.

If a student's address has changed, the parents are responsible to communicate that with the registrar to fill out proper paperwork before the student can ride the bus. Also after address changes, it takes up to 24 hours for the student to be approved for a new bus.

Contact your child's House Secretary with bus questions.



# **MCMS COURSES & SCHEDULE INFO**

# **6th Grade Connections Courses:**

- Each student will have 2 connections per quarter
- All course are taken for one quarter, unless otherwise noted
- Band and academic support classes, not listed here, are year-long courses

#### **Agricultural Science**

The course introduces the major areas of scientific agricultural production and research; presents problem solving lessons and introductory skills and knowledge in agricultural science and agri-related technologies. Classroom and laboratory activities are supplemented through supervised agricultural experiences and leadership programs and activities

#### Art

In middle school, art students are introduced to a variety of art mediums and techniques. As students progress through middle school they are challenged in art to use their creativity and develop artistically. Students should be expected to learn about: elements of art, drawing, cartooning, painting, crafts, graphic design, illustration, and printmaking. In each topic we will learn about art history, discuss techniques and develop skills that will improve art making.

#### **Career Awareness**

The purpose of Career Awareness is to develop career literacy as part of all students' fundamental education through an activity-based study of career strands and their resources, processes, and impact on society. Career Awareness utilizes computer and educational technology. As part of the BRIDGE act, students form a cluster of career ideas and a graduation plan before they enter high school.

#### **Drama/Theatre Arts**

This course provides students with an overview of theater arts. Students explore acting and improvisation. They learn the basic techniques of acting, character and voice development, presentation skills, and script writing. Some acting will be required.

#### **Foundations of Business**

This course will provide an exploratory foundation in business office administration and support. It is designed to be taught in a 9-week rotation in 45-minute daily classes. Standards should be taught in the order presented with the exception of Standards 1 and 7 being embedded standards with ongoing learning regarding employability skills, career investigation, and career-technical leadership opportunities. Through integrated instructional activities, students will have opportunities to apply employability skills and to research possible career options in the business administration area. They will also complete many hands-on activities to build a strong foundation in integrated software applications and standard office procedures. Capstone projects should be incorporated at the completion of all standards as time allows. Keyboarding is now included at the elementary level in the GaDOE K-12 Computer Science standards. Students who successfully complete this course will be prepared for the following pathways upon entering high school: Business & Technology and Health Information Technology. This course is recommended for 6th grade but may be taught in 6th, 7th, or 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

#### Family and Consumer Science (FACS)

An introductory course includes classroom instruction and laboratory experience. It is designed to include Career, Community, and Family Connections; Consumer and Family Resources; Consumer Services; Early Childhood Education, and Services; Facilities Management and Maintenance; Family; Family and Community Services; Food Production and Services; Food Science, Dietetics, and Nutrition; Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation; Housing, Interiors and Furnishings; Human Development; Interpersonal Relationships; Nutrition and Wellness; and Textiles and Apparel.

#### Health

This course is designed to assist students in obtaining accurate information, developing lifelong positive attitudes and behaviors, and making wise decisions related to their personal health. Study will include personal health, consumer & community health, injury prevention & safety, alcohol, tobacco, & other drugs, nutrition, environmental health, individual growth and development, family living, & communicable/chronic diseases.

#### **Healthcare Science 6**

This course provides students with an exploratory introduction to several healthcare careers and the safety procedures and interpersonal communication skills required for them. The course will enable students to receive initial exposure to healthcare science skills; attitudes applicable to healthcare including the concepts of health, wellness, and preventative care; and responsibilities of today's healthcare provider. Mastery of skills through project based learning, technical skills practice, and group activities will provide students with an opportunity to decide if they want to continue this course of study in high school and/or at a post-secondary institution. This course is considered broad-based with high impact.

#### **Junior Leadership**

The goal of this course is to provide you the student with the skills and knowledge needed to behave and act appropriately in school, at home, and in life. The course includes an in-depth look at you, the student, using different methods of involvement in the classroom, in the school building, and outside the school. Your process will be evaluated to help you build relationships with fellow peers and teachers. There will be daily discussions about life and social skills exercises throughout the semester.

