



Madawaska Middle/High School

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http://www.madawaskaschools.org/middle_high/index.cfm

August 28, 2009

2009-2010

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WAYNE ANDERSON
- ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL:
DON GARON
- DIRECTOR OF GUIDANCE:
MARK NADEAU

MMHS IS BACK IN SESSION !!!

Dear Students and Parents:

This summer is fast passing us by! Most days were a bit wet, but there were some sunny days and the temperatures were comfortable. I hope you were able to take advantage. Of course, the purpose of this letter is not to discuss the weather, but to share a few things with you, now that you are well rested and ready to tackle another school year.

Our summer here at school has been taken up with scheduling, updating our student laptop program, and, otherwise, tending to countless other items to prepare for the students' return. You will find several changes aimed at improving the overall quality of the program at Madawaska Middle/High School.

We are especially looking forward to implementing some new assessments, NWEA (Northwest Evaluation Association) and NECAP (New England Common Assessment Program) as tools to better identify the specific needs of MMHS students with regards to curriculum and learning. We continue to provide a schedule designed to allow students to meet every day with their advisor to develop materials that students will find very valuable as they go through their middle/high school years and beyond. We are excited about the possibilities that the program offers; not only will students be able to reflect upon their personal choices, but, among other things, they will also learn how to find information about higher education and careers.

As we put the final touches to student schedules, teacher assignments, and the like, I would be remiss if I did not mention that the custodial staff has been extremely busy getting the building ready for the start of the 2009-2010 school year. You will find numerous changes and improvements with which I am sure you will be pleased.

WELCOME BACK !!!



August						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	W	W	19	20	21	
	24	25	26	27	28	
	31					

September						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
	H	8	9	10	11	
	14	15	16	17	18	
	h	h	h	h	h	
	h	h	h	h		

October						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				h	h	
	W	6	7	8	9	
	H	13	14	15	16	
	19	20	21	22	23	
	26	27 ER	28	29	30	

Senior Graduation -
June 10, 2010

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: http://www.madawaskaschools.org/middle_high/index.cfm

Madawaska Middle School Students Prepare For NECAP Exams

Parents, students will be taking the NECAP (*New England Common Assessment Program*) Exam during the month of October. It is so very important that the students are well rested and well prepared for the exam. Please try to ensure that your son/daughter attempts to adhere to the following tips:

1. Get a good night's sleep

....the brain needs to be rested so you can be focused during the exam!

2. Have a good breakfast

.... the brain needs energy to think!

3. Relax

... and give it your best effort. The questions will vary in difficulty. Some will be very easy for you, while some may seem impossible.



GRADE 6

10/19: Reading 1 (90 min), Reading 2 (90 min)

10/20: Reading 3 (90 min), Math 1 NC (90 min)

10/21: Math 2 (90 min), Math 3 (90 min)

GRADE 7

10/13: Reading 1 (90 min), Reading 2 (90 min)

10/14: Reading 3 (90 min), Math 1 NC (90 min)

10/15: Math 2 (90 min), Math 3 (90 min)



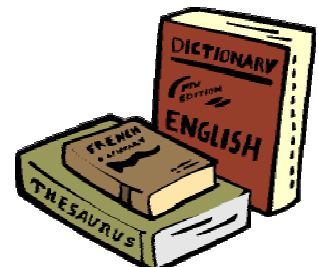
Grade 8

10/6: Reading 1 (90 min), Reading 2 (90 min)

10/7: Reading 3 (90 min), Math 1 NC (90 min)

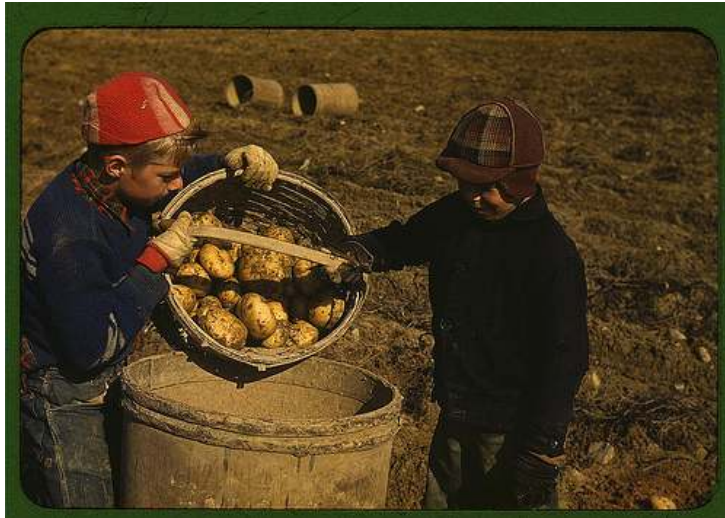
10/8: Math 2 (90 min), Math 3 (90 min)

