

The Spinning Hills *Spectator*



2006 "Ohio School of Promise"

2006-2007, 2008-2009, 2009-2010 "Ohio School to Watch"

2009-2010 National School to Watch

2010-2011, 2011-2012 Excellent School



School Website—www.maddriversschools.org

Volume 1, Issue 7

February 1, 2025

A NOTE FROM THE PRINCIPAL!



Last month, a message was sent out concerning two hour delays conflicting with our Wednesday early release times. I just want to remind everyone again that if our district decides to have a two hour delay on a Wednesday, then our early release will be canceled and we will release at our normal time of 3:55.

I would also like to remind all families that our building does not open until 8:35 AM each day. There have been several students dropped off out front in the morning well before that time. If you are going to drop your child off before 8:35, please understand that they will be outside until we open the doors. We do not have adequate supervision in the building to allow students to come in earlier than that.

Finally, I would like to mention the upcoming conference date that we have scheduled on February 14th. If you have not been contacted by your child's teaching team, it is because they currently have no concerns at this time. As usual, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teaching team if you have any concerns between now and the end of the school year.

Mike Combs

Principal

Upcoming Events

Fri. Feb. 14	No School— Spinning Hills— Parent Teacher Conferences 8:00-11:15 a.m.
Mon. Feb. 17	No School President's Day

As the school year ends it's first semester and starts into the second, there are still several students whose school fees have not been paid. It is very important for these fees to be paid. Student fees are used to buy many items for students such as agenda books, classroom calculators, poster boards, art supplies and many other tools to help your child be successful in the classroom. If your child has an outstanding fee due to laptops, it is very important to take care of this fee so your child can have their laptop to do their work and also for when testing starts.

Students in the 6th grade will not be allowed to participate in the 6th grade end of the year field trip (Kings Island) if there are any outstanding fees now or from past schools. Planning for the field trip will start in the next week or so. Students will also not be able to receive any academic awards without full payment of student fees. I want to thank you in advance for your attention to this matter.

If you still need to pay your student fees, please send the money in with your child, or you may pay online at k12paymentcenter.com.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Valentine's Day is right around the corner. How bad for your healthy diet could it be? You might be surprised! The average box of chocolates may have lots of hidden dangers. A typical serving is two pieces (and who eats just two?) of chocolate. If you are self controlled enough to limit your intake to just those two pieces, it will cost you approximately 160 calories. However, if you decide to splurge, since it is Valentine's Day after all...it will add up to nearly 1500 calories!! That is an entire day's allotment for the average adult. Looking for a healthier option? A 1 oz. serving (about 9) of white chocolate covered pretzels has 140 calories. A treat with no regret!



NURSES CORNER

Sniff Sniff... Cough! Cough!

Ahhh.... the sounds of winter

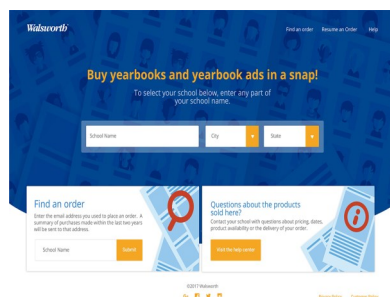
Just a reminder - all over-the-counter medications, **including cough drops**, need a doctor's order before they can be given in school. If your child has a mild persistent cough, consider sending a few pieces of hard candy to help them through the day.

And as always, the single best way to reduce the spread of those pesky germs is by hand washing. Please encourage your family members to wash their hands frequently.

School Nurse

YEARBOOK INFORMATION

Spinning Hills 2025 Yearbooks will be on sale from February 3 - 13th. Families can place their orders by returning payment with the order form that was sent home with all students. In school orders need to be returned by the 13th. Families can also visit www.yearbookforever.com to place their orders online.



Find School

There's a great new way to show our school spirit! On Walsworth Yearbook's new site, you can buy this year's yearbook or a yearbook ad. I showed my school spirit, and you should too. Just go to the website and have fun! www.yearbookforever.com

BETTER GRADES—YOU CAN HELP!

Parents who want to help their children succeed in school must strike the proper balance. They should be involved—but not too involved. They should set limits—but allow freedom. They should encourage their kids to excel—but not expect perfection. However, it's not as hard as it might sound to help your kids enjoy their academic experience. Here are 10 tips from experts on how to make this year a great one for your family.