#### **Music Appreciation**

This course focuses primarily on musical elements (such as rhythm, dynamics, tempo, etc.) and music history. Music Appreciation is not a performance class, however, students will have an opportunity to learn more about the choral program which they may join beginning in 7th grade. Music Appreciation will also include an introduction to musical notation and instrument families. All students will complete and present individual composer projects. There will be optional opportunities to share favorite styles of music and individual talents within the class.

#### **Physical Education**

#### (Most students will have PE 2-3 quarters during the school year)

Physical fitness is a vital part of the middle school student's life. At Madison County Middle School, we provide a superior physical education program structured to meet the individual needs of our students as well as to meet quality core curriculum objectives mandated by the state. Students will be involved in a variety of physical fitness activities and games. Fitness activities may include: jogging, sprinting, jump rope, drills, push-ups, sit-ups, lunges, and weight lifting activities. Games may include: football, softball, volleyball, badminton, pick-o-ball, Frisbee, soccer, softball, four square, tennis, and basketball. All physical activities will require students to wear appropriate attire and tennis shoes (they must dress out). Proper attire includes: shorts, t-shirts, and sweats that meet the school mandated dress code.

# Sample 6th Grade 1st Quarter Schedule:

	Term Q1 (08/06/2021-10/07/2021		
Advisement	07:15 AM-07:55 AM 00.0000006-18 HR/Advisement 6 Simonson, Chanda Rm: 1115		
01	07:55 AM-09:05 AM 40.0610010-301 Science6 YL Simonson, Chanda L Rm: 1115	Connections classes	
02	09:07 AM-10:17 AM 27.0210010-102 Math 6 YL McDuffie, Madison Rm: 1109	change every quarter	
03	10:20 AM-11:06 AM 36.0070011-1103 Phy Ed 6 QTR Bird, Brent Rm: GYM		
04	11:09 AM-11:55 AM 20.0110006-1104 FACS 6 QTR Coker, Nikki Rm: 1009		
05	11:58 AM-01:38 PM 23.0110000-305 La 6 YL Beckham, Corey C Rm: 1106		
06	01:40 PM-02:50 PM <b>45.0070010-406 Socials6 YL</b> Yeary, David Rm: 1104		

- All students will report directly to Homeroom/Advisement upon arrival at school.
- Announcements are at 7:50 am.
- First period begins at 7:55 am.
- Dismissal begins at 2:45 pm.



# MUSTANG BAND F.A.Q.

Contact Mr. Smith anytime with any additional questions psmith@madison.k12.ga.us | 706-783-2400 ext. 1215

# What is Band?

Band is a daily, year-long connection class where students learn to play a woodwind, brass, or percussion instrument.. Students get to show off what they have learned through concerts which are held at various points throughout the year. Learning to play an instrument helps students develop a greater appreciation for music, team work skills, critical thinking skills, and personal independence. Band is also a fun way to make new friends with students from across our amazing Madison County School District!

# Does my child need prior music experience to participate in 6th Grade Band?

Zero prior experience is necessary! It is my privilege as their teacher to teach them everything they will need to know. We will spend the first two weeks building a foundation for understanding and reading music notation and rhythms. After the first 2 weeks, students will choose their instrument and I will then teach them how to put it together, how to take care of the instrument, and how to play it.

# How do I sign up for Band?

Complete the 6th grade registration form. In the registration form, there is a section allowing you to sign up for band. Once signed-up, you are set. Students will get to see and hear the instruments in the first days of band before deciding what they might play. Enjoy your summer break knowing instrument selection will occur during the first weeks of school. If you've already completed the form and want to have band added, just email me, Mr. Smith!

# What instruments are in the band? Which are not?





Woodwind: Flute, Clarinet, & Saxophone

Brass: Trumpet, Trombone, F Horn, Euphonium, & Tuba

Percussion: Single section that must play mallet and drums

**String instruments** are <u>not</u> played in band. This includes violin, viola, cello, bass, and guitar. However, the skills learned in band are frequently used by students to learn how to play additional instruments.



