

**ANCHOR BAY**



**NORTH**

**SAILORS**

**Newsletter**

***SAIL THE SHIP!***

# ANCHOR BAY MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH



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The mission of Anchor Bay Schools, in partnership with the community, will produce lifelong learners, who respect diversity, adapt to change and function as responsible citizens.

April/May

The weather is finally starting to break and spring is here!

We have received several requests from parents for student's homework, due to planned vacations. Teachers have assignments on their SCHOOLGY page. Students can access it at anytime and anywhere. It is the parents and student's choice whether to access Schoology while they are absent to keep up with work or do it when they return. In either case, students will have one day per day missed to make-up the work. Only school days count towards that total. For example- if a student misses 4 days of school and returns on Thursday, the student will have until the end of day on Tuesday the following week to complete the work. If work is not returned by that day our "Homework Policy" will apply. Our homework policy states that students will have 5 days to submit work after the due date, however credit for late work will be reduced by 10% for each day late.

Ex. 1 day late 10% reduction- 2 days late 20% reduction, etc.

## ATTENTION PARENTS OF CURRENT 6TH GRADE STUDENTS

### SCHOOL IMMUNIZATIONS

Your child will be due for immunizations before the start of 7th grade. As long as they are up to date prior to the age of eleven, they will only need TDAP and Meningococcal Conjugate vaccine. When your child's vaccines are complete please either email a copy to me at [jseamans@abs.misd.net](mailto:jseamans@abs.misd.net) or drop off in the main office. If you choose to get a waiver for their immunizations you must contact the Macomb County Health Department. Immunizations are required before the start of the 2024-2025 school year. If you have any questions please feel free to contact the main office.

## **Tech Support**

If you are running into technology issues, we are pleased to provide our Anchor Bay Help Desk as a resource. Please email [absdtechsupport@abs.misd.net](mailto:absdtechsupport@abs.misd.net) for assistance.

## **Captain's Quarters**

We are very excited to Middle School North's school store! Captain's Quarters is up and running on Tuesday's and Thursday's during lunch. School supplies, Pop-Its, MSN T-Shirts, Socks, Hoodies, Beanies and more! Fun new inventory is being added weekly! A very special thank you to Mr. Teddy, Ms. Beninati, Ms. Kessel, Mrs. VanHeusden, and our student council for all the support and hard work to make this possible!

We are looking for Parent Volunteers to help with the School Store on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11:00am to 12:45 pm. You will help oversee the students working in the store. Please email Mr. Ledbetter at [dledbetter@abs.misd.net](mailto:dledbetter@abs.misd.net), Ms. Kessel at [skessel@abs.misd.net](mailto:skessel@abs.misd.net) or Mrs. VanHeusden at [pvanheusden@abs.misd.net](mailto:pvanheusden@abs.misd.net) for more information. You must have a volunteer form on file.

## **8th Grade Reward Trip - Cedar Point**

This spring, 8th grade students, who earned the privilege, will be able to participate in the Cedar Point reward trip on Friday, May 31, 2024. We have ordered busses through Trinity Coach. We will be selling the tickets starting the week of March 4th. The cost of the trip is \$75.00. There will be no refunds. The criteria for this trip are; “outstanding/excellent” and “satisfactory/good” for citizenship. A student receiving a total of six (6) demerit points will be excluded from the 8th grade reward trip program. Any student involved in a fight or referred for a major infraction of a violent nature will be excluded. Truancy students will also be excluded.

## **7th Grade Reward Trip – Dave & Busters**

This spring, 7th grade students, who earned the privilege, will be able to participate in the Dave & Buster reward trip on Friday, May 31, 2024. We will be selling the tickets starting the week of April 8th. The cost of the trip is \$40.00, which includes \$20.00 Power Card, buffet lunch, several free arcade games and unlimited soda. There will be no refunds. The criteria for this trip are; “outstanding/excellent” and “satisfactory/good” for citizenship. A student receiving a total of six (6) demerit points will be excluded from the 7th grade reward trip program. Any student involved in a fight or referred for a major infraction of a violent nature will be excluded. Truancy students will also be excluded.

