

# Welcome to 7<sup>th</sup> grade

Note: Attached is information to assist in a smooth transition from 6<sup>th</sup> to 7<sup>th</sup>. The general format of a typical day for a junior high student will be similar as in the past. Slight changes are currently being discussed, but have not yet been finalized. These changes may include period and transition times, exploratory details, and teacher position. There may also be changes in lunch times, food prices, and expectations.

Please never hesitate to contact staff with questions or concerns.

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## PROGRESS AND REPORT CARDS

Progress reports will be handed out to students within a week of quarter 1 and 3 ending. It is their responsibility to share this with family. Report cards will be handed out to each student approximately one week after the end of semester. Semester two report cards will be sent through the mail.

Four and a half weeks into each grading period a letter will be sent to family of students who are earning a failing grade.

A mock copy of both is included within this packet.

## PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES

These are held in the gym with first serve basis. The teachers will be sitting in alphabetical order starting along either the west or east wall with nameplates on their table. Upon entering the building, a secretary will provide you with your child's report card containing a list of teachers your child is in contact with that term. The conferences run from 4:30 – 8:00 PM on two evenings between Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 for semester one and between Quarter 3 and Quarter 4 for semester two.

## PLANNERS

Planners will be passed out to each student during their first period on the first day of school. Those planners are the responsibility of each student to keep them up to date and have them with them at all times. If a student's planner is misplaced, a new planner for roughly \$6.00 can be purchased between 8:00 and 8:15, during passing time, and after school through the office. The planner allows family to be aware of assignments daily and any announcements the student chooses to write down. The handbook and resource materials are part of the planner as well as passes out of classes for restroom breaks and such. Plan to ask your child nightly to go over their planner.

## ABSENTEEISM

Upon entering the building after an absence, the student must report to the office with a signed note from family stating the reason for the absence, if a phone call has not already been made to the office from a family member from the contact list. The secretaries will then issue an admittance stamp in the planner to be shown to teachers when entering the classroom.

Excused absences include: personal illness, serious illness or death in the immediate family, school sponsored activities, and medical or dental appointments that cannot be made other than during school time. A complete list is in the student planner.

All other reasons will be counted as unexcused. Examples of unexcused are also listed in the student planner.

**Illness/Injury Protocol:** If you need to see the nurse for any reason, you need to have a pass from your teacher. The school nurse is not at the jr/sr high on a full-time base. In her absence the jr/sr high secretaries cover for her. They will evaluate and determine treatment or need for going home. They will consult the school nurse, as needed.

We do not allow texting to parents telling them that you don't feel good and want to go home. The school nurse or secretary; as deemed necessary, will contact parents.

## SCHEDULES

The schedule of each 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grader is not the same. The subjects taught are the same, but not the time of day that subject is taught. Their individual schedule will be passed out to them on the August registration day, PIN, or the first day of school. All courses are required except band and chorus. If the student currently is enrolled in band or chorus and decides to not continue in those classes, they may discuss with the counselor, Ms. Meierotto within the first three days of each semester or at registration.

Every junior high student is enrolled in one period of exploratories. Exploratories are the only classes that do not run for a full 18-week term. They are taught for 6 weeks. What is listed first under their exploratory period is what the student will take for the six weeks and so on. This time will be on a set rotation. This will be explained on a more individual basis the first day of school or during PIN (Parent Informational Night) if the question is raised.

AAT (Academic Advisory Time) is scheduled for the 7th period of the day. AAT is designed as a structured study hall where students can get help from their core teacher in a subject they may be struggling, failing, or need clarification on an assignment. Band/Chorus will take place on opposite days during AAT time. If you are in both Band and Chorus you will not have AAT Monday-Thursday. If you only are in one you will have AAT on the opposite days of either Band or Chorus.

Junior high lunch is divided into two sections. If the student has the first section first semester, they will generally have the second section semester two and vice versa. Opposite lunch is Homeroom (Silent Reading and/or relationship building). This will be during their HR (homeroom) time on the schedule.

