



# Mercer County Junior High News

## Action Steps for Parents to Protect Your child and Family from the Flu this School Year

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends 4 main ways you and your family may keep from getting sick with the flu at school and at home.

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.

## Over the Counter Medication at School

Over the Counter Medication may be used at school, but it must be kept in the office. Students may bring their medication in the original container with a signed Medication Administration consent form. This form does not need to be signed by the physician if it's over the counter meds, only the parent/ guardian must sign. Asthma inhalers may be carried by the student with the signed form as well. Some parents already signed forms at registration.

## Mercer County Junior High Calendar

Nov 3	Picture Re-takes
Nov 4	Junior High Matinee @ High School
Nov 5	HS Musical—Sound of Music
Nov 6	HS Musical - Sound of Music
Nov 10	<b>11:40 Dismissal SIP Day</b>
Nov 11	<b>NO SCHOOL VETERANS DAY</b> <b>Veteran's Day Parade in Aledo</b>
Nov 25	2:05 Holiday Dismissal
Nov 26	<b>NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING</b>
Nov 27	<b>NO SCHOOL THANKSGIVING BREAK</b>

## Junior High Matinee



On November 4th, the Junior High will be travelling to the High School to see their matinee performance of the *Sound of Music*. The matinee will last until the end of the school day. ***The Aledo students will not be coming back to Joy. They should be picked up in Aledo or ride their normal buses from Aledo.***



Check us out on the Web at [www.mercerschools.org](http://www.mercerschools.org)  
Our monthly newsletters and Daily announcements are uploaded regularly to the Junior High link.

## LUNCHROOM NEWS

The new lunch account system seems to now be working with few glitches. Please avoid letting students' accounts go into arrears. Balances pop up on the screen for viewing after the students' purchases are processed, or parents may call the school for lunch account balances. Students need to be aware that any "extras" at lunch are charged to their account. A lunch consists of one entrée and the side dishes from the menu, fruit, juice and milk for \$1.75. The entrée can be substituted for the alternate. Free and reduced students only receive one free or reduced lunch per day. Any additional lunches must be paid for at regular price.

## 8TH GRADE WASHINGTON DC TRIP



27 students have signed up for the Educational Tours Washington DC trip from Mercer County Jr. High School. We still have room on a third bus, so if you are interested in receiving information or wish to sign your son/daughter up for the June 11, 2010, trip, please call Kris Berglund at home, 582-7918 to get your initial packet. You can go online to view photos of previous trips, view previous itineraries or to sign up via the internet at [www.educationaltours.com](http://www.educationaltours.com). All students are encouraged to contact Kris Berglund for information on fund raising through one of the parents involved in the trip.



The Mercer County Junior High Band will be performing at the Veteran's Day Parade on College Avenue in Aledo.

### Phone numbers

- Mercer County JH 584-4174  
office hours 7:30-3:30pm
- Transportation office 584-4173
- Bus Garage 584-4630
- Mercer County Unit office 582-2238
- New Boston Elementary 587-8141
- Mercer County Intermediate  
582-2441
- Mercer County High School  
582-2223
- Apollo Elementary 582-5350

## Mercer County Junior High School "Project Step Ahead" Winter Program Schedule

AM PROGRAM  
Tuesday and Thursday  
7:00AM-8:00AM

\*\*\*NEW PROGRAM\*\*\*  
BOOK CLUB (Reading/Writing Strategies)  
Monday 3:15-5:00PM  
(homework help available)

PM PROGRAM (Homework help)  
Tuesday and Thursday  
3:15-5:00PM

ART CLUB  
Wednesday 3:15-5:00PM  
(homework help available)

Mercer County Junior High School "Project Step Ahead" will provide safe, clean, positive, drug free, supervised extended day and extended year learning opportunities to enhance the curriculum for our 7th/8th grade students. My goal is to provide our students with an enriching, memorable experience. One that enhances self-esteem, increases academic success and strengthens our students gifts and abilities. We hope to assist our students in meeting and exceeding local and state Learning Standards, while empowering them to become productive members of their school, families, and communities. Doug Dennison, Site Coordinator- Project Step Ahead  
[ddennison@mercerschools.org](mailto:ddennison@mercerschools.org)

## Mrs. Kenney Directs at IMEA

The Illinois Music Educators Association holds District Festivals every year, where students attend and practice with a guest conductor throughout the day, and perform at a special concert in the evening. On **November 7th**, Mercer County will be sending selected students from 5th and 6th

grades to Dunlap, Illinois for their annual Festival. Mrs. Susan Kenney, our Junior High Choir director and Elementary Music teacher has been given the honor of directing the Elementary Choir this year. The concert is held at Dunlap High School at 7pm. All are welcome.

## NEWS FROM THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

The Guidance Counselor at Mercer County Junior High is Karen Jones. Mrs. Jones works here and the High School, helping students with scheduling, grades, and other numerous issues that pop up. Although her schedule is subject to change due to meetings and other commitments, the majority of the time it will be as follows:

**Monday / Wednesday - All Day High School**  
**Tuesday/Thursday—All Day Junior High**  
**Friday—High School 8am-9:10am**  
**Friday—Junior High at 9:30- 1pm**  
**Friday—High School 1:30-3:30**

A message may be left for her at either building if she is not available, and she will return calls as soon as she can.

You may also e-mail her at [kjones@mercerschools.org](mailto:kjones@mercerschools.org)

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584-4174  
Mercer County High School  
582-2223