## **6th Grade Reward Trip – Walter Mary Burke Park**

This spring, 6th grade students, who earned the privilege, will be able to participate in the Walter Mary Burke Park reward trip on Friday, May 31, 2024. We will be selling the tickets starting the week of April 8th. The cost of the trip is \$20.00, which includes DJ, Tootsie the Clown, face painting, Kona Ice, outdoor games, pizza, lemonade and more! There will be no refunds. The criteria for this trip are; “outstanding/excellent” and “satisfactory/good” for citizenship. A student receiving a total of six (6) demerit points will be excluded from the 7th grade reward trip program. Any student involved in a fight or referred for a major infraction of a violent nature will be excluded. Truancy students will also be excluded.

## **Band/Choir**

Band concert is 5/23, 7:00pm at ABHS, choir concert is 5/28.

# REWARD TRIPS



## Reward Trips

Reward trips are part of our Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) program. They are designed to encourage positive behavior and academic success. The following trips are planned for the 2023-24 school year for students who meet the qualifying standards.

**Washington DC Trip– April 25-April 27, 2024**

**6th Grade Class Trip to New Baltimore Park– May 31, 2024**

**7th Grade Class Trip to Dave & Busters– May 31, 2024**

**8th Grade Class Trip to Cedar Pointe– May 31, 2024**

To qualify for our PBIS Reward Trips, students must meet the criteria established in our student code of conduct.

*“A student receiving a total of six (6) demerit points will be excluded from the school trip program. Any student involved in a fight, instigating a fight or referred for a major infraction of a violent nature will be excluded from the school trip program.”*

TIMEOUT=4 POINTS

DETENTION=2 POINTS

F GRADE=2 POINTS

N CITIZENSHIP=1 POINT

U CITIZENSHIP=2 POINTS

Bus Suspension= 1 POINT

Qualifying for these trips is a reward to our students for meeting a high standard. **NO EXCEPTIONS TO THE POINT TOTAL PROGRAM WILL BE ALLOWED. The Washington DC Trip has additional Demerit requirements due to the length of the trip and being an out-of-state overnight trip. Specific information will be given to participants when registered.**

## **ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

Before and after school academic support is held on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 am – 8:00 am (for Math only) and 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Forms can be found on our website at [www.anchorbay.misd.net](http://www.anchorbay.misd.net). Under the school heading select Anchor Bay Middle School North and scroll down to the heading titled Academic Support. Please be advised that if your student leaves prior to the end of the academic support Anchor Bay Middle School North is not responsible for your child once they leave the school property.

## **YEARBOOK**

The price of a yearbook is \$40.00. For more information visit [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com).

## **Life Skills**

2nd Semester-

We are excited to start 2nd semester in Life Skills! The Cooking Labs we will be doing are: Rice Crispy Treats, Chocolate Chip Cookies, Brownies, Cinnamon Rolls, Grilled Cheese, Noodles, Red Lobster Biscuits, Quesadillas, Sugar Cookies, Mac n' cheese, Oreo Pie, Pizza, and Cup Cake Wars! We will also be learning Kitchen Safety, Kitchen Equipment, Kitchen Terminology, Equivalents and other very important Life Skills!

## **Life Skills Two**

2nd Semester-

Life Skills Two is a newly added elective class open to 8th grade students.

Kids have been working very diligently, practicing their kitchen skills! Here's what's on the menu for the rest of the semester:

Here's What's Cooking in Life Skills!

Cheesy Potatoes, Fried Ice Cream, Mini Cheesecakes, Spaghetti and Breadsticks Tomato Pasta, Breakfast, Snickerdoodles, Monkey Bread and Chicken Noodle Soup.

## **Cooking Club**

Fourth session Cooking Club starts April 10, 2024!

We will be making Sausage, Egg and Cheese Breakfast Crescent Rolls, Garlic Bread Pizza, 5 Ingredient Beef Enchiladas and Coconut Macaroons.

Permission slips are available in the main office.

## **Dungeons and Dragons Club**

The D&D Club was established last year. It started with about 12 students and has doubled in size since then. The students spend Thursdays after school for an hour in another world, a world of magic and mythical creatures. Using their creativity, problem solving skills, and teamwork, the groups, led by their Dungeon Masters, set out on an adventure to rescue a kidnapped ally and discover a plot involving ancient magical ruins and scheming villains. Every session is a continued quest



from the week before just with different obstacles and challenges. The classroom is filled with excitement and adrenaline as they get closer to rescuing their ally.

## **Yoga Club**

Yoga Thursday's are beginning April 11 from 3-4.

If you want to do something after school on Thursday's come to room E8 for some yoga fun!

