

# **MSCS MONTHLY**

**KEEPING YOU INFORMED ON ALL THINGS IMPORTANT** 

**OCTOBER 2024** 

## Superintendent's Message

Dear MSCS Families,

As we enter quarter two of our journey through the school year, we introduce the MSCS Monthly. In each edition, you will find details on academic initiatives, upcoming events, safety updates, and ways to stay engaged with your child's education.

Together, we are shaping the future of our children, and we call on you to partner with us as we navigate some of the best years of your child's life together. Stay connected with us on social media for the latest updates, and don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.



Thank you for your continued support and collaboration in making Memphis-Shelby County Schools a place where students can Learn. Lead. Leave a Legacy.

In Partnership,

Marie N. Feagins, Ed.D. Superintendent

#### **Important Dates & Events**

- Disability Mentoring Day, Access to Good Jobs: October 16 - Email chatmanin@scsk12.org for more information
- School Board Meeting: October 22, 5:30 P.M.
- 1st 9-Weeks Report Cards: October 23
- **ACT** Testing Window
- First Day of Second Semester: January 6

Click here for District Calendar





# Academic Excellence: Focus on Literacy and Numeracy

This month, we are placing a special emphasis on improving literacy and numeracy across all grade levels. Our goal is to ensure that every student in Memphis-Shelby County Schools is proficient in reading and mathematics. We have several new resources available for families to support learning at home:

- Literacy Toolkit for Families
- Math Practice Apps for Students

If you have any questions or would like additional support, please don't hesitate to contact your child's school.



## Safety & Wellness: Keeping Our Schools Safe

At Memphis-Shelby County Schools, the safety and well-being of our students remain our top priority. We are carrying out several initiatives to ensure that our schools have secure learning environments:

- **Safety Drills:** This month, all schools will conduct safety drills to prepare for emergencies.
- Mental Health Support: We continue to expand access to counseling services for students. Learn more about our mental health resources <u>here.</u>
- **Transportation Safety Reminders:** Please remind your children to follow <u>safety guidelines</u> when waiting for the bus or walking to school.
- **Community Safety Training Coming Soon:** In partnership with Memphis Police Department and Shelby County Sheriff's Office, the district will hold three safety trainings for the public covering general crisis response guidance, weapon safety, and school district safety insight.



# Spotlight on Students & Staff

We are incredibly proud of the accomplishments of our students during quarter one! From academic achievements to athletic successes, here are a few highlights:

- Grahamwood Students Dive into Cancer Research with <u>St. Jude's</u> <u>STEMM Club</u>
- MSCS Graduates Shine on the Big Screen at Movie Premiere
- Congratulations to **Dr. Ollie Liddell** who was recognized by the Country Music Association Foundation as one of eight music teachers of excellence.
- Congratulations to Project Lead The Way Teacher Cheryl Lacy, Whitehaven Elementary
- Congratulations to our <u>High School Girls Soccer Champions!</u>



October is Dyslexia Awareness Month! The condition can make letters and words look different for those impacted, but Memphis-Shelby County Schools and partners have the right support to support student success. Children and adults who deal with dyslexia continue to break educational barriers showing that they're creative, innovative, and capable of amazing things.

During the month of October, the District will spread awareness, break down stigmas, and empower those with dyslexia to reach their full potential. <u>Visit http://www.scsk12.org/dyslexia for more information.</u>

## Reach 180

This new initiative combats chronic absenteeism and truancy which lead to significant barriers to student success. The district is providing guidance and resources to support families and students who are struggling with consistent school attendance. We will address barriers and build a collaborative approach that includes students, families, school leaders, and community partners.

### **Community & Partnerships**

We are grateful for the ongoing support from local businesses and organizations in helping our students succeed. This month, we are excited to spotlight our partnership with <u>Varsity Spirit</u>, who provide our students with opportunities to shadow their leading professionals.

Additionally, if you're interested in volunteering or becoming a mentor, you can <u>sign up here</u>.



#### **Parent Resources & Support**

We want to make sure that families have access to the resources they need to support their children's learning and well-being. Here are some valuable tools:

- **Parent Portal:** Stay updated on your child's attendance, grades, and assignments
- Tech Support: Need help with your child's school device? Call (901) 416-2700, email itservices@scsk12.org, or visit scsk12.org/it.
- <u>Visit scsk12.org/edulog</u> to learn more about the FREE and SECURE bus app that will provide the location of your bus, notify you when your bus is close, and share messages from MSCS transportation.
- Meal Services: <u>Learn more</u> about free or reduced lunch programs and what's new on the menu here.

Click here for immunization information.

#### C.O.M.E TO WIN! Find out MORE!

#### UPDATING POWERSCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION

Please ensure your contact information is accurate to receive important messages, robocalls, and reminders.

- 1. Log in to the PowerSchool parent portal.
- 2. Select Forms in the left hand menu.
- **3.** Use the Add/Update Contact Information form to make any needed changes.
- 4. Hit Submit at the very bottom of the page when done.

Have questions? Need support? Contact the Parent Welcome Center 901.416.5300 Homework Hotline: 615.298.6636 or 901.416.1234 Got a story to share? Send an email to <u>communications@scsk12.org</u> Connect with us on social media! #LearnLeadLeaveaLegacy

