



Listen • Empower • Achieve • Demonstrate

Mt Pleasant Elementary School

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Mt. Pleasant Elementary Office:
740-687-7338

Mt. Pleasant Attendance Policy:

Please contact the school before 9:15am every day that your student will be absent from school. Please send a note with your student if they need to leave early from school or if your child will have different pickup arrangements for the day. Your child needs to know each day if they are a vehicle pick up or a courtyard pickup/walker. **If your pick up procedure changes during the day, you must notify the office by 12:00pm.** Students are not to be at school in the morning before 8:35 a.m. We do not have supervision until that time. Students may be picked up in the courtyard area at 3:30 and in Vehicle pickup between 3:30 and 3:50.

Mt. Pleasant Elementary: The Place to be a Family that will
L – Listen
E – Empower
A – Achieve
D – Demonstrate

Dear MPES Family,

Our district mission, Lancaster City Schools is the place to be for Learning, Caring and Succeeding, reminds us each day of our purpose – to ensure YOUR child is achieving academically, feels safe and comfortable at school and is a productive Mt. Pleasant citizen. Communication is very important! I look forward to getting to know each of you this year. If you have questions, would like to discuss issues or have suggestions, please feel free to reach out to the office to set up a meeting. Let’s work together to continue the Mt. Pleasant traditions and create new opportunities for our students!

Mt. Pleasant is a Leader in Me school. Leader in Me is a whole-school improvement process based on the idea that everyone can be a leader. We empower students with the leadership skills they need to thrive in the 21st century. This year our students will continue to learn about the 7 habits and our students will have more leadership opportunities. We are excited to continue our LEAD mission in the building and share our classroom mission statements at our 1st family mission statement night. As leaders, our students will become active, engaged partners in their own education and their self-confidence, responsibility, and initiative grows.

Our first leadership group is out at work this week – 5th grade Safety Patrol. Please make sure you are watching our safety patrol carefully as you are dropping your students off or walking your students to school. Our student safety is most important.

IMPORTANT DATES:

Family Night - Mission Statements	September 26, 2019
MPES Mumkins Arrive	September 27, 2019
PTO Meeting - October	October 2, 2019
MPES Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 7, 2019
MPES Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 15, 2019
Fall Scholastic Book Fair for Students	Starts October 17, 2019
MPES Fall Pictures Retakes	October 18, 2019
MPES Yearbook Cover Art Contest (5th Graders)	October 21, 2019
MPES Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 22, 2019
Grade Cards sent home - 1st Quarter	October 31, 2019
MPES Parent-Teacher Conferences	October 24, 2019
Parent Info Night - Conscious Discipline	November 6, 2019
PTO Meeting - November	November 7, 2019

**Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
Model Notice for Directory Information**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), a Federal law, requires that Lancaster City Schools, with certain exceptions, obtain your written consent prior to the disclosure of personally identifiable information from your child's education records. However, Lancaster City Schools may disclose appropriately designated "directory information" without written consent, unless you have advised the District to the contrary in accordance with District procedures. The primary purpose of directory information is to allow the Lancaster City Schools to include this type of information from your child's education records in certain school publications. Directory information, which is information that is generally not considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if released, can also be disclosed to outside organizations without a parent's prior written consent. Outside organizations include, but are not limited to, companies that manufacture class rings or publish yearbooks. In addition, two federal laws require local educational agencies (LEAs) receiving assistance under the *Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA)* to provide military recruiters, upon request, with the following information – names, addresses and telephone listings – unless parents have advised the LEA that they do not want their student's information disclosed without their prior written consent.

Get to know the first 4 Habits with your Kids:

**HABIT 1 – BE PROACTIVE
YOU'RE IN CHARGE**

I am a responsible person. I take initiative. I choose my actions, attitudes, and moods. I do not blame others for my wrong actions. I do the right thing without being asked, even when no one is looking.

**HABIT 2 – BEGIN WITH THE END IN MIND
I PLAN AHEAD AND SET GOALS.**

I do things that have meaning and make a difference. I am an important part of my classroom and contribute to my school's mission. I look for ways to be a good citizen.

**HABIT 3 – PUT FIRST THINGS FIRST
WORK FIRST, THEN PLAY**

I spend my time on things that are most important. This means I say no to things I know I should not do. I set priorities, make a schedule, and follow my plan. I am disciplined and organized.

**HABIT 4 – THINK WIN-WIN
EVERYONE CAN WIN**

I balance courage for getting what I want with consideration for what others want. I make deposits in others' Emotional Bank Accounts. When conflicts arise, I look for third alternatives.