## LUNCH

Lunch is served daily from either 12:21-12:46 or 12:43-1:08 depending on which lunchtime is listed on your schedule. This will flip around for semester two. Hot lunch is \$2.65, extra milk \$.40, and extra main \$1.60. Breakfast is served until 8:15 daily for \$1.65. Ala Carte is also available daily, if you have a positive lunch account balance. Ala Carte prices listed below. A blocker can be placed on the price a student uses each day during their lunch period at a family members request. Parents can also put a limit for daily uses as well. The student needs a positive balance of \$2.55 in order to eat school lunch that day. An automated phone notice will be sent home for a low account balance. The students are able to view their lunch account balance daily when punching in number to lunch computer and through Power School.

Lunch money will be accepted through the office from 8:00 to 8:15 and during passing time. Lunch money should be entered before 10:30 AM if necessary for the day's meal. Deposit after 10:30 student needs to have proof of deposit.

### Ala Carte Prices

cheese stick	\$ .30
fruit/veggie	\$ .50
yogurt parfait	\$1.40
snack bar	\$ .75
chips	\$ .75
pretzel	\$ .50
muffin	\$ .75
cookies (2pk)	\$ .60
cookie (1pk)	\$ .40
PBJ	\$1.00
Drink	\$1.00
juice boxes	\$ .40
cheese sauce	\$ .30
Wraps, pizza, mozz sticks, chef salads, pizza bites	\$1.40

Students always have five options for main: pizza, peanut butter and jelly Uncrestable, Chef Salad, wraps, or main listed on menu.

On the line that goes with the meal: salad, veggies, apples, oranges, apple slices, or fruit for that day. If the food item is in a container, it is an ala-carte option, unless the chef salad or wrap is used as the main entrée.

Student entitled to free/reduced meals need to have a fruit or vegetable and two of the following: protein, grain, or a dairy. (Need to have three items on their tray to count as a meal.)

Example alternate meals: PBJ, milk, apple or pizza, milk and salad

Example of not a meal: pizza and milk

Milk comes with the meal but kids don't have to take it. The meal is not charged differently if they opt out of taking milk.

# Junior High Activities/Athletics

Aug. – Oct.

Cross Country  
Football  
Volleyball

Physicals

Physicals and concussion forms are required before students can practice or participate with any athletic team.

Nov. – Dec.

Girl's basketball  
Wrestling  
Drama Club

The physical and release forms must be signed by parents and a physician.

They are valid for one full year from the date of the physical.

Jan. – Feb.

Boy's basketball  
Drama Club

Fine Arts

Band and chorus are options for students to take as classes during the school day. As part of these groups, students will participate in two concerts within our district and music festivals with other area schools.

Mar. – May

Track  
School Play

Chorus and band can be taken for one semester or the entire year.

May – July

Baseball  
Softball

All Year

Band  
Chorus  
Student Council  
Game Night

## Eligibility

To participate in extracurricular activities, students must maintain eligibility. For junior high, it is based on behavior and class work. Teachers document concerns and give those to the appropriate coach. Eligibility starts over for each season.

### Weekly Eligibility

Each week a grade check will be done on student / athlete's grades.

- > 1st time failing a class student / athlete receives a warning.
- > 2nd time failing a class student / athlete becomes ineligible. Student may bring up grade during week and become eligible again.
- > Every week grade checks are done. Student / athlete must be passing in order to participate.

### Semester Eligibility

Student must pass all classes at the end of the semester or become academically ineligible for all extracurricular activities for 20% of the season.

**Junior High Supply List  
Louisa Muscatine CSD  
2020-2021**

5- 2 pocket folders  
3- 1 subject notebooks  
2-composition notebooks  
1-package of pens (blue or black)  
2-boxes/packages of pencils or mechanical pencils  
2- 1" 3 ring binders (one for math/one for ELA)  
1- package of 4 Expo (any brand) markers (math)  
1-package of 2 holed loose-leaf paper  
2-sets of 5 binder dividers (ELA/Math)  
1-package of 3x3 post its  
1-package 1.5x2 post its  
Headphones or earbuds

Give to Homeroom teacher first day of school:

3-boxes of Kleenex (Girls)  
Clorox Wipes (Boys)  
2-glue sticks  
1-12 pack of colored pencils  
1-pack of markers  
1-Package of 4 Highlighters  
1-pack of 100 white lined 3x5 index cards

Donations Welcome:

Pencils  
Pens  
Post it Notes  
Notebooks  
Expo Markers

## LOUISA-MUSCATINE JUNIOR HIGH HANDBOOK

All school-wide policies apply to junior high students. These Junior High policies offer more detail related to 7th and 8th grade students and explain procedures that only apply to these students.

