

MINERAL POINT MIDDLE SCHOOL *Scoop*

June 2015 🐾 Education... That's the Point.

8th Grade Graduation Dance



UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday, July 4
Grade 6-8 Band to march in
4th of July parade

**HAVE A
WONDERFUL
SUMMER
VACATION!**





Beta Testing 7th Graders

Along with 200 seventh grade students from 11 schools, six students from Mineral Point Middle School learned about software engineering at Southwest Tech on Friday May 15th. Cesa #3 sponsored an educational video game gathering where eight employees from Filament Gaming guided students as they beta tested two new games. Filament Games is an educational video game company out of Madison that is growing rapidly and will soon employ about 100 people. In addition to beta testing educational games, the seventh graders also participated in a panel discussion and were engaged with some hands on activities. 🐾

Sixth Grade Science Project



2015 Champion Games

A great time was had by all, at the 2015 Champion Games, in Boscobel!! The weather cooperated, the kids had a great time, and pride and joy was felt by all that attended!!! Mineral Pointer's look forward to another successful event next year. Way to go Mineral Point Champions! 🐾

Pictured: Opening Ceremonial walk around the track, with all of the Southwestern Wisconsin Champions that attended.



BLAST OFF to 7th Grade

By Will Straka

Mr. Rhode's 6th Grade RTI class blasted off on May 4th, 2015. We shot rockets off behind the school. We got to create our very own special rockets. Tape, markers, colored pencils and construction paper were just a few of the elements we used to make the body of the rocket. We all experimented with Alka-Seltzer and water. We tried to figure out how much Alka-Seltzer and water was needed to make a high flying rocket. Nobody had great rockets, but we had a great time. 🐾

6th Graders BLAST OFF with Rockets

Skylar Martin

On Monday May 4th, the 6th graders in Mr. Rhode's enrichment RTI group went outside and shot rockets! They decorated bottle rockets the week before. The whole 6th grade watched as they added Alka-Seltzer with water and then popped a cork in, shook the bottle, went to the launch pad and POP!!! The cork popped off and the rocket shot up. Sadly, most rockets were duds. Middle School 6th Graders had an amazing time. 🐾





Accelerated Reader Goals Reached

The Mineral Point Middle School had an incredible reading year! From the beginning of September until the 1st of June, our students, according to Accelerated Reader, read **122,067,085** words - surpassing last year's total by over **22,000,000** words!

87% of our students met or exceeded their goals. For the first time ever, the entire 7th grade met or exceed their points goal and 95% met their comprehension goal.

Congratulations to the following middle school students:

Alexis Berget	Savannah Jones 2x	Wes Berget	Larry Steffes 2x
Bryann Cody	Josie Lindholm	Mckenna Bowers 4x	Kylie Sullivan
Emily Cody	Grant Lineberger	Nick Dubois 3x	Flo Torres 2x
Gunnar Gorgan	Brady Palzkill	Destini Fagan	Blaise Watters
Emma Hanson	Daniel Pittz	Laney Finkelmeyer	Blake Wendhausen
Mason Horn	Jaron Walrack	Grady Gorgen	Annie Wilbanks
Mason Hughes	Karen Wilbanks 2x	Jaden Kieler 7x	Lily Wong 2x
Sira James	Cole Wilson 2x	Payton Lawinger	Cody Lindholm
Ian Keyes	Macy Aschliman	Isaac Lindsey	Abby Springer
Andrea Kieler	Rylee Calvert	Cody Pierce	Madeline Williams
Skylar Martin 2x	Jacob Carpenter	Dalton Schrank 4x	Alison Miller
Haily Murphy 2x	Brayden Dailey	Maggie Schubert	Gavin Weber
Matthew Nordstrom	Henry Dailey	Owen Stephenson	Michaela Acherman
Emma Olson	Raven Day	Lexis Swanson	Mara Aschliman
Sadie Owens	Jerra Federman	Morgan Vondra 2x	Matthew Berg 2x
Jaxon Ross	Natalie Finley 5x	Jenna Wedig 2x	Jackie Carpenter 4x
Keira Schrank 6x	Kane Gunderson	Cody Reeves 3x	Karissa Deutsch
Gabe Sporle	Madison Lammers	Dana Schmitz	Madisen Faull
Nolan Springer	Ivy Lawinger	Logan Schmitz	Zula Flanary
Cecilia Stanton	Grant Lee	Noah Stanton	Zoe Hay 2x
Kylie Swaziek	Daniel Nordstrom	Ben Basting	Kaitlyn Kinch
Cameron Wiegman	Tatum Novak 4x	Grant Bossert	Kyla Lindsey
Rita Wilson 3x	Chloe Oberhauser	Natalie Chitwood 4x	Miranda Oellerich 2x
Chandler Workman	Olivia Olson 2x	Wyatt Evans	Uriah Ottoway
Karsten Bakken	Jacob Perez	Ryver Galle	Justice Perez
Megan Berg 3x	Cloe Rule	Tessa Hanson	Mckenna Reichling 2x
Curtis Cox	Taylor Schmidt	Sara Heisner	Mitchell Schaaf
Kevin Eisenzimmer	Bode Schmitz	Darien Knouse	Abby Shannon
Riese Federman	Will Straka	Jordan Ludlum	Samantha Socha
Simone Fitzsimons	Megan Toay	Bodhi Logueflower 3x	Katie Wilson
Morgan James	Justin Baehler	Simon Mitchell	Sarah Toay 4x
			Trystan Trace 6x