# How do students choose an instrument?

Student instrument selection is so much fun! During the first two weeks of school, I will let students see and hold the instruments. I will also demonstrate how the instruments sound and we will watch short videos of others demonstrating the various instruments. If a student likes the instrument's sound and they can see themselves practicing and playing that instrument, there is very little that can get in the way of their success!

# How do I get an instrument?

Most will choose a "lease-to-own" option from a music store that specializes in band instruments. This is a great, low-risk option that allows students to try band without parents needing to pay for the full cost of an instrument. Others may have a family instrument that can be used. We also have school instruments available in certain situations. I will be available throughout this process to ensure all students are able to acquire an instrument that will help them be successful!

# When do I need the instrument?

Students will not need an instrument until the end of August. While a more detailed timeline will be shared at the start of the new school year, families will essentially have 3 weeks to make decisions.

# I'm afraid my child's grades might suffer. Does this generally happen?

There is an enormous amount of research available that verifies – participation in school music programs offer mental stimulus that cannot be replicated in any other activity. In order to successfully contribute in a band, students must be constantly engaged and will use high order thinking skills daily. High school valedictorians, STAR students, honor graduates, and scholarship winners all come from band programs at an astounding rate.

# What are the commitments outside of the school day?

In 6th Grade, there are 2 performances in the evening per year - early December and Spring. Aside from concerts, students will practice their instrument to review what we do in class - similar to homework they might have in any other class.

# Can my child do band AND sports/other activities?

Definitely! Band is a class that meets during the day just like Math or Science. In my 17+ years at MCMS, I have taught students from every sport and club offered. Band students are FFA & FCCLA officers. Band students play football and run track. Band students are cheerleaders, tennis players, and soccer players. Because music impacts the lives of everyone, band is a class with a wide variety of personalities and interests!

# Can my child join band after 6th Grade?

The band curriculum builds each year. This means the best time to join is in 6th grade. Get in on the ground level! It is best to join in sixth grade so that all the fundamentals of playing an instrument are well established.

# As a band parent, how can I get involved?

There are opportunities for parents to volunteer throughout the year: fundraisers, volunteering to help with band events, chaperoning band trips, etc. I will send home sign-up opportunities whenever we could use an extra set of hands. The most important thing you can do is to encourage your child throughout the year!

# MCMS 2023-2024 SPORTS INFO

**Reminder to Parents/Guardians and Students:** At the middle school level, student physicals, a signed concussion form, and proof of insurance are **required** for participation in all MCMS sports teams. The physical forms may be accessed from the Madison County Middle School webpage under Athletics or they can be picked up in the main office or house offices of the middle school. All physicals are good for one year from the date of the physical. These must be turned into the Athletics Secretary/Coordinator, Tammy McHale. For more info, please visit our website: <u>www.madison.k12.ga.us/domain/201</u>

#### Sports that have an asterisk (\*) beside them are available to 6<sup>th</sup> grade students. Some sports are only open to 7th & 8th graders.

#### Baseball: Co-Head Coaches: Jack Cook (jcook@madison.k12.ga.us) and John Spinks (jspinks@madison.k12.ga.us)

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders must try out and be academically eligible. Tryouts are in mid to late January. Students must have a current physical and insurance form on file before tryouts begin. Practice is at the MCMS field. Players that make the team will have the opportunity to purchase spikes and other apparel through a package deal with the varsity program. Game jerseys are issued, but players are required to purchase their own pants (white), belt, and socks. Also, players are responsible for providing their own equipment (gloves, bats, helmets, etc.).

# **Boys Basketball:** *Head Coach (8th grade): Jacob Whitmire (<u>iwhitmire@madison.k12.ga.us</u>); <i>Head Coach (7th grade): Jack Cook (<u>icook@madison.k12.ga.us</u>)*

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders must try-out and be academically eligible. Tryouts are late October. Students do not need to provide any equipment, and coaches encourage anyone interested to try out. Coaches expect a lot from players and are interested in players with great attitudes and strong work ethics.