**TARDY POLICY** Students will receive a tardy if: -s/he is not in his/her assigned seat in class when the bell rings. - s/he is not prepared for class (missing writing utensil, planner, missing free reading book, missing textbook, etc.) There is no reason students should need to leave class once class has started. All trips for drinks, restroom use, locker visits, library visits, etc. need to be done during passing time.

**ACADEMIC RECOVERY TIME** Each week, students who are failing classes will report to the Learning Center for Academic Recovery Time during their P.E. class period. Students will be given a copy of their grades and missing assignment reports. During this time students will get academic support to get caught up on missing assignments, organize assignments, organize binders, and if a copy of a missing assignment is available the student will receive the extra copy so s/he can make it up.

**HOMEROOM** The majority of homeroom time during the week is dedicated to reading. The program we use is Accelerated Reader (AR). Accelerated Reader encourages students to read more frequently within and outside the classroom. When students read more, they perform better in school. As students finish reading the books that they have chosen, they will take a brief quiz to show they understand what they have read. Students will earn a grade for this in Junior High in English classes. In High School, students earn a half-credit for homeroom each semester when they have passed their AR reading goal. In Junior High, the AR program helps students become independent readers and may be a part of the reading class grade. Your student's goal is set at his/her individual reading level based on assessment scores.

Student Expectations

- All students must have a book to read
- All students must be quiet
- Students may not listen to music
- All students must read until the bell rings
- If students finish their AR goal before the end of the semester, they are still expected to read
- Students may NOT leave room unless called to the office

**AAT (ACADEMIC ADVISORY TIME)** AAT is held once each day. Every student is assigned to an AAT. Some students will leave AAT on a regular basis to attend band or chorus rehearsals.

Student Expectations

- Use the time for learning
- Respect the time of each other person
- Phones are only used for academic purposes when no other internet option is available
- Bring learning materials and an AR book each day
- Remain silent unless you have permission to speak for a learning purpose
- Follow all policies in the Student Handbook/Planner

**QUARTERLY REWARDS** Quarter Rewards happen at the end of each quarter as a reward and motivation for students to push for academic success. Along with the reward system we have developed consequences for actions that do not follow school policy. Some consequences may be given for a short period of time to all students in a grade level or they may be given to an individual for actions that require a consequence. The rewards happen at the end of the quarter and are for one to two periods of the day. Reward time is determined by the faculty and Administration.

7th grade Quarter 1-4 Reward Policy: Students must be passing all classes, have no ISS/OSS, have no bus suspensions and less than 3 before or after school detentions, and less than 4 lunch detentions during that quarter.

7<sup>th</sup> grade Quarter 4 Rewards: 7<sup>th</sup> grade students have to pass AR in order to participate in Quarter 4 rewards.

8th grade Quarter 1-3 Reward Policy: Students must be passing all classes, have no ISS/OSS, have no bus suspensions, and less than 3 detentions per that quarter.

8th grade Quarter 4 Reward Policy: Students must pass both 3rd and 4th quarter classes, have no ISS/OSS in 3rd and 4th quarter, have no bus suspensions and less than 4 before or after school detentions, and less than 6 lunch detentions during second semester.

8<sup>th</sup> grade students must pass AR second semester before they are able to qualify for the end of the year activity.

**GRADING/HOMEWORK** Each day, the homework will be posted on each class's whiteboard or on the projector. It is the student's responsibility to write it down in their daily planner. **It is also the student's responsibility to get missing work from each teacher when they are gone.**

Students may turn in work up to one week before the end of the grading period. Once a quarter is completed, late work for that quarter is no longer accepted. Students with multiple late/missing assignments resulting in an F or a low grade will be assigned to Academic Recovery Time on Fridays during PE and will also lose the end of Quarter Rewards.

**PLAGIARISM POLICY** Louisa-Muscatine Community School District is committed to academic integrity. The administration and faculty of this school expect that all students submit course work that reflects their original efforts. Plagiarism jeopardizes academic integrity and violates the school code. Instances that constitute plagiarism include:

2. Turning in a paper retrieved from an internet source as one's own. 3. Using another student's work in whole or part and submitting it as one's own. 4. Using information from an encyclopedia, book, textbook, web site, database, etc. without citing the source. 5. Using any facts, statistics, graphics, drawings, pictures, sounds, or other pieces of information without citing

the source. 6. Paraphrasing another person's unique ideas without citing the source. 7. Letting someone else write portions of a paper. 8. Inventing sources. 9. Using someone else's words or ideas unintentionally as a result of poor research methods. 10. Knowingly allowing someone else to use your work as their own.