Yoga Thursdays will begin with a health snack.

Then students will move to your mats to unwind and ground from their hectic day

Once grounded, you will move through a series of movements and balancing that can be fun and challenging. If weather permits, we will take our practice outside

The hour closes with restful and restorative poses that create a sense of wellbeing and confidence.

To join the club all we ask for are donations for the local food pantry.

If you would like to participate in Yoga Thursday's a permission slip is needed and can be picked up in the office or Ms. Siemaszko's room in E6

## **Bridge Building**

Students competed in teams of 3. They had to write a proposal to be accepted to the competition. Then they gave a presentation to 2-3 MDOT engineers. Finally, we traveled to Grand Rapids March 11th-12th for the State Competition where they competed against 21 other 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade teams to see how much weight their bridge could hold.



Jennifer Massey

Top Contributor · March 21 at 8:13 PM · 🌐



This team right here did a great job at the State Bridge Building Competition! Gabe, Andrew, and Anthony were in the Top 10 in the state for their presentation and they placed the highest with 7th overall in the state! Way to go 🎉



## **Football**

Current 8th Graders that plan to play football at the HS. There will be after school lifting every Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 to 4:30 until May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the ABHS weight room. You must provide your own transportation. The weight room will be supervised



During a recent school cancellation, we found that several parents were not receiving text messages from the District notifying them of the cancellation. We checked the reports that are issued by "School Messenger" and found that many of the text messages (SMS) were being reported as BLOCKED. This means that when you received a text message from School Messenger (number: 67587) during the initial set up, no response was sent back. School Messenger assumes that you DO NOT want text messages if they do not receive a response.

To correct this, please do the following: If you would like to receive text messages from Anchor Bay School District, send a text message to (68453) with the words "opt in" or "subscribe" as the message. If you are already receiving text message from Anchor Bay School District no further action is required. For more information you can visit <http://schoolmessenger>



Kroger Community Rewards® makes fund-raising easy...all you have to do is shop at Kroger and swipe your Plus Card!

**Sign In or Create an Account to enroll, upon signing up please use our code: PL446**

Once signed in you can enroll or update your Community Rewards under your Account

### Apply for Free or Reduced Meals

To apply for free or reduced-price meals for the 2023-2024 school year, please fill out an application online at <https://anchorbay.familyportal.cloud/> under the 'benefits' tab. You will need to register with Family Portal first.

### SendMoneytoSchool is Now Family Portal

Meal Magic Family Portal is a new website that gives parents a single site for all their food service tasks. You can make deposits, transfer funds, review account balances, see what your children are eating, set parental controls, apply for meal benefits and more! It is also intuitive and mobile friendly.

Parents who previously used [sendmoneytoschool.com](http://sendmoneytoschool.com) for online payments will need to register with Family Portal using the same email address. This will allow all student information to transfer over automatically.



## **DROP OFF/PICK UP**

If you drive your child to or from school, you will need to drive to the main parking lot. When you are dropping off your child please pull all the way up to the last stop sign that is on the sidewalk. This keeps the traffic pattern flowing and traffic back-ups to a minimum. You may also drop off your child in the parking lot along Ashley Street. **Do not drive in the bus loop to drop your child off.** Safety is the number one concern when driving around the school property.

## **DRESS CODE**

Anchor Bay Schools respects students' right to express themselves in the way they dress. All students who attend Anchor Bay Schools are expected to respect the school community by dressing appropriately for the K-12 educational environment. Student attire should facilitate participation in learning and the health and safety of students and adults who supervise them. This policy is intended to guide students, staff, and parents.

The following guidelines shall be followed, which allow for student expression but also to aid in academic success and safety.

Guidelines shall prohibit student dress or grooming practices which:

1. Presents a hazard to the health or safety of the student himself/herself or to others in the school.
2. Interfere with schoolwork, create disorder, or disrupt the educational program.
3. Cause excessive wear or damage to school property.
4. Prevent the student from achieving his/ her educational objectives because of blocked vision or restricted movement.

A few examples of inappropriate attire include:

- A. Profane, negative, or obscene writing or pictures.
- B. Sunglasses. (unless prescription or transitional lenses)
- C. Hoods.
- D. Anything that covers the ears.
- E. Transparent clothing, and/or:
  - i. Clothing that reveals undergarments.
  - ii. Clothing that exposes nipples, genitals, or buttocks.
- F. Tube tops or single-strap tops, tops must have straps on both shoulders.
- G. Clothing that has reference to drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, gangs, illegal activities, demonstrates hate group association, or uses hate speech targeting a protected class, may not be worn.
- H. Wallet chains, spiked jewelry, or other dangerous accessories.