# <u>Girls Basketball:</u> 7th and 8th Grade Coaches: Amanda Shimmin (<u>ashimmin@madison.k12.ga.us</u>) and John Spinks (<u>ispinks@madison.k12.ga.us</u>)

There will be two teams each with 10-12 girls. You must be academically eligible by passing 5 out of 6 classes to tryout and remain on the team. Tryouts are in late October. Uniforms are issued by the school but parents/guardians will have to buy warm-ups. Team members are like family, and they run, run, run, and run some more. Good attitudes and great behavior are a must. Athletes who do not make the team are encouraged to participate in the leagues offered by the Madison County Rec Department.

# Cheerleading: Coaches: TBA

This sport has 2 squads with spring tryouts: football cheerleading (7 & 8<sup>th</sup> graders) and basketball (7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders). Students must have current physical and insurance form on file before tryouts begin; grades no lower than a C and no more than one office referral. Cheerleaders must pass 5 of 6 classes. Cheerleaders must devote a lot of time and energy and show school spirit and enthusiasm.

## \*Cross-Country: Head Coach: Nathan Herndon (nherndon@madison.k12.ga.us)

A fall sport, Cross-Country is for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who would like to participate in long-distance running competitively with other middle school athletes. We encourage students interested in Cross-Country to complete the recommended summer workouts.

# <u>Fast-pitch Softball:</u> *Head Coach: Amanda Shimmin (<u>ashimmin@madison.k12.ga.us</u>); Assistant Coach: John Spinks: <u>jspinks@madison.k12.ga.us</u>)*

7th and 8th graders must be academically eligible and try out for the team in mid-May. Uniforms are issued, but students will need their own equipment (gloves, bats, helmet, socks, pants, cleats, etc.). Players must be disciplined, coachable, and hard-working. Practice is after school. The game season runs from August to September but will include practices in July before school starts. Athletes who do not make the team are encouraged to participate in the leagues offered by the Madison County Rec Department.

**Football:** *Head Coach:* Brent Bird: (brentbird@madison.k12.ga.us); Assistant Coaches: Rusty Beasley (rbeasley@madison.k12.ga.us), Dustin Howard (<u>dhoward@madison.k12.ga.us</u>) and Terry Whitworth (<u>twhitworth@madison.k12.ga.us</u>)

7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders who pass 5 of 6 classes, have good conduct and respect for coaches, teachers, and peers, pass a physical exam, and have proof of insurance can participate in football. Weight training starts in the summer, and practice begins in late July. All equipment *except cleats and girdles* are provided, but those who have their own equipment are welcome to use it. Football teaches discipline and hard work. You cannot be passive about playing this sport. It requires the ability to run, the strength to block and tackle, and the mental toughness to bounce back from failure.

# <u>\*Golf:</u> *Head Coach: Terry Whitworth* (<u>*twhitworth@madison.k12.ga.us*</u>); *Assistant Coach*: *Jeremey Beckham* (<u>*jbeckam@madison.k12.ga.us*</u>)

Open to boys and girls in 6th, 7th and 8th grades with a current physical on file. Student-athletes must have their own golf equipment and balls. It's expected that you're not a complete beginner, and that you've played some golf. Every player must enter a team in our annual golf tournament fundraiser, as well as securing at least one hole sponsor.

# **Soccer:** *Head Coach (Boys)*: *Tim Beckham (tbeckham@madison.k12.ga.us ); Head Coach (Girls):* Celia Easley (ceasley@madison.k12.ga.us)

A boys team and a girls team are available for 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders who are failing no more than one class and have a current physical on file. Team members provide cleats and shin guards (about \$80) for the late Jan. to early April season. Running is a big part of the game, so be in shape before try-outs.

# \*Swimming: Coaches: Molly Bracken (<u>mbracken@madison.k12.ga.us</u>) and Chris Armel (<u>carmel@madison.k12.ga.us</u>)

MC Swimming is open to boys and girls in grades 6-12. Swimmers will be required to pass a pre-season evaluation, although competitive strokes will be taught throughout the season. Swimmers should be failing no more than one class, and exhibit good character. Swimsuit, cap, goggles, kickboard and fins are required for practices and meets. For more information, visit our Facebook Page @MCSwim30629.

## <u>\*Tennis:</u> Head Coach: Jacob Whitmire (<u>iwhitmire@madison.k12.ga.us</u>)

Boys and girls teams of 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> graders must try out, be failing no more than one class, and have a good behavior record. Tennis racket and tennis shoes with non-marking soles are required. Tennis racket can be provided for tryout, but players must provide their own racket if they make the team.