10/9: Writing 1 (90 min), Writing 2 (90 min), Questionnaire



POTATO HARVEST BREAK

Cool mornings give way to warm afternoons as area youth help local potato farmers in Aroostook County get the golden nuggets out of the ground. It won't be long before clear, crisp air, vivid blue skies, and a collage of fall colors start to spring up along the Aroostook County countryside. Beginning Saturday, September 19,



had to "pick potatoes" and harvest them in barrels.

We wish a safe Harvest Break for all students and anxiously await their return to school on Tuesday, October 6, 2009 !!!

Madawaska Middle/High School will close its doors for two weeks to allow students the time to help local farmers gather their crops. Many students will begin work for farmers as potato-harvester workers, potato-house workers, or harvester truck drivers, etc. This event, observed every fall, speaks to our culture and heritage as we all reminisce about the days when we



NWEA

Madwawaska Middle/High School will begin using NWEA in grades 6—10 beginning this school year!

NWEA assessments are unique.

Students take the tests on a computer. The questions automatically adjust to the child's appropriate level of learning, based on the child's responses. In essence, each test is customized to the student to pinpoint each student's appropriate instructional level. Students who have traditionally found standardized assessments to be too challenging, and therefore frustrating, find a better balance of comfortable and challenging questions. Students who have traditionally breezed through standardized assessments find more challenging questions. With this testing system, high ability students find there is no longer an artificial ceiling in testing their academic achievement.

Measuring growth.

This technology allows a student's academic growth to be measured more precisely and more efficiently. The assessments are shorter than traditional standardized assessments and use less class time while still receiving detailed, accurate information about your child's academic ability and growth. Each child spends a total of about three hours in the computer lab completing these assessments during the two week window.

Following the assessments, parents receive a report showing their child's baseline score for this fall. On subsequent tests (each spring and fall), parents will also see a growth score to help monitor whether each child is achieving a year's growth in a year's time. Each report also provides a scale of scores in relation to grade level norms and a Lexile score.

- * The Lexile score provides a reading level range.
- * Parents can visit www.Lexile.com, enter the Lexile range, and receive a list of books, by genre and age, that fall within the child's appropriate reading level. Note for strong readers: Not all content published at your child's reading level is appropriate for the child's maturity level.
- * Books on the low end of the Lexile range are ideal for independent reading and will build reading fluency and speed.
- * Books on the higher end of the Lexile range might be read and discussed with parents, teacher or peers to stretch a students reading skills--especially in the areas of vocabulary and comprehension.

The efficiency of the new testing system will also provide more immediate results for educators. Teachers and principals receive the test results within days of testing, as opposed to months following state assessments.

We are truly excited to begin a new era in assessment that focuses on every child's individual growth and achievement. Please stop in and see us, or call if you prefer, should you have questions about how NWEA will benefit your child(ren).

NWEA Testing Schedule

(9th & 10th Grades Only)

Math & Reading

September 1st Tuesday

*Block 4 All ninth grade (English) students need to report to the Library for testing assignments.

September 2nd Wednesday

*Block 2 All tenth grade (Math) students to report to the Library for testing assignments (210,208, & ATM).

*Block 4 All ninth grade (Math) students to their assigned testing stations (201, 208, & ATM).

September 4th Friday

*Block 2 All tenth grade (English) students need to report to assigned testing stations (210,208, & ATM)

*Proctors will be Gisele Faucher and Nicole Cyr. (Tuesday-Wednesday-Friday.

Science

August 31 Monday

Block 2 Mr. Taggett's Physical Science class to report to the ATM (9th & 10th grade only).

September 3rd Thursday

Block 4 Mrs. Faucher's Intro to Biology class to report to the ATM.(9th & 10th grade only).

September 4th Friday

Block 4 Mr. Dugal's Modern Biology class to report to the ATM.

September 8th Tuesday

Block 3 Mr. Taggett's Physical Science class to report to the ATM.

September 9th Wednesday

Block 1 Mr. Taggett's Physical Science class to report to the ATM.

September 10th Thursday

Block 1 Mr. Dugal's Modern Biology class to report to the ATM.

Block 3 Mr. Dugal's Modern Biology class to report to the ATM.