(number)X = how many times a student exceeded their goal

Over the 2015 - 2016 school year **32 students** read over a million words!
 A super "shout out" goes out to the following middle school super readers:

NAME	WORDS READ
Abby Shannon	1,024,396
Brady Palzkill	1,045,946
Flo Torres	1,046,032
Owen Stephenson	1,056,599
Gabe Sporle	1,082,477
Noah Stanton	1,083,433
Bode Schmitz	1,118,226
McKenna Reichling	1,133,051
Ian Keyes	1,239,213
Madisen Faull	1,247,981
Haily Murphy	1,269,173
Will Straka	1,295,527
Trystan Trace	1,297,586
Savannah Jones	1,326,198
Karsten Bakken	1,373,487
Samantha Socha	1,391,751
Jacob Carpenter	1,450,676
Bodhi Logueflower	1,470,186
Jaden Kieler	1,509,094
McKenna Bowers	1,517,728
Megan Berg	1,598,772
Rita Wilson	1,699,250
Dalton Schrank	1,736,278
Natalie Chitwood	1,862,803
Natalie Finley	2,206,646
Lily Wong	2,288,035
Sarah Toay	2,301,686
Zoe Hay	2,378,575
Matthew Berg	2,437,747
Nick DuBois	3,126,582
Tatum Novak	3,239,048
Keira Schrank	5,592,237

LET'S MAKE
THIS A
Summer of
Reading!



From the Desk of Ms. Dahl, Middle School Principal

It is hard to believe we have reached another end to another school year. Not only do we say goodbye to this year's 8th grade class, but we also say goodbye to Mr. Dan Rhode.

The 8th graders celebrated the end of the school year not only with a graduation ceremony, but we also had an 8th grade graduation dance. Thank you to all of the parents who helped in making the dance so special. Not only was there plenty of food, but a picture station was set up so the students could take group photos or "selfies." The 8th graders would also like to thank Glen and Sally Kinch from the Pit Stop for helping us out with sandwiches and cookies.

On Thursday, June 4, the 8th graders traveled to Wisconsin Dells for a field trip to Mt. Olympus. The weather was beautiful and the students really enjoyed themselves. A few of the students wanted me to go on one of the roller coasters, but after eating lunch I did not think that would be a good idea. The students were able to talk Mrs. Flannery into going on a roller coaster ride with them. The 8th grade boys decided to challenge Mr. McGraw to the go carts. Of course Mr. McGraw said he smoked them, but some of the students told a different story. All of us had a great time at Mt. Olympus. The students spent a lot of time together as a class at the dance and at the field trip. It was a great way to end a very successful 8th grade school year. Good luck in high school!

As for Mr. Rhode, I am not sure where to begin. Over the last 5 years at MPMS, he has been such a wonderful addition to our staff. He went out of his way to help our students and staff at MPMS. He will be truly missed. Please read the article below which sums up what Mr. Rhode has meant to our Middle School. The article was submitted by Mrs. Brown with contributions from Mrs. Pelton and Mrs. Weitzel. Have a relaxing summer! 🐾

Just for fun:

Q: What do you call an alligator in a vest?

A: An Investigator!

Worth quoting:

"Education is what remains after one has forgotten what they learned in school."

