With scheduling for next year’s classes right around the corner, we wanted to remind you to help your child carefully choose electives for next year. Students will be expected to remain in classes they choose on their course selection sheet.

**Important Dates to Remember:**

- **January 30**, High School Counselors meet with 8th grade students to discuss schedules
- **February 4-5**, Counselors meet 6&7th grade students for 8th grade scheduling—due 2/12
- **February 5**, South Lyon High School Curriculum Fair 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
- **February 6**, Explore Test results returned/explained to 8th grade students/update EDPs
- **February 6**, South Lyon East High School Curriculum Fair 6:30 PM-8:30 PM
- **February 10-14**, Middle School Counselors visit 5th grade classrooms to give Course Selection Presentations
- **February 25**, High School Counselors pick up course selection sheets
- **February 25**, 5th Grade Parent/Student Night 6:30PM packet pick-up begins, 7:00PM-8:00PM program and self-guided tour
- **February 28**, 5th grade Course Selection Sheets due
- **March 11**, Schoolcraft 8th grade College Night

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**Career Development in 7th and 8th Grade**

By: Jennifer Kluesner, Career Development Facilitator

In the upcoming weeks, 7th and 8th grade students will be using an online program called Career Cruising as part of their career development activities. Oakland Schools has researched and adopted Career Cruising, which is a comprehensive and interactive career guidance resource that provides the information your child needs to guide them in their high school course selection and future career choices. Students also use Career Cruising to create their Educational Development Plan (EDP).

**What is an EDP?**

An EDP is created by the student in which he/she: identifies educational, career, and life goals; lists interests and skills in line with meeting goals; and documents the experiences, education, and accomplishments he/she wants to pursue to successfully attain those goals. The purpose of an EDP is to provide an ongoing record of education and career planning that will effectively guide your child toward a career of his/her choice. Once an EDP is created, students continue to update their EDP at least annually throughout high school.

Attention 8th grade parents: I am pleased to announce that Career Cruising is launching a new feature called Parent Portal. This feature enables you to view and comment on the work your child has done in his or her EDP, track progress, and explore Career Cruising. In order to activate your Parent Portal account or if you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Kluesner (kluesnerj@slcs.us) for your activation code. Happy Cruising!


**Academically Talented Program**  
**Language Arts Plus & Math Plus**

**Screening Process for Current 6th & 7th Grade Students:**

The Plus Program is housed at Millennium Middle School and consists of one Language Arts class and one Math class at each grade level. These classes have been designed to challenge those students who are performing at least one year above grade level and whose academic needs cannot be met with the regular, differentiated curriculum.

Current middle school students may be nominated for this program for next year: 6th graders for Math and/or Language Arts and 7th graders for Language Arts. Most students who demonstrate a curricular need for this program will be selected for screening by their teachers. Nominated students must have:

- An "A" average in the subject (Math or Language Arts)
- High scores (high rank 1’s) on MEAP Math and/or LA tests from this year and last year
- Scores of 95% or greater on SLRA or SLMA assessments

Nominated students will be evaluated by the Academically Talented Program Committee and may need to take several above grade level tests as an additional portion of the screening process.

Parents may also nominate their child for Plus Program screening. Parents will first need to discuss this with their child’s Math or Language Arts teacher to determine if the student is currently functioning above grade level, has a need for instruction beyond the regular, differentiated curriculum and could be successful in the Plus Program. A student who is receiving all "A" grades in the regular, on-grade level curriculum does not necessarily have a need for, nor should be, automatically placed in a Plus class.

If you wish to nominate your child, please contact your child’s teacher by April 4, 2014.

Contact Ms. Maureen Altermatt, Principal, at altermattm@slcs.us, for information on the Plus Program at MMS. Please contact Jeni Schiller, AT Liaison, at schillerj@slcs.us, if you have further questions regarding the screening process.

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**CONTINGENCY PLANS**

Occasionally, school systems have to send students home early due to weather conditions, power outages, boiler failure and so on. Although we try to avoid sending students home early, there have been times in the past and there will, no doubt, be times in the future when this action is necessary.

Please discuss this possibility with your children, and devise a plan for them to follow. Your plan might involve going straight home and calling a parent at work. It might involve going to the neighbor’s home, if the neighbor agrees. It might involve a high school child staying at home with the younger children. Whatever plan is decided upon, make sure your children know it and follow it, for their safety and your peace of mind.

