

Voyageur Middle School (VMS)

Issue 1 - Week of:
Monday, September 11, 2017



Upcoming Events

Monday, September 11

NWEA MAP Testing Begins

Friday, September 29

Scholar Noon Dismissal - 12:00 p.m.

Principal's Message

Hello VMS Family,

This summer has been a blur! When I first arrived to the great city of Detroit, I had no idea that I was in for such a treat. The people, culture, and history, makes Detroit very rich. Detroit, unfortunately, has been relegated by many, as a city that is inferior to others. This is by far, a myth. I see a resilient city, comprised of folk who care deeply about their community, but may need a helping hand. That hand is us. Many of our staff members are from this community, so the effort that they exert is personal. Understand that while I am not homegrown, Detroit is now my community.

This year, we have set the bar high for scholars. Through our actions, you will begin to see that we expect the absolute most from them. Through our actions, scholars will know that VMS is their home away from home. Through our actions, parents, guardians, and the community, will sense the complete admiration that we have for our scholars. Our actions, not our words, will be what moves our school forward. This year, is the year of change.

As your principal, I support you, 100 percent. I am thankful that I was chosen to serve as your leader, as we take this journey together.

With love,
Will Pickens, Principal
Voyageur Middle School



MAP Testing

The Fall MAP testing window opens from September 11th – October 11th. Middle schools students will be tested in Reading, Math and Science. You can help your Scholar be more successful during this process by doing the following:

1. Ensure your child gets a good night's sleep.
2. Ensure your child has a good breakfast and a strong and positive start to the school day.
3. Talk with your child about testing: their goals and their feelings, as well as yours.

ACHIEVABLE AND SPECIFIC GOALS WILL KEEP YOUR CHILD MOTIVATED

Your child may be more motivated to do her best if she is working toward a result that is meaningful and important to her.

Encourage her to write down a list of goals and ways to accomplish them. Remember, though—this can only work if the goals represent what your child wants to do. Make sure your child's goals:



- ❖ Are specific. "I want to raise my math grade to a B." Not, "I want to do better in math."
- ❖ Are reasonable. "I want to raise my math grade by one letter grade." Not, "I want to go from all Cs to all As in one my report card marking period."
- ❖ Include steps for reaching the goal. "To raise my grade, I will need to review my notes every day, pay attention in class, ask questions, and turn in homework on time. I will get a planner and use it to track assignments."
- ❖ Include a way to head off problems. "I have soccer practice two nights a week. I'll have to plan to do extra review and homework on Sunday afternoons."

Post your child's goals where she can see them. Once a month, ask her to review her goals. She can track her progress and make any necessary changes.

Source: L. Greene, Improving Your Child's Schoolwork

Quote of the Week:



*Newsletter Created by:
Arvineda McDonald, MEd*