– Albert Einstein

Thank You Mr. Rhode



The Middle School staff and students want to wish Mr. Dan Rhode and his wife, Laura, the best of luck as they both will be taking a different path, heading down a new road! They will be moving to Baraboo, mid-June, where they both will have new teaching jobs. Dan will be teaching computer science at Baraboo High School and Laura will be teaching 2nd grade in a Baraboo elementary school. A great new fit for both! Dan's teaching at Mineral Point, over the past 11 years, was never a 7:30-3:30, 5 days a week job. He always put his students' needs first; teaching them life-long lessons and skills to make them successful both inside and outside the everyday walls of Mineral Point Schools. He has a passion and love for his job that is apparent in watching him teach his students, through conversations, and his overall demeanor. Everyone will miss seeing Mr. Rhode's smiling face and friendly greetings each and every day! 🐾

THANK YOU for a wonderful school year!





Parents Make A Difference!

Teens and School Success

May 2015

Many parents look forward to their teen growing up and becoming more independent. However, even though teens are seeking independence, parental involvement is an important ingredient for academic success.

Research shows children do better in school and have more positive attitudes about it when their parents are involved in school life. Many parents become less involved with school activities as their children move from elementary to middle and on to high school. Yet teenagers clearly benefit when their parents show interest in school and school activities.

SCHOOL CONNECTIONS

One of the best indicators of teens' school performance is whether they feel connected to their school. Feeling connected means that students have a sense that they belong and feel close to people, including teachers and other adults.

The 2013 Youth Risk Behavior Survey of 5410 7th to 12th graders from 25 schools in southwest Wisconsin found that 65% of the teens report they "belong at this school." The chart shows the responses to the question, "Do you agree or disagree that you belong at this school?"

Parents can influence their teen by promoting aspirations, helping their teen find meaning and purpose in their schoolwork and showing their teen how what they are doing in school fits his or her long term goals and plans.

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

One of the most important types of parent involvement is communication with teachers and other school officials. Just knowing teachers' names and subject areas is an important first step for parents.

It is a parent's right and responsibility to contact their teen's teachers. This can be especially effective when a parent has a compliment or good news to share and can make it easier to deal with any problems that might occur later on. Building a partnership between teachers and the school helps teens see parents working with teachers, not against them.

Researchers state that the way parents talk and listen to their teen can influence how well the teen listens and responds. It's important for parents to

- listen carefully,
- make eye contact,
- avoid multitasking while you chat,
- talk *with* your teen, not *at* him or her, and
- ask open-ended questions that go beyond "yes" or "no" answers.

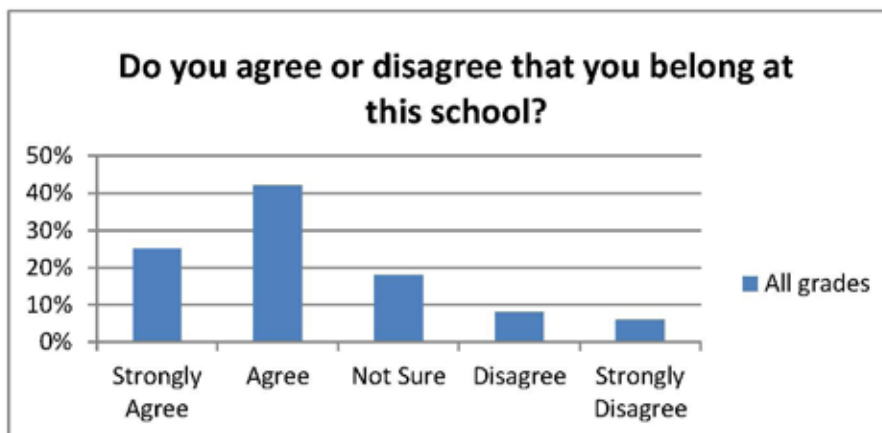


Figure 1

Expect Success

When parents set high expectations for their teen's school performance, teens are more likely to meet those expectations. Children whose parents expect them to make school a priority are also much more likely to do well in school. And when teens are working toward their "personal bests" in school, they are less likely to become depressed or involved in harmful, violent, or drug-related behaviors. Remember, though, that "personal best" does not mean "perfect."

Good times to talk include family meal times, car trips (though eye contact isn't needed here, of course), walking the dog, preparing meals, or standing in line at a store.

When teens know they can talk openly with their parents, the challenges of high school can be easier to face.