1. **Create a routine.** Kids benefit from having structure in their home life. Some examples are getting up at the same time each morning, eating a nutritious breakfast, and instituting a positive bedtime ritual that includes 20 minutes of reading (up to middle school).
2. **Prepare for the morning the night before.** Avoid morning chaos by eliminating the need for last-minute decisions. A bad morning practically ensures a difficult day at school.
3. **Help your child get organized.** Organization extends beyond assembling the next day's materials. Kids need help developing a system for storing and retrieving items so that they feel in control of their success.
4. **Provide a quiet place for homework, but let your child work alone.** A regular time and a good workspace to complete homework are essential, and homework should be a household priority. On the other hand, remember that the work is your child's responsibility, not yours.
5. **Limit distractions.** Television, computers, and video games can be a huge competitor for your child's attention, especially when it comes to homework, so limit these activities, at least on school nights.
6. **Encourage intellectual curiosity.** Engage your child in dinner-table conversations. Share your own interests, such as what you've learned recently about gardening or playing the piano. Talk about current events. Nourish your child's curiosity about the world, and you will instill a love of learning.
7. **Allow free time.** Every child needs time to unwind, so be sure that at least part of each day is free of responsibilities. Also, avoid over-scheduling.
8. **Build relationships with teachers.** Open the lines of communication. Ask questions and be proactive with your concerns.
9. **Focus on effort rather than grades.** Show confidence in your children's abilities but don't ask too much of them. Set realistic goals frequently.
10. **Learn how to step back.** When evaluating your child's overall performance, be careful not to let your own ambitions take over. Resist the urge to micromanage your child's education. School is your child's job, not yours.

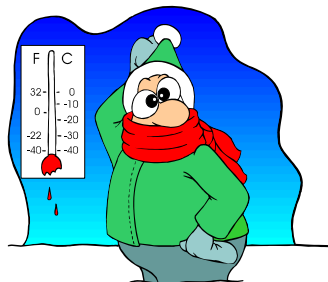
DEB ANDREW'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Good news! Popcorn and pretzels will be sold during Students' lunch period on Fridays in the hall outside the cafeteria. The proceeds go to the Deb Andrews Scholarship Fund that is awarded to graduating seniors from Stebbins High School. We will be selling popcorn for \$.50 a bag and HOT Pretzels for \$1.00. Again, please don't forget to bring some extra change this Friday so you can enjoy this special treat.



WEATHER/SCHOOL CLOSING

If bad weather causes school to close or delay, please remember we are **Mad River Local Schools**. You can call the school to listen to the greeting for information on closing or tune into your local television and radio stations.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

14 No School—SHMS—Parent/Teacher
Conferences 8:00-11:45 a.m.

17 No School—Presidents Day

MARCH

6 Spring Picture Day

12 Spaghetti Fest 5:00—7:00
p.m.

14 End of Third Grading Period
- Early Release 1:55 (2Hr)

18 No School—Waiver Day

28-31 6th Grade DC Trip

APRIL

Mar. 31—Apr. 4 Spring Break

7 Students Return

16 6th Grade Choir Concert—TBD

@ Stebbins Auditorium

16 5th Grade Choir Concert—TBD

@ Stebbins Auditorium

21 No School—Waiver

30 Band Concert—6:30

May

1 Orchestra Concert 6:30 p.m.

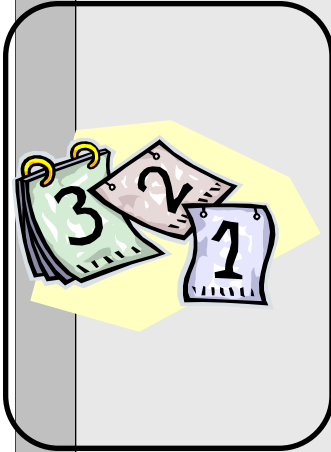
8 Day In The Park

9 Day In The Park

15 SHS Graduation

19 Field Day

22 Last Day for Students—
Early Release 1:55 (2 Hr)



SCHOOL HOURS

Our students' school day starts at 8:55 and ends at 3:55. You may contact us anytime between the hours of 8:00 to 4:00 during regular school days. If you need to speak to a staff member or set up a conference, please call the office and the secretary will forward you to the persons voice mail. Our teachers will return your call as soon as they are able. Our teachers have very little free time during the day and many times will call either in the morning before school or in the afternoon when school is over.

If you would like to meet with any of our teachers, principals, or other staff, please call to set up an appointment. We want to meet with and help you in any way. You and your children are very important to us, and communication is one sure way to meet your needs.

WEDNESDAY'S

This is a reminder, that every Wednesday is an Early Release. We have an abundance of students not being picked up on time. Our release time is at 1:55. We would greatly appreciate if you could be here to pick them up by 1:55.