School Safety:

SAFETY DRILLS at MPES

EVACUATION/FIRE- Required by state six times a year. At the beginning of the year, the drill is announced along with expectations of walking and remaining quiet for directions from staff. Others are unannounced.

TORNADO - Required by the state in March, April, and May.

MEDICAL EMERGENCY - We utilize first aid, CPR, and the AED machine in case a student or staff member has a medical emergency at school. MPES will practice Medical Emergencies three times this year.

NO EXTERNAL ACTIVITIES - The Lancaster Police notifies the school if there is a situation in the surrounding community. The staff keeps the students inside until the situation is resolved.

LOCKDOWN - Required twice a year by the state. Students and staff are locked down in classrooms. Teachers participated in training to review possible scenarios.

REVERSAL - Bells are rung and whistles are blown to bring all students off the playground and to safety inside the school. This drill will be practiced at various times during the school year.

EVACUATION/RELOCATION - In the case of an evacuation, students and staff will walk to the Fairgrounds. Additional information about student/parent meeting and pick up will be communicated through our List-serve or OneCall Now. Please make sure you are connected with each of these communication platforms. We will be utilizing the List-serve more this year to easily communicate through email.

Title One

Title I is a federally funded program that seeks to improve academic achievement among students in high poverty areas by providing tax dollars based on our percentage of free and reduced lunches. Lancaster City Elementary Schools qualify for Title 1 assistance, and it utilizes that money to provide additional services to students in reading and math. MPES is a Title One School and we are excited to welcome back Mrs. Ghiloni, Mrs. Wigton, Mrs. Davis and Mrs. Bender as our Title One Teachers. Parents may request information regarding the professional qualifications of the student's classroom teachers at any time. Please call the office when making this request.

MPES PTO

Please make sure you are checking out all the great events that our PTO is planning – located on FaceBook and our school calendar. Our officers are:

President: Jessica Thompson	Volunteer Coordinators: Marcee Roberts and Katie McCabe
Vice President: Amy Clemons	Secretary: Amanda Tatro
Treasure: Heather Doty	

Page 4-MORNING ARRIVALS

Handbook Reminders

If your children walk to school or if you bring them to school by car, plan to arrive after 8:35 a.m. Children arriving before this time cannot be properly supervised as staff duty time begins at **8:35 a.m.** Student safety and general welfare is the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

Page 4-VISITORS

As a parent or guardian, you are always welcome to visit your child's school. If you wish to visit a classroom, please schedule the visit with the teacher in advance. If you wish to confer with your child's teacher, please make an appointment for before or after school. When visiting your child's school, ALL visitors must sign in at the office, show ID, and obtain a visitor's pass before going to other parts of the building. Please return the visitor's pass before leaving.

Page 5-FOOD ALLERGIES & CLASSROOM PARTIES

All food brought to school to be shared with everyone in the room may be distributed at the end of the day to celebrate a special occasion after gaining approval of the classroom teacher. However it is required to be prepackaged with an ingredients label. **No homemade foods brought into school to be shared will be accepted.** As many as 6 million American children have food allergies. Food allergies can be potentially fatal and there is no cure. The only way to prevent a reaction is to avoid the particular type of food.

Page 7-9-ATTENDANCE

Student success is directly related to classroom attendance. It is the legal responsibility of parents to "compel their children to attend school." All students will regularly attend school. We realize there will be a few days when a student is too ill to attend school or cannot attend because of some emergency circumstances. Call the school to report the absence.

Excused Absences-Parents need to be aware of the legal reason why students may be excused from school. These reasons include Personal Illness, Quarantine of the Home, Death of a Relative, Observance of Religious Holidays, and an Emergency. The certificate of a physician may be required at any time. Such certification is required after five unexcused absences or a total of 12 absences of any combination.

Prearranged Absence-If a student knows that he/she will be absent from school for some special reason, he/she should notify the principal in writing before the absence occurs.

Lice-Students sent home due to head lice will have 48 hours to be treated and return to school. Further absences will be considered unexcused absences.

Notifying the School-Parents should make a phone call to the school on the morning of each absence explaining the reason for the absence. These calls should be received no later than 9:15 a.m.

Page 9-LEAVING SCHOOL DURING THE DAY

If a child must leave the building due to illness or any emergency, he/she must be signed out at the office and will only be released to a parent, guardian, or other authorized person with proper ID. This person **MUST** be on medical pick-up list.

Page 9-TARDINESS

Any student arriving at school after 9:00 a.m. tardy bell is considered tardy. If a student is late, he/she must get a tardy slip from the office and be **signed in by a parent** before going to class.

WE ARE OFF TO A GREAT START!