# <u>\*Track & Field:</u> Head Coach: Nik Calia (<u>ncalia@madison.k12.ga.us</u>)

Tryouts occur in late January. Practice is from 3:00 - 5:00 pm, typically at the MCHS Track & Field Complex. This is a sport in which running every day is a requirement. Many different opportunities for many different types of athletes. We are looking for fast short distance runners, runners with stamina for long distance (1 mile), and athletes who are able to jump and throw a shot put or discus.

# **Volleyball:** *Head Coach*: Jeremey Beckham (<u>ibeckham@madison.k12.ga.us</u>); Assistant Coach: Emma McDaniel (emcdaniel@madison.k12.ga.us)

7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls must be academically eligible to try out. Students must have a current physical and insurance form on file before tryouts begin. Practice will be held in MCMS gym, typically from 3:00 - 5:00 pm, beginning in August. Players must furnish knee pads, socks, and shoes; uniforms are issued.

# **<u>\*Wrestling:</u>** Head Coach: Brooks Gayton (<u>bgayton@madison.k12.ga.us</u>); Assistant Coach: Samantha Moss

(smoss@madison.k12.ga.us)

6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students are welcome to try out for the team. Practice is every afternoon from 2:40 until 5:15 p.m., beginning in mid-October. Listen for the announced meeting during the fall. Great chances to win medals at tournaments. Equipment needed: shorts, shirt, running shoes, wrestling shoes. Wrestlers will need to purchase a matching team warm up (approximate cost is \$100).

Please note that this info is as up to date as possible, but some coaching changes may occur.



# "Cross Country Champions Are Made In The Summer."

Madison County Middle School Cross County team is <u>NOT</u> a Fit Club, after school monitoring service, babysitting service, or an opportunity to hang out with friends. The Madison County Middle School Cross Country Team competes against Elbert, Franklin, Hart, Stephens, Habersham, and Rabun counties in which the top five runners (boys and girls) are recognized. This is an extremely competitive sport, and we hope to contend for the Region Championship again this year.

-Summer workouts will be held at the Madison County High School track during the summer. (Just because you attend these workouts does not necessarily mean you will be on the team in the fall).

-Coaches will be there on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00---10:00 weather permitting. We will work on intervals and long distance running. We strongly encourage you to eat a good breakfast before showing up. You also need a physical before attending.

-If you plan on working out at the track, it will start June 6th. Please see the following dates for summer workouts at the high school track:

June 6th, 8th June 13th, 15th June 20th, 22nd June 27th, 29th July 18th, 20th

Please eat good breakfast before arriving to the workouts.

Also please bring your own water bottle.



-During our Region meets in the fall we keep the times of our runners against other counties. Over the past years we have used these times to get better every week and compare our runners with the other top runners in the Region.

Here are some numbers that you can pace yourself with while running a 2.1-mile course:

Our top boy runner averaged 13:00 minutes for 2.1 miles, and he had an average finish of 1st place in the meets all year.

Out top girl runner averaged 14:00 minutes for 2.1 miles, and she had an average finish of 2nd place in the meets all year.



\*To sign up for Remind101, text the message <u>@mcmsxc2023</u> to the number <u>81010</u>. This is where you will receive messages regarding summer workouts and any other information related to Madison County Cross Country.

\*If you plan on running at home, please see the running schedule located on the school website under athletics on the cross country page.

\*If you have any other questions, you can email me at <u>nherndon@madison.k12.ga.us</u> or you can go to the website: <u>https://www.madison.k12.ga.us/domain/241</u>

# MCMS CLUB INFO

# More information can be found on the MCMS website at <u>www.madison.k12.ga.us/domain/200</u>

MCMS Clubs will meet before or after school in the 2023-2024 school year. Some clubs will meet more often than others, and will require a substantial time commitment. Please read the descriptions of the clubs offered at MCMS for specific club info. You will have the opportunity to join a club at the beginning of the year. Some clubs are by selection only, but most are open to anyone who has an interest and is willing to participate. If you have questions, please contact the club sponsor.