For safety, footwear with a sole must be worn at all times.

Students who represent the district at an official or school-sponsored function or public event (e.g., athletic teams, bands, choirs, AFJROTC, and other groups) may be required to follow specific dress requirements as a condition of participation or attendance.

Specialized courses may require specialized attire such as sports uniforms or safety gear- ex. gym, CTE (Career and Technical Education) classes.

The administration at each school reserves the right to determine what constitutes appropriate dress.

**ANY STUDENT WITH INAPPROPRIATE CLOTHING WILL REMAIN IN THE OFFICE UNTIL AN APPROPRIATE SOLUTION IS FOUND, WHICH MAY REQUIRE A CHANGE OF CLOTHING FROM HOME.**

# Sailor Happenings

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

SCHOOL PHONE # - 586-725-7373

FAX # - 586-725-6760

TRANSPORTATION # - 586-725-4220

SCHOOL HOURS - 7:55 - 2:52

## **START AND END TIMES**

8:04 – 2:52 FULL DAY

8:04 – 11:29 HALF DAY

### **NOTE:**

If your child is absent from school,  
please call us at (586)725-7373 ext. #  
1702 before 10:00 a.m.

## **Holidays/No school 2023-2024**

May 27<sup>th</sup> Memorial Day

Tuesday May 28<sup>th</sup> School Resumes

## **Professional Development day**

May 7, 2024

### **PRINCIPAL**

James Thiede

[jthiede@abs.misd.net](mailto:jthiede@abs.misd.net)

### **ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL**

Dave Ledbetter

[dledbetter@abs.misd.net](mailto:dledbetter@abs.misd.net)

### **DISTRICT WEBSITE**

[www.anchorbay.misd.net](http://www.anchorbay.misd.net)

## Protecting Our Water ...It's as Easy as Seven Simple Steps

Did you know that over three million people depend on our lakes and streams for their drinking water? And that in Southeast Michigan there are over 300,000 registered boaters and 3.5 million people visit a local park each year?

With this many people depending on our lakes and streams for drinking water and recreation, we need to be careful how we treat our water. You might not be able to see the stream or lake from your house, but it's there. It might be a small stream or ditch or even a storm drain in the street. All of these lead directly to our lakes and streams. So, what we do at home affects our water!

Here are seven simple steps you can take in your home and yard to protect our lakes and streams

1. **Help keep pollution out of storm drains.** Storm drains lead directly to our lakes and streams. So, never dump oil, pet waste, leaves, dirty water, or anything down a storm drain. Remember, only rain in the drain.
2. **Fertilize carefully and sparingly.** Excess fertilizer that gets into storm drains pollutes our lakes by causing large algae blooms and using up oxygen fish need to survive. Sweep excess fertilizer back onto your lawn, use a low or no phosphorus fertilizer, and have your soil tested to see what, if any, fertilizer is needed.
3. **Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals and oil.** Instead of putting hazardous products like antifreeze, motor oil and pesticides in the trash, down the storm drain or on the ground, take them to a local hazardous waste collection day.
4. **Clean up after your pet.** Whether on a walk or in your yard, promptly clean up after your pet. Not only will you be a good neighbor, you will also protect our water from harmful bacteria.
5. **Practice good car care.** Consider taking your car to a car wash or washing your car on the grass.
6. **Choose earth friendly landscaping.** Protect your pets, kids and environment by using pesticides sparingly. Also, water your lawn only when it needs it and choose plants native to Michigan.
7. **Save water.** Over watering our lawns can easily carry pollution to the storm drains and to our lakes and streams. Consider using a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways. Direct hoses and sprinklers on the lawn, not the driveway. This will help save our lakes and streams and save you money.

# ANCHOR BAY MIDDLE SCHOOL NORTH



This school year will live forever in the pages of the yearbook. Help your student remember friends, classes, fun and more by purchasing a yearbook for them today.

**NOW - DEC. 31: \$35**  
**JAN. 1 - MARCH 29: \$38**  
**STARTING MARCH 30: \$40**

Don't wait – if you want to personalize the book, namestamping starts at \$12 extra and must be purchased before Jan. 27!