The recent Southwest Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey found that 55% of teenagers report their parents talk with them most of the time or always about what they are doing in school. Figure 2 shows the responses to this question: "How often do your parents or other adults in your family talk with you about what you are doing in school?" The survey reported that only 50% of high school juniors and seniors reported their parents talk to them most of the time or always about school.

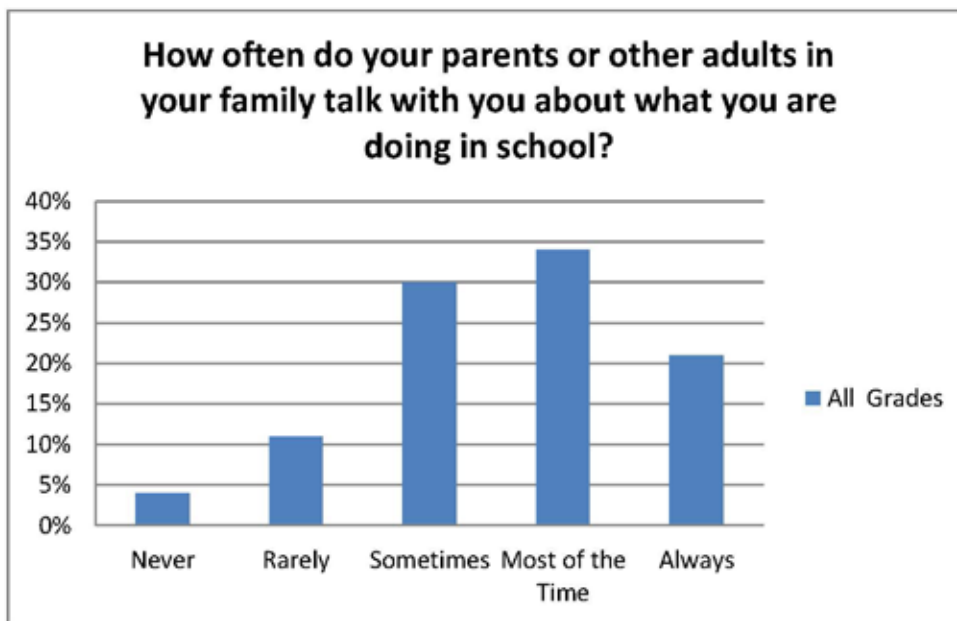


Figure 2

School success is important for teens because it affects daily happiness, future opportunities and choices. Parents can help their teen be successful by communicating with the school, expecting success from their teen, involving both parents, and motivating their teen to want to learn.

Resources:

Tiret, Molly. (2013). *How parents can promote school success with teens*. Michigan State University Extension

Walsh, Bari. (2015) *Teenage Dreams*, Harvard Graduate School of Education

American Academy of Pediatrics. (2015) *Helping Your Teen Succeed in School*. healthychildren.org

"Do's" to help your teen in school

✓ **Set high expectations** for school success. Help your teen set reasonable goals and work toward them.

✓ **Know how and where your kids spend free time** (especially after school). Encourage your teen to be involved in productive activities when not in school.

✓ **Recognize your teen's academic achievements**. Even if your teen is maturing, he or she still wants and needs attention from you.

✓ **Keep a calendar that lists school events**, projects and activities as well as dates of family events. This communicates to your teen that school is a family priority.

✓ **Establish quiet time** every night for studying, reading and writing.

✓ **Monitor your teen's school attendance**. Monitor the number of hours your teen works during the school year.



"Parents Make a Difference" is a product of the Southwest Wisconsin Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS), a program of the Department of Public Instruction, University of Wisconsin-Extension and local school districts. This newsletter is adapted from the UW-Extension newsletters "Whose Kids?...Our Kids!" This issue of "Parents Make a Difference" was written by Deb Ivey, UW-Extension Iowa County and reviewed by Sarah Hopkins and Bev Doll, UW-Extension Grant County; Amy Mitchell, UW-Extension Crawford County; Lori Berget, UW-Extension Lafayette County; Jennifer LaTour, UW-Extension Richland County; and Ruth Schriefer, UW-Extension Iowa County. Thanks are extended to the 5,354 7th to 12th graders from Southwest Wisconsin who participated in the 2013 YRBS survey. Contact UW-Extension for further information: Grant County (608) 723-2125; Lafayette County (608) 776-4820; Crawford County (608) 326-0223; Iowa County (608) 930-9850; or Richland County (608) 647-6148. Or visit our new website at: <http://www.cesa3.org/yrbs.html>

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