# <u>4-H</u>

Sponsor: Madison Co. Extension, Susan Goldman (706.795.2281, sgoldman@uga.edu)

6th, 7th, and 8th graders who enjoy projects and follow the 4-H motto "to make the best better" through achievement, citizenship, and leadership activities may participate in the 4-H Club. To join, applications must be completed and returned to your house secretary. If you were a member last year, you MUST fill out an application this year to remain in the club.

# **Amicettes**

Sponsors: Ms. Johnson (ejohnson@madison.k12.ga.us)

The purpose of the Amicette Club is to assist in the community, academic, and personal development of young ladies.

# <u>Beta Club</u>

# Sponsors: Ms. Thomas (cthomas@madison.k12.ga.us) & Ms. Boykin (mboykin@madison.k12.ga.us)

The Beta Club is a national service club. Membership is based on academic performance and willingness to work on service projects. As a member, students will be expected to keep good grades and participate in service projects throughout the year. As a club we sponsor numerous school and community service projects. The Beta motto is 'Let us lead by serving others". We work to help students become caring and giving citizens by serving our school and community. Meetings are 2-3 times a month after school. Students may apply for membership at the end of the 1st progress report and must have As and Bs to apply for membership. First time member dues are \$25 and other years they are \$10 each year (\$15 the first year is one time national dues).

# FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes)

Sponsors: Brandi Willoughby (bwilloughby@madison.k12.ga.us) & Kassy Taylor (ktaylor@madison.k12.ga.us) This group meets every Wednesday morning at 7:25 in the gym to learn how to exercise their faith in Jesus Christ at home and school. FCA is here to help, teach, and guide students to a deeper walk or first-time commitment with Jesus Christ.

# FCCLA (Family, Career, and Community Leaders of America)

# Sponsor: Ms. Coker (ncoker@madison.k12.ga.us)

FCCLA is a dynamic student organization that helps young people become leaders and address important personal, family, work, and social issues through family and consumer sciences education. Involvement with FCCLA offers members the opportunity to expand their leadership potential and develop skills for life-planning, goal setting, problem solving, decision making and interpersonal communication necessary in the home, community and the workplace. Students are able to travel to leadership meetings, compete in state and national competitions, and help their communities by coordinating service projects. Students can participate in many in school and out of school activities such as state and national conventions, monthly socials and outings, participate in competitions with prize money, or even be a chapter officer! Members will have fun and bond with each other through games and activities, fun meetings, and cool competitions. Dues are \$20 and should be paid within the first 2 weeks of each quarter. See Mrs. Coker to sign up in room 1009.

# <u>FFA</u>

Sponsor: Dr. Josh Whitworth (706.783.2400 x1228, joshua.whitworth@madison.k12.ga.us)

Madison County Middle School FFA was honored as #1 IN THE NATION in the 2016-2017 school year! Madison County Middle FFA offers students the opportunity to become more involved in the school and community, compete in contests, develop leadership skills, attend meetings, go on trips, and, of course, HAVE FUN!! After school meetings are scheduled for each month. Schedules for contests, meetings, and events can be found in the Ag room. Come by the Ag room for an FFA form today!

# **Friends Helping Friends**

Sponsor: Joan Fouche (jfouche@madison.k12.ga.us)

Friends Helping Friends is a service club where members are expected to participate in events to help provide opportunities and assistance to students served in the Community Based Instruction program. There will not be a club day. FHF members will assist special needs students in adaptive PE and other connections classes. An application is required. Students are selected by counselors, teachers, and Mrs. Fouche. Learning to serve others will help you on your journey to share joy and receive joy in return! Come have fun while you help the CBI students succeed in their connections classes!

# **Student Council**

Sponsors: Todd Powell (<u>tpowell@madison.k12.ga.us</u>) & Marilyn Hilley (<u>mhilley@madison.k12.ga.us</u>) Members meet once a month after school hours, or as needed, to voice their opinions on school issues and plan school activities. **To join:** 6th, 7th, and 8th graders on the Honor Roll/Merit List (all A's and B's, no C's), having no office referrals are eligible for Student Council. Students will be elected after the first 9 weeks during their advisement period class. *Will not meet until the end of the first 9 weeks*. Students in the Student Council will be involved in voicing their opinions on key school issues and help plan school activities. Student council members are active each year with numerous service projects such as the yearly Pennies For Patients program of Georgia to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society.

