

This is a message for students and parents of the Mount Carmel Area School District

MCA Learning Community -

I hope all of you had a wonderful Christmas with family and friends! Here at school we are actively planning for students to return on Wednesday, January 3rd. Attached is some important information for our learning community to be aware of.

I. Important Dates:

- Thursday, January 11th - End of Marking Period #2
- Monday, January 15th - No School for Students (Dr. Martin Luther King Day)
- Friday, January 19th - Report Cards will be posted on SIS (JH-SH) and sent home in the Elementary

I also wanted to announce our end of year dates:

- Friday, May 31st - Last Day of School and High School Prom
- Sunday, June 2nd - Senior Commencement

***** More information coming soon on our end of year dates!*

II. Safety Initiatives

As always, safety and security for students and staff continue to be a major priority for us at MCA. A few weeks ago we started our new bus ID protocols in grades 7 to 12.

See previous alert now message:

https://www.mca.k12.pa.us/wp/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/2023-11-21_Bus_ID.pdf

We will start this new system in the elementary school (Grades Pre K to 6) on Monday, January 8th. We ask that parents help their children attach their ID to a bookbag or their chromebook case so they will not be lost. IDs and lanyards will be provided to children, at no cost, upon return to school on January 3rd. A detailed message will be forthcoming to the elementary school soon.

Our administration is also asking for your assistance related to our efforts towards school safety. We continually remind students about the dangers of making threats both in school and on social media. Any threat will be handled swiftly by our Administration, School Resource Officer, and local police. Consequences for such action will be severe including suspension and/or expulsion, and arrest. We expect our students to be leaders and not bully, antagonize, or threaten others. We will also never take "I was only kidding" as an excuse. **Please sit down and discuss these expectations with your child before they return on January 3rd.**

All students do an excellent job being organized as they enter our buildings through our metal detectors every day. But students must understand that they will be held responsible for belongings in their possession. **Again, please speak to your children** about the importance of not having anything dangerous that could be considered a weapon or a weapon look-a-like. Consequences for such actions will again be suspension, expulsion, and arrest.

We all play an important role in keeping our buildings safe. Please reach out to me if you have any questions or concerns with what is discussed here.

III. Home Athletic Events

Just as we announced during football season, our expectations are:

- No backpacks are allowed when entering a night sporting event. Students/fans will not be permitted to enter the gymnasium with a backpack.
- Students should enter the game and be with adult supervision at all times.
- We have zero tolerance for student misbehavior directed towards the opposing team or causing any disturbance in general.

Students removed for misbehavior will not be allowed to return for future home sporting events. Again, we expect our students to be leaders and represent MCA in a positive manner. We are obviously very proud of how a clear majority of our students carry and present themselves and expect this to continue as we cheer on our sport teams this winter!

See everyone on January 3rd!

Happy New Year!

Mr. Cheddar