Whenever possible, students at the elementary level will not be released unless a contact has been made with a parent, guardian, or other individual listed on their emergency card. Please continue to keep emergency contact information up to date for all students regardless of their ages.

**SCHOOL CLOSING—HOTLINE**

For up-to-date school closings and transportation information, including cancellations and double bus runs, please call: 248-573-8251
Emergency Contact/Address Change Information

Parents: Please remember to update parent and emergency contact information if phone numbers or email addresses change during the year. This is also important so you receive Skylert messages from MMS as well as district notifications of school closings, etc. If you move, even within the South Lyon district and MMS school boundaries, we will need you to fill out a change of address form and provide documentation. Please call the office (248-573-8200) if you have any questions.

National Junior Honor Society

The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) is a group of highly motivated students who are working toward academic excellence and leadership qualities in school and the community. These students must keep good grades, receive teacher recommendations, perform community service, and positive HOM comments throughout the entire school year. Induction is in the spring. If you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Diane Bardsley at bardsleyd@slcs.us or 248-573-8213.

Scholastic Book Fair—Coming Soon!

Online ordering from Mar. 3 to Mar. 15 at:
http://bookfairs.scholastic.com/homepage/millennium

The book fair will be set up in our Media Center on March 3rd through March 7th.

Parking Lot Flow

If you use the parking lot in the front of the building, please do not block parking spaces used for arriving/departing teachers. If you arrive early and keep your child in your vehicle until the doors open, please loop around to the far side of the lot by the playing fields and wait there. Please do not block the flow of other parents circling through the lot. Please also do not park in the middle of the lot to let out a student and then try to "cut through" the line of cars. This poses dangers with students darting between cars in the dark and potentially snowy lot as well as impeding the efficient flow of traffic for other parents who are following the drop-off procedures.

If you drop off in the front loop by the main building, please keep moving and not impeding the flow as well. If you are frustrated by the traffic congestion on 9 Mile, please consider using the Pontiac Trail driveway and dropping off in the back of the building (this works for students in 6th grade as well as 7th and 8th). If you use the parking lot in the back of the building, please follow signs for student pick up and drop off. Vehicles must be kept out of the bus loop. Be sure children use the sidewalks and that they are not crossing in front of any car or bus traffic. Students may enter through the back doors.

Thank you for your assistance in keep our students safe and helping to make drop-off/pick-up as efficiently and orderly as possible for all families.
Empty Bowls Event to Benefit Active Faith

On Thursday, February 6, 2014, from 5-7:00 p.m., Millennium Middle School will host South Lyon’s Empty Bowls event in the MMS cafeteria to benefit Active Faith food bank of South Lyon. Students and staff members of South Lyon Community Schools will be creating ceramic bowls and donating them to be used as gifts for guests participating in the Empty Bowls event. Empty Bowls is an international fundraising event that is dedicated to supporting local food and hunger programs, a tool that we can all use in working towards the goal of ending hunger.

At the event, you will be served a delicious soup and bread dinner donated by local restaurants. Everyone at the event will take home a one-of-a-kind bowl made by one of our art students as a reminder that someone’s bowl is always empty. All proceeds from your donation will benefit Active Faith food bank of South Lyon. This is an event where those in our community can bring a greater quality of life to others in South Lyon. We hope that you will be able to join us on this occasion to help fight hunger. Tickets will be available at the door, priced at $10 for adults, $5 for children 5-18, and $25 for a family of four. Children under 5 are free. The event will be limited due to amount of bowls created, and hot soup will be served from 5-7:00 p.m.

If you have any questions please contact Mr. Arbini at arbinia@slcs.us

Evening Review of Reproductive Health Curriculum Materials

An evening session will be offered for parents who would like to review the district’s Reproductive Health Curriculum for 6th, 7th and 8th grade. The session will be held in the Millennium Middle School Gallery from 6:00 p.m.—7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 5, 2014. This session is open to parents from both middle schools. To view materials during the day, please call 248-573-8200 to schedule an appointment.

Vision Screening for 2013-2014 School Year

The Oakland County Health Department will be conducting vision screening for 7th grade students on April 29 through May 2, 2014.