# Sources of Strength

Sponsors: Nathan Herndon(nherndon@madison.k12.ga.us), Robin Hallenbeck (rhallenbeck@madison.k12.ga.us), Terry Whitworth (twhitworth@madison.k12.ga.us), Yolanda Smith (ysmith@madison.k12.ga.us) Sources of Strength members meet to create HOPE, HELP, and STRENGTH. We want students/faculty to know that asking for help is not a weakness; asking for help is a STRENGTH. We believe that life has its ups and downs which all of us will go through at some point. Our goal is to bring awareness (to these ups and downs) and positive change to Madison County Middle School and students. We support all students throughout the school by being the positive voice that will change school culture. Students are chosen by the sponsors. However, by the end of the school year if a student wants to join, they need to see Coach Herndon for a teacher recommendation.

\*Please note that the clubs listed are subject to change. The updated club list will be posted to the MCMS website in the beginning of the 2023-2024 school year, and also discussed with students during homeroom.



# MCMS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

#### Q1: Can my child change which House he or she gets on his or her schedule?

A1: No. We know it's difficult at first for many students who are separated from their elementary friends, but we encourage students to see it as an opportunity to expand their friendship circle and also meet new peers. Only students who have a sibling at MCMS will be offered the same House as their sibling. Otherwise, House assignments are not changed.

#### Q2: Does MCMS offer after-school tutoring?

A2: No. Unfortunately, at this time, we do not have a tutoring program. However, teachers are happy to help with homework and answer questions during homeroom time.

# Q3: Can students ride the bus to the high school and then ride with their brother or sister home?

A3: No, students are not allowed to get off at the high school to ride with a sibling.

#### Q4: How early may students arrive at school?

A4: This will depend on next year's bell schedule, but this year, students were allowed to arrive beginning at 7:15 am, and school began at 7:50 am.

#### Q5: Can I request that my child not have PE?

A5: No. We can only change a student out of PE with a doctor's note.

#### Q6: Does my child have to rent a locker?

A6: No, your child does not have to rent a locker. If your child would like to rent a locker for the year, he or she will pay his or her advisement teacher \$2 for the locker rental. The school provides the lock and the combination at the beginning of the school year and as requested throughout the year.

#### Q7: Do students have to attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation?

A7: No, it is not mandatory that students attend the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation, but it is HIGHLY ENCOURAGED.

#### Q8: Will my child get to choose his or her connections classes?

A8: No, students may not request connections classes until 8<sup>th</sup> grade at MCMS. Middle school is about becoming aware of oneself and one's interests. A variety of connections classes are offered to help foster students' self-awareness of their interests.

#### Q9: Will my student have homework?

A9: Yes! All 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will have homework! Math usually has 4 problems a night, while science and social studies encourage students to review answers to the daily bell-ringer or warm-up each evening, and ELA has homework periodically. Contact your child's teacher if you're not sure. Email is the best way to reach teachers. 6<sup>th</sup> grade is a big transition, with six different classes and teachers to keep up with. Encourage your child to write his or her agenda each night, and provide a quiet, structured environment for him or her to complete homework.

#### Q10: How will I know how my child is doing in school?

A10: Progress reports are sent home after every 4 ½ weeks, while report cards are sent home every 9 weeks. You can also email your child's teacher to find out how he or she is doing, attend Parent Conferences in October and February, and request a parent meeting, if needed. If your child has an IEP or a 504, you can also contact your child's counselor or IEP case manager for help contacting your child's teachers. Also, sign up for Parent Portal, so you can check grades as they're posted and view any missing assignments your child may have.

#### Q11: Why won't my child text me back during the school day?

A11: It is against our cell phone policy for any student to be on his or her phone or to have it out once classes begin. Students may have their phones on and may use them only before or after school hours. Contact your House Secretary to contact your child if it's during school hours.