To foster students' good character and academic integrity, Louisa-Muscatine Community School District uses the following plagiarism policy:

1<sup>st</sup> offense- student will receive zero credit for the assignment, parents will be notified, and a Saturday detention will be served

2<sup>nd</sup> offense- any further act in any course may result in failure of that course; any further act in any course will result in progressive disciplinary action in concert with school policy

Subsequent offenses – see High School Handbook Policy

**TECHNOLOGY USE POLICY** Louisa-Muscatine JH does allow a student to carry a cell phone and other electronic devices on school grounds. It is the responsibility of the student to make sure the device is off during the academic school day. Students will be allowed to use cell phones and other electronic devices during lunch time and passing time, unless a consequence has been given to a student or grade level that bans phones and other electronics from being used throughout the day. Students will then be asked to keep phones and devices in their lockers. When entering the classroom, students turn their cell phones and electronic devices off and must place cell phones in the designated location in the classroom and may not keep their phone with them during class. Students will be able to pick up cell phones at the end of class or when the teacher directs them to use them for an activity in class. If a student is using a cellphone without permission in class, the cellphone will be taken to the office.

Consequences for failing to comply with the cell phone policy will be as follows:

1st offense: The student will receive a detention to be served with the teacher issuing the detention. The confiscated cell phone or electronic device will be returned to a parent or guardian or held in the office until the end of the third full school day.

2nd offense: The student will receive a Saturday detention or ISS. The confiscated cell phone or electronic device will be returned to a parent or guardian or held in the office until the end of the third full school day.

3rd offense: The student will receive one day of In-School Suspension. The confiscated cell phone or electronic device will be returned to a parent or guardian or held in the office until the end of the third full day of school.

Subsequent offenses-Will be dealt with at the discretion of the administration.

If the violation includes inappropriate photos, videos or messages on the cell phone or electronic device, the infraction will be reported to local law enforcement immediately.

**GRADE RETENTION** Junior High students failing four or more semesters of core courses (math, science, social studies, and language arts/reading) may not be permitted to advance to the next grade level. Students may take summer school and complete course work to earn a "P" pass grade for courses and may advance on to high school if the staff and administration see that the student has demonstrated content knowledge and academic success in summer school.

In order to have the opportunity to participate in summer school for any core course, students must earn a passing percentage of 50 or higher as a final grade of the semester and be teacher approved. If the student is earning a failing grade that is less than 50% in multiple classes at the Semester and cannot take those classes for Summer school they may not be permitted to advance to the next grade level if they have more than 3 Failing semesters in core courses.

**EXAMS** Exams will be scheduled for the end of each semester and will account for 10% of the final grade for that semester. Exams may consist of, but are not limited to, tests, projects, and essays.

**CLASS CHANGES** Students wishing to make a class change must make the request within the first three days of the semester. Any requested class changes after three days of a term must receive administrative approval. Students may drop band or chorus at the end of each quarter, but must make the request to the counselor for change within the first three days of the quarter. Students will not be allowed to join or drop band or chorus at any other time.

**JUNIOR HIGH STUDENT ELIGIBILITY FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES** All junior high students participating in extracurricular activities must abide by the academic and conduct based eligibility rule. **Conduct Based Eligibility** Coaches may set their own guidelines beyond the school's minimum policy for players that violate student code of conduct and/or school policies.

**Academic Eligibility** Grades are checked weekly on Mondays. Student/athlete must be passing in order to participate.

- If a student has an "F" the first week, they will receive a warning.
- If the student has an "F" the second week, they become ineligible until that "F" becomes a passing grade. Students can become eligible during the same week and participate in a game/meet later that week.
- The above criteria are the minimum guidelines that coaches must use. Coaches have the discretion of having a stricter policy than the minimum set by the student handbook.

Any junior high student who receives a failing grade at the semester will sit out 20% of their current activity season or their next season. 7<sup>th</sup> grade students will enter the year with a clean slate.