MARCH 12th—NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS

There is no school for students on Wednesday, March 12th. Teachers will be involved in professional development.
A Celebration of the Life and Work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

In South Lyon, we hold school on Martin Luther King Day so that we can academically and instructionally honor Dr. King and his work, as well as empower our students with his message and dream. We take a school-wide approach that helps to demonstrate the importance of this remarkable man known as a heroic leader in the history of modern American liberalism and present him to the students. Each class period spent 25-30 minutes completing a packet with various activities created by the social studies teachers.

From Mr. Levi's Industrial Technology Classes:

6th grade: These students have been learning safe laboratory habits and proper hand tool usage to design and construct their mouse trap vehicles.

8th grade: These students have recently studied manufacturing with a focus on the craft approach and assembly line methods of manufacturing products. They also have designed and built their CO2 cars and raced them the last days of the semester.

8th Grade Math by Mr. Admiraal

The first semester is over and exams are now completed. Though it seems like the temperatures outside have plummeted exponentially since the summer, the second semester is just starting to heat up in the eighth grade math classes. Students in algebra lab and algebra are learning about exponential functions and are learning how things grow and decay exponentially. They are also learning properties of exponents and about scientific notation. Geometry students, on the other hand, began second semester by studying similar polygons. We are all looking forward to a great second semester.

If your child (in any grade in middle school) has struggled with math during middle school and desires some extra support, a couple of websites that you might want to check out that provide tutorials are www.khanacademy.org and www.ulearniversity.com
ATHLETICS

The following interscholastic sports are available to 7th/8th grade students:

Fall: Cross Country  Volleyball
Winter 1: Boys Basketball  Swimming
*Winter 2: Girls Basketball  Girls/Boys Wrestling
**Spring: Girls/Boys Track

*Winter 2 sports will begin the week of January 27th *
**Track practice will begin on March 24th**

Students...listen for announcements at school.

Our interscholastic sports offerings require that each athlete pay an Athletic Participation Fee. The fee for middle school sports is $85 per sport.

Each sport requires the participant to have a physical on file in the athletic office. Physical forms may be secured in the school office.

MIDDLE SCHOOL AFTER SCHOOL STUDENT SPECTATOR RULES

• Prior to an event, students from the event must have transportation arrangements made to be picked up.
• Students must remain in the stands once the game begins. At half time and between games, you may use the restroom and get a drink and then return to your seat in the bleachers. Use of bathrooms is restricted to the back of the building.
• Students must sit in the bleachers.
• If a student leaves the building during an event, they will not be allowed to re-enter the building.
• Students must leave the gym at the conclusion on the game.
• Students may not touch any of the equipment used in the game under any circumstances.
• Food, drink, candy or gum is not permitted in the gym.
• Unsportsmanlike chants or remarks are not allowed.

Failure to follow any one of the above rules will lead to you being asked to leave and may lead to exclusion from all further afterschool events.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Yearbook
The 2013-2014 Millennium Middle School yearbook will be going on sale in March. Yearbook staff will be passing out the order forms to all 1st hour classes. The cost is $22.00 by check or money order ONLY made payable to “Millennium Middle School”. Please put the student’s name in the memo portion of the check. No cash will be accepted.

Yearbook staff will be collecting orders in the mornings before school for the two weeks of sales. Orders will not be accepted after the deadline. Our yearbook staff is working hard to create a great and memorable yearbook. Please be sure your child does not miss out. Mark your calendar and look for the yearbook order form beginning March 17th through March 28th.
FOOD SERVICE

Free or Reduced Meals Are Helpful to Everyone

That’s right! Everyone benefits when qualified students apply for free or reduced meals.

The student benefits by getting nutritious, tasty breakfast and lunch each day at school for little or no cost.

The parent benefits because they can use that meal money for another necessity.

The Food Service Department benefits by receiving revenue from the federal government for every free and reduced qualified student that eats each day.

All students benefit because the district will receive more dollars for other federal programs, such as Title I, since funding for these programs are based on the number of free and reduced students in a school district. Even if your student brings his/her own lunch, please apply since federal dollars are based simply on student eligibility for free and reduced meals. Approximately 1 out of 5 students are currently using this program.

Remember - parents can apply any time of the year that your income changes. If you have lost your job or had to take a pay cut, you may now qualify for meal benefits. Also, if the family size has changed and the income remained the same, you may now qualify.

It’s easy - simply fill out an application that is available at all school offices.

It’s confidential - Records are kept confidential and the student merely enters a pin number like all students do.