# WHO TO CALL at MCMS WHEN YOU HAVE QUESTIONS

Area	Name	Phone	Email
504 Info	House Counselor	706.783.2400	Contact House Counselor
6th Grade Orientation	Mary Boykin	706.783.2400 x 1223	mboykin@madison.k12.ga.us
Alternative School	Rusty Beasley	706.783.2400 x 1218	rbeasley@madison.k12.ga.us
Athletics Director	Britt Beaver	706.783.2400 x 1207	bbeaver@madison.k12.ga.us
Athletics Secretary	Tammy McHale	706.783.2400 x 1209	tmchale@madison.k12.ga.us
Attendance/Graduation	Renee McCannon	706.783.2400 x 1224	rmccannon@madison.k12.ga.us
Coach/RTI			
Band	Phillip Smith	706.783.2400 x 1215	psmith@madison.k12.ga.us
Bus	Britt Beaver	706.783.2400 x 1207	bbeaver@madison.k12.ga.us
Cafeteria	Amy Bolton	706.783.2400 x 1208	abolton@madison.k12.ga.us
Connections	For scheduling info, please contact your House Counselor	706.783.2400	Contact House Counselor
Counseling/Scheduling	House Counselors:	706.783.2400	
	1100: Mary Boykin	X 1223	mboykin@madison.k12.ga.us
	1200: Ashley Beard	X 1222	abeard@madison.k12.ga.us
	1300: Yolanda Smith	X 1221	<u>ysmith@madison.k12.ga.us</u>
Discipline	House Principals:	706.783.2400	
	1100: Britt Beaver	X 1207	bbeaver@madison.k12.ga.us
	1200: Doug Wood	X 1206	dougwood@madison.k12.ga.us
	1300: Jeremy Waller	X 1205	jwaller@madison.k12.ga.us
Media Center	Whitney Green	706.783.2400 x 1226	wgreen@madison.k12.ga.us
Nurse/ Medications	Nurse Tanya Dudley	706.783.2400 x 1204	tdudley@madison.k12.ga.us
PBIS	Yolanda Smith	706.783.2400 x 1221	ysmith@madison.k12.ga.us
Physical Education	PE Department	706.783.2400 x 1217 or 1232	brentbird@madison.k12.ga.us ejohnson@madison.k12.ga.us jbarnett@madison.k12.ga.us bware@madison.k12.ga.us kmorgan@madison.k12.ga.us
Principal	Georgie Bullock	706.783.2400 x 1201	gbullock@madison.k12.ga.us
Principal/Front Office	Nicole Smith	706.783.2400	nsmith@madison.k12.ga.us
Secretary	Nicole Smith	700.785.2400	IISIIIIII@IIIauISOII.K12.ga.us
Registrar/Parent Portal	Samantha Moss	706.783.2400 x 1203	smoss@madison.k12.ga.us
School Resource Officer	Lt. Brandon Moss	706.783.2400 x 1241	bmoss@madison.k12.ga.us
System Social Worker/ Hospital Homebound	Kelssie Fields	706.795.0120 x 1457	kfields@madison.k12.ga.us
Special Education	Kelli Griffeth OR Case Manager	706.783.2400 x 1227	kgriffeth@madison.k12.ga.us
Technology/Website	Pam Hall or	706.783.2400 x 1220	phall@madison.k12.ga.us
	Amanda Scarborough		ascarborough@madison.k12.ga.us
Tier III Behavior Interventionist/ MTSS	Jenny Glenn	706-783-2400 x 1240	jglenn@madison.k12.ga.us
Title I	Georgie Bullock or	706.783.2400 x 1201	gbullock@madison.k12.ga.us
	Mary Boykin	706.783.2400 x 1223	mboykin@madison.k12.ga.us
Transportation	House Secretaries:	706.783.2400	
Changes/General	1100: Tammy McHale	X 1209	tmchale@madison.k12.ga.us
Concerns	1200: Brandi Willoughby	X 1210	bwilloughby@madison.k12.ga.us
	1300: Danielle Egnoski	X 1211	degnoski@madison.k12.ga.us
Yearbook	Allison Gillespie		agillespie@madison.k12.ga.us
	Katie Layne		klayne@madison.k12.ga.us