

July 16, 2009

Dear Mahone Family,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year! Mahone's faculty and support staff look forward to working with you and your child throughout the upcoming year.

With this letter you will find important information concerning registration including a new emergency card. **Please review this material carefully and note that registration will take place from 1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. on August 13 and from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on August 14.** School pictures will be taken during registration.

Last year we began a new service to our families called "Parent Connection" which provided on-line student information updated throughout the school year. This includes information on completed assignments, student grades and attendance. We received overwhelming positive reaction from our parent community and we encourage you to take advantage of this service.

Open House will be held on Monday, August 31. The focus of Open House is curriculum and house expectations and teachers will hand out information and answer questions pertaining to these two areas. A brief presentation for incoming sixth grade families or new seventh and eighth grade families to Mahone will begin at 5:45 p.m. in the auditorium.

You will note that beginning with the fall term our Assistant Principal will be Mrs. Terri Huck. Mrs. Huck comes to Mahone as a continuation of her distinguished career as a Kenosha educator which has included in addition to classroom teaching assignments as a learning specialist and for the past several years, as the Coordinator of Professional Development for the school district. We are very pleased to welcome her to our school and wish her well as she joins our faculty.

Finally, a note of concern. Throughout the school district, several problems have arisen surrounding the misuse of cell phones in school. The school district policy is clear in allowing students to bring cell phones to school with the understanding that they will be stored in the locker during the school day and turned off. Texting or sending and receiving phone calls during the day is disruptive to the learning environment and cannot be allowed. To encourage compliance with the district policy on cell phones, we ask that you discuss the issue with your child and direct that they keep the phone turned off and in their locker during the school day. If the phone is observed during the school day by a teacher, it will be confiscated and retained in the office until picked up by a parent. Last year after notifying the parent of the violation, we allowed students to take the phone at the end of the day. However, this proved to be ineffective as a deterrent for violations of phone use. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please call our office and speak to Mrs. Huck or myself.

We invite you to take an active part in our school and look forward to a successful school year.

Very Truly Yours,

Brian Edwards  
Principal

Terri Huck  
Assistant Principal

**PLEASE KEEP THIS INFORMATION FOR FUTURE REFERENCE FOR  
THE 2009-2010 SCHOOL YEAR.**

**Registration for students will be held on the following dates:**

Thursday, August 13                    1:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.  
Friday, August 14                    7:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

During registration students and parents will receive the following information:

- Student schedules
- Bus information, schedules and bus passes
- Fall sports information
- Lunch information/fees

Registration will be held in the gym of Mahone Middle School. It is very important that you bring the completed Student Emergency Card and Student Enrollment Card. Student schedules, etc. will only be given out after all necessary paperwork is turned in. If you cannot make the registration dates, you may come any day after August 14 prior to the start of school from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm to register.

**School Pictures:** Picture packet forms will be mailed out directly from HR Imaging. Please fill out the order form and bring it with you to registration if you would like to purchase school pictures.

**Student Fees : \$70.00 Middle School Fee, \$15.00 Physical Education Fee – Total \$85.00**

**Athletic Fees:**

Athletic Participation Fee                    \$25.00 per sport/\$50 max per student

\*\*Athletic fees are for those participating in sports at Mahone Middle School. Fees may be paid at a later date.

**Open House:** The Open House for students and parents will be held Monday, August 31 beginning at 6:00 p.m. A brief presentation for incoming sixth grade families and new families to Mahone will begin at 5:45 p.m. in the auditorium. After a fifteen-minute presentation, families will go to their child's house for an important session specific to the house. Returning students and their families may go directly to their new houses for presentations by the house teachers. There will be three thirty-minute sessions that begin at 6:00 p.m. to allow families with multiple students to attend each house meeting.

**Zangle Parent Connection:** Each parent/guardian will be assigned a login and password. You will receive your login/password information at registration.

**Academic Interventions:** We expect our students to do their work every day. A work ethic of honest effort every day provides a solid foundation for success. Most of our students do their work on time. However, for those students who struggle to accomplish this, we have a series of supportive interventions. Among these are homework lunch, where students have a working lunch in a small group to finish their homework. Students with persistent difficulty may be assigned to a regular focused study session guided by a certified teacher. This session takes the place of an elective class in the schedule.

**Dress Code:** Enclosed in this packet is the student dress code policy for students. Students will be checked for compliance first hour and those students who are identified as wearing inappropriate clothing will need to call a parent to bring a change of clothes. Flip flops are NOT allowed at middle school.

**Student Schedules:** All students will receive their schedules during registration. Please look them over with your child and if there are any concerns regarding any classes, please call the office at 359-8100. The office staff will try to address your concern and get your student's schedule corrected prior to the start of school.

**Student IDs:** All students will receive an ID and lanyard that will be used to validate their status at Mahone, to check out library materials, to purchase lunch and to get them into athletic/social events at Mahone. All students are required to wear them at all times during the school day. Replacement costs for ID's are \$0.50.