NWEA Testing Schedule

(6th, 7th & 8th Grades Only)

Math & Reading

August 31st Monday

*Block 1 All 6th Grade (LA) students report to the Library for testing assignments (208 & ATM) with Mrs. Cyr, Mrs. Plourde, and Mrs. Kelly

*Block 4 All 8th Grade (LA) students report to the Library for testing assignments (208 & ATM) with Mrs. Cyr, Mrs. Plourde, and Mrs. Kelly

September 1st Tuesday

*Block 2 All 7th Grade (LA) students report to the Library for testing assignments (208 & ATM) with Mrs. Cyr, Mrs. Plourde, and Mrs. Kelly

September 2nd Wednesday

*Block 1 All 6th Grade (Math) students report to assigned testing stations (208 & ATM) with Mrs. Cyr, Mrs. Plourde, and Mrs. Kelly

September 3rd Thursday

*Block 2 All 7th Grade (Math) students report to assigned testing stations (208, & ATM) with Mrs. Charette, Mrs. Plourde, and Mrs. Kelly

September 8th Tuesday

*Block 2 All 8th Grade (Math) students report to assigned testing stations (208 & ATM) with Mrs. Charette, Mr. Albert, Mr. Charette, and Mrs. Kelly

Science

September 3rd Thursday

Block 4 Mr. Albert's Grade 6 class to report to 208.

September 8th Tuesday

Block 1 Mrs. McDermott's Grade 8 class to report to the ATM.

Block 3 Mrs. McDermott's Grade 7 class to report to 208.

Block 4 Mrs. McDermott's Grade 7 class to report to the ATM.

September 9th Wednesday

Block 1 Mrs. McDermott's Grade 8 class to report to 208.

Block 2 Mrs. McDermott's Grade 8 class to report to 208.

Block 3 Mr. Albert's Grade 6 class to report to 208.

Block 4 Mr. Albert's Grade 6 class to report to 208.

Block 4 Mrs. McDermott's Grade 7 class to report to the ATM.



INVITATION: Conference Day

On Tuesday, November 10, the Madawaska Middle/High School will be hosting its first parent conference day of the year. Parents may pick up report cards and visit with teachers from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., and from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. This is also a wonderful opportunity to visit the school and learn about your child(ren)'s education. Please come visit; we'd love to see you!



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Action Steps for Parents: Protect Your Child and Family from the Flu this School Year

1. **Practice good hand hygiene** by washing your hands often with soap and water, especially after coughing or sneezing. Alcohol-based hand cleaners are also effective.
2. **Cover your mouth and nose** with a tissue when you cough or sneeze. If you don't have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your elbow or shoulder; not into your hands.
3. **Stay home if you or your child is sick** for at least 24 hours after there is no longer a fever or signs of a fever (without the use of fever-reducing medicine). Keeping sick students at home means that they keep their viruses to themselves rather than sharing them with others.
4. **Get your family vaccinated** for seasonal flu and 2009 H1N1 flu when vaccines are available.
5. **A Flu Clinic will be scheduled for the students of Madawaska School Department in the near future. Information will be sent to parents when a date has been determined.**

If flu conditions become MORE severe, parents should comply with the following steps:

- **Extend the time sick children stay home** for at least 7 days, even if they feel better sooner. People who are still sick after 7 days should continue to stay home until at least 24 hours after symptoms have completely gone away.
- **If a household member is sick, keep any school-aged brothers or sisters home for 5 days** from the time the household member became sick. Parents should monitor their health and the health of other school-aged children for fever and other symptoms of the flu.



Follow these steps to prepare for the flu during the 2009-2010 school year:

- Plan for child care at home if your child gets sick or their school is dismissed.
- Plan to monitor the health of the sick child and any other children in the household by checking for fever and other symptoms of flu.
- Identify if you have children who are at higher risk of serious disease from the flu and talk to your healthcare provider about a plan to protect them during the flu season. Children at high risk of serious disease from the flu include: children under 5 years of age and those children with chronic medical conditions, such as asthma and diabetes.
- Identify a separate room in the house for the care of sick family members.
- Update emergency contact lists.
- Collect games, books, DVDs and other items to keep your family entertained if schools are dismissed or your child is sick and must stay home.

For more information:

- **Contact School Nurse** (728-3371)
- **Visit:** www.flu.gov
- **Contact CDC 24 Hours/Every Day**
 - 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
 - TTY: (888)232-6348
 - cdcinfo@cdc.gov