Questions? - Contact Suzanne Fleet, Manager of Food Services at 248-573-8925.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT

SIP Committee

The MMS SIP committee met on Sept. 12, Oct. 3, Nov. 7, and Dec. 5, 2013 and Jan. 9, 2014. Future meetings are on: Feb. 6, Mar. 6, Apr. 3, and May 1, 2014. Meeting minutes can be found on the school website at www.slics.us. Select “SCHOOLS,” then select “MILLENIUM MIDDLE SCHOOL,” and then “SIP.”
Millennium MS
Attendance Information

MMS Attendance Line: (248) 573-8195
Attendance Secretary: Cathy Kemppainen
Attendance Line Hours: 24 hours per day – 7 days per week
Locations:
   6th Grade: In 6th Grade Office
   7/8th Grade: Inside Main Entrance to 7/8 wing, on the left.

When to call the attendance line:

- When your child is sick and will not be in school
  If your child becomes sick during school, they will come to the office and call you. *Use of cell phones or texting is NOT allowed.*
  For absences of 3 or more days, homework may be requested.

- When your child has an appointment at any time during school hours
  Please call the attendance line the night before to excuse your child for an appointment.

- When your child will be on vacation
  Please note that there is a vacation form which should be filled out in advance, and signed by a parent and administrator, as well.

- When your child needs to attend a funeral
- When your child is having surgery
- When your child will be arriving late to school for any reason
- When your child will be leaving early from school for any reason
- When you have a question about your child’s attendance on Skyward

Notes:
⇒ Please leave attendance information on the attendance line. This phone line is monitored regularly throughout the day.
⇒ Whenever possible, notify the attendance office in advance so a pass can be prepared for your child to check in or out.
Dear Millennium Middle School Families,

The Millennium Middle School PTO has made arrangements to participate in the Box Tops for Education program. This is a simple ongoing fundraiser that doesn't require you to sell anything or buy anything special. All you do is shop where you normally shop and buy what you normally would buy. Then, look for Box Top labels on the products. If you see a Box Top label, cut it out and send it to school with your student. Labels will be collected in both offices.

We will receive $0.10 for each label sent in. Just check the label's expiration date and make sure the label has not expired. Box Tops will not accept expired labels.

As an incentive, for every ten labels sent in, your student will be able to enter a drawing for a small monthly prize. Every ten labels earns an entry.

Well, it's really that simple, so start clipping Box Tops.

Thank you for your continual support of Millennium Middle School!

Sincerely,

Your PTO

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2013-2014 School Year Calendar
(for remainder of school year)

February 17-21 .................................................................Mid-Winter Break
March 12 ..................................All Teacher Curriculum Day; no school for students
April 7-11 .................................................................Spring Break
April 18** .................................................................Good Friday**
May 26 .................................................................Memorial Day
June 10-12 ..........Middle and High School Students; ½ Day for Assessments
June 12 ..............Last Day of School; Students AM Only; Teachers All Day
June 13 ..........Records Day; Teachers AM Only

** Please note April 18th was inadvertantly left off of the MMS calendar magnets.

Calendars for the 2014-15 and 2015-16 are available on the SLCS District website: www.slcs.us
**Mission Statement**

Through shared accountability, the Millennium Middle School community is committed to preparing all students with the academic foundation and habits of mind necessary to be constructive, contributing members of society.

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**Section 504 Notice of Nondiscrimination**

Applicants for admission and employment, students, parents, employees, sources of referral of applicants for admission and employment, and all unions or professional organizations holding collective bargaining or professional agreements with the South Lyon Community School District are hereby notified that this District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. Any person having inquiries concerning the South Lyon Community School District's compliance with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or Section 504 is directed to contact Susan Toth, Director of Special Education, 62500 Nine Mile Rd., South Lyon, Michigan 48178, 248-573-8221, who has been designated by the South Lyon Community School District to coordinate the District's efforts to comply with the regulations implementing Title VI, Title IX, the ADA, and Section 504.

**Non-Discrimination Statement**

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, age, height, weight, marital status, genetic information, or any other legally protected characteristic, in its programs and activities, including employment opportunities. *(Board Policy 3122 revised March 2, 2009)*.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the nondiscrimination policies:

Melissa Baker  
Deputy Superintendent  
South Lyon Community Schools  
345 South Warren  
South Lyon, Michigan 48178  
(248) 573-8130 or (248) 573-8140