**TO PURCHASE:** Go to [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com) and enter our school name to purchase a yearbook with a credit card, debit card or PayPal.

## DON'T MISS OUT — BUY A YEARBOOK TODAY!

**Walsworth** yearbooks

[yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com)

# BON VOYAGE EIGHTH GRADERS

## DEAR EIGHTH GRADE PARENTS:

This year for eighth graders only, there will be a section in the Anchor Bay Middle School North yearbook where parents can wish their 8th grader luck on their new adventure to high school. If you would like to wish your son or daughter good luck as they move into high school, go to [www.yearbookforever.com](http://www.yearbookforever.com) to create a Recognition ad to pay by credit or debit card.

\$15 through February 17 (\$0.45 service fee applies)

Your message can be no more than 150 characters. The last day to purchase a Bon Voyage message is February 17 or until space is filled. (along with the message, the students portrait ID photo will be used for photo).



## SHARE YOUR PHOTOS!

You take great photos every day. Whether in school or learning from home, send us your best photos of school activities or events for consideration in the Anchor Bay Middle School North yearbook!

To submit your photos to the yearbook staff: Download the Yearbook Snap mobile app from the App Store or Google Play, and enter our access code: **north** or go to [yearbookforever.com](http://yearbookforever.com), enter our school name, click on Yearbook Snap and enter our access code: **north**.



# LEADERSHIP CAMP 2024

Camps are held at  
Albion College, Albion MI



Middle Level Camp  
Cost \$199  
(Incoming 7th and 8th Graders)  
July 10th-12th



High School Camp  
Cost \$499 (Scholarships are available)  
(Incoming 9th graders-12th Graders)  
July 14th-19th

## **Everyone is Welcome!**

You don't have to be a member of  
Student Council or MJHS to attend!

Middle School Leadership Camp is designed to engage our younger leaders on the importance of leadership dynamics, how to establish vision, building your own leadership toolbox and so much more!

Both Camp fees are all inclusive (meals, dorm room, T-shirt, camp materials and student guidebook)

See Mrs. VanHeusden or Ms. Kessel for information on either camp!  
pvanheusden@abs.misd.net-or-skessel@abs.misd.net

**Registration OPEN NOW!**

**See website for more information**

**<https://mascmahs.org/camp/>**



## Keep Your Child On Track in Middle and High School: Pay Attention to Attendance

*Showing up for school has a huge impact on a student's academic success. Even as children grow older and more independent, families play a key role in making sure students get to school every day and understand why attendance is so important for success in school and on the job.*

### DID YOU KNOW?

- Students should miss no more than 9 days of school each year to stay engaged, successful and on track to graduation.
- Frequent absences can be a sign that a student is losing interest in school, struggling with school work, dealing with a bully or facing some other difficulty.
- By 8th grade, absenteeism is one of three signs that a student may drop out of high school.
- By 9th grade, attendance is a better predictor of graduation rates than 8th grade test scores.
- Missing 10%, or 2 days of school a month, over the course of the school year, can drastically affect a student's academic success.

### WHAT YOU CAN DO

#### Make school attendance a priority

- Talk about the importance of showing up to school every day.
- Help your children maintain daily routines, such as finishing homework and getting a good night's sleep.
- Try not to schedule dental and medical appointments during the school day.
- If your children must stay home because they are sick, make sure they have asked teachers for resources and materials to make up for the missed learning time in the classroom.

#### Help your teen stay engaged

- Find out if your children feel engaged by their classes, and feel safe from bullies and other threats.
- Make sure your children are not missing class because of challenges with behavioral issues or school discipline policies. If any of these are problems, contact the school and work with them to find a solution.
- Monitor your child's academic progress and seek help from teachers or tutors when necessary. Make sure teachers know how to contact you.
- Stay on top of your child's social contacts. Peer pressure can lead to skipping school, while students without many friends can feel isolated.
- Encourage your child to join meaningful after-school activities, including sports and clubs.
- Notice and support your children if they are showing signs of anxiety, such as headaches or stomach aches. Listen to their concerns, and if needed, ask school staff for help.

#### Communicate with the school

- Know the school's attendance policy – incentives and penalties.
- Check on your child's attendance to be sure absences are not adding up.
- Seek help from school staff, other parents, or community agencies if you need support.



Visit Attendance Works at [www.attendanceworks.org](http://www.attendanceworks.org) for free downloadable resources and tools!