**School Lunch:** Our school has an excellent lunch program and offers many choices for students. Students use their student ID as their account number and money is debited from their account according to what they eat each day. Envelopes for deposits will be available during registration. *Pre-payments should be turned in before school each morning.* The cost for the main lunch item is \$2.25. Ala Carte items are also available at various costs. If you would like to check your balance of your account anytime, please call 359-7893 and have your student ID number on hand.

**Bus Information:** Bus passes and route information will be given out during registration. Any questions need to be directed to the office of Transportation at 359-6391.

**Fall Sports:** The Mahone Middle School Athletic program offers football for boys, softball for girls during the fall. Any interested student should stop at the Athletic table during registration.

**Supply Lists:** The school supply list for all middle school students is enclosed in this mailing.

**Medical Information:** Each student is required to have a completed Emergency/Health form on file. This form is required in order for you to receive your child's schedule. In addition, a copy of the Request for Medication form is included in this packet for any student who needs to take medicine at school. Over the counter medication required the parent signature only. Any prescription medication needs to have both the doctor and the parent signature. Medication will be dispensed at school only after this form has been completed and turned in to the office. Because contacting a parent may be absolutely critical, we also ask that you put your cell phone number on the medical card. This is a proven and effective way of reaching many parents.

**School Day Schedule:** The Mahone school day will begin promptly at 8:35 a.m. and will end at 3:50 p.m. Wednesdays will be early release for students with the day ending at 3:06 p.m. Students will be allowed to enter the building at 8:25 a.m. with exceptions during inclement weather.

**Gym Clothes:** All students are required to wear tennis shoes, shorts and a t-shirt during gym class. You may purchase a Mahone Athletic t-shirt at a cost of \$10.00, but is not required. Any school appropriate sport attire is acceptable.

**Contacting School:** The Mahone Middle School general phone number is 359-8100. The attendance line is 359-8101. Please use this number to leave any absence information regarding your child. We ask that all absences be reported first thing in the morning (or before noon if possible).

**Gear Up:** Gear Up is a general orientation session for students making that transition into Mahone. During these sessions student learn of the Mahone culture, meet new students, familiarize themselves with the school, and working with lockers and general practices that will make their new start a comfortable one. All students who signed up have been or will be mailed a confirmation of their dates and time. If there are any questions, please contact our office at 359-8100.

**Immunizations:** Enclosed in this packet is the new immunization requirement, which requires additional vaccinations for incoming sixth graders. Please be sure your child is up to date with their immunizations. Failure to comply may result in exclusion from school.

**Parent Involvement:** The Mahone PTSA would like to welcome your student to our school and also invite parents to be equally invested. The PTSA meets once a month and is open to all parents of students at Mahone. Being involved as a parent gives you an active avenue to play a positive role in your student's middle school experience. **Our first PTSA meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 15 at 6:30 p.m. in the school library.**

**Bus Conduct:** Because of the location of Mahone, many students ride the bus. This is considered a privilege by the District that may be taken away when a student becomes a disciplinary or safety concern. Please be familiar with the expectations of the bus, the driver, and the school.

**Mahone Web Page:** The Mahone web site can be accessed from [WWW.KUSD.EDU](http://WWW.KUSD.EDU). From here you can find a list of our faculty, contact numbers, important announcements, upcoming events, school activities, classroom projects and also revisit material about the history and practices of our school. Email is also a convenient method of reaching teachers and administration without interrupting class.

**Phone Use/Student Messages:** With the population predicted at nearly 1000 students, it is becoming increasingly difficult to handle telephone messages. We ask that phone messages be restricted to emergencies only. We cannot guarantee phone messages will be delivered to the students if they are received after 2:30 pm.

**EARLY RELEASE:** Mahone Middle School will have 4 half-day inservices during the 2009-2010 school year. The first of these dates is Wednesday, September 16. Students are released at 11:57 a.m. on these dates.

**Drop Off:** For those parents who have students who do not ride the bus, we ask that you do not drop off your student prior to 8:00 a.m. unless they are involved in a student club or school activity.

**Lockers:** Students will be given lockers for their personal use. Do not give your locker combination to others! Our lockers are designed to be theft proof unless someone knows your combination.

**Electronic Devices:** Also, please be aware that students take a risk when they bring personal valuable items to school such as cell phones, hand held video games, IPODS, etc. The school is not liable for lost or stolen items.

**Cell Phones:** Students are allowed to bring cell phones to school. However, they must remain out of sight and turned off during school hours. Any phone out in class will be confiscated and must be picked up by a parent. Parents are to contact the school to reach a student, please do not call their cell phone during school hours.

**Sample Schedule:** *Students will be given a schedule that looks like the one below. Included on the schedule will be pieces of information such as their counselor, class schedule, teacher names and room numbers. Please review prior to registration.*

**The Kenosha Unified School District No. 1 is an Equal Opportunity Educator/Employer with established policies prohibiting discrimination on the basis of age, race, creed, religion, color, sex, national origin, disability or handicap, sexual orientation, or political affiliation in any educational program, activity, or employment in the District. The Superintendent of Schools/designee (359-6320) addresses questions regarding student discrimination, and the Executive Director of Human Resources (262-359-6333) answers questions concerning staff discrimination.**