

MEYERSDALE AREA  
SCHOOL DISTRICT  
AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY  
EMPLOYER

**SPECIAL POINTS  
OF INTEREST:**

MASD Cafeteria  
Information

Important School  
Health Information

PA Core  
Curriculum

New Faces  
at MASD

*Thoroughly  
Modern Millie*



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# MEYERSDALE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

VOLUME XXV, ISSUE I

SEPTEMBER 2014

The mission of the Meyersdale Area School District, in partnership with parents and community, is to provide our students a high quality education enabling them to communicate effectively and function as responsible and productive citizens in a changing world.



**MASD:**  
JOINING TOGETHER  
FOR STUDENT SUCCESS



*Join us as we encourage our  
students, faculty, staff, families, and  
community to support our schools this  
coming year as we strive for  
student achievement.*



Students Enter School	7:50 a.m.
Students Due in Homeroom	8:00 a.m.
Breakfast Students Due in Homeroom	8:05 a.m.
Instructional Time	8:10 a.m. - 2:50 p.m.
Student Dismissal	2:50 p.m.
Bus Departure	2:58 p.m.

All student buses will arrive and depart from the elementary parking lot. Middle and high school students will enter the building via the outside steps that lead to the cafeteria.



*A Message from  
Dr. Karlie, Superintendent*

It is another exciting school year, and we are looking forward to helping each student in the Meyersdale Area School District fulfill their dreams. If you had the opportunity to stop by one of our schools during a back-to-school night, we hope that all your questions were answered and that your child is off to a great start. If you have questions about the district, please take time to review this district-wide newsletter, contact us at 814-634-8311 or visit our website at [www.masd.net](http://www.masd.net). Our website contains information on upcoming events, lunch calendars, important features and photos of school activities, the student grade portal and many other items of interest.

This year's district-wide theme "MASD Community-Joining Together for Student Success" encourages everyone to be part of the education of our students. Student success depends on many factors with some taking place in the school while others take place outside the school day and off school property. We are encouraging everyone in our district to do their part. Franklin D. Roosevelt stated, "We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future." Please help us to build up our youth so they have the skills, knowledge, and perseverance to lead in a new generation.

It has been over one year since the PA Department of Education (PDE) was granted various waivers under No Child Left Behind and the department continues to focus on student achievement, school district performance

and educator effectiveness. District performance is reported through

PDE's School Performance Profile System, which can be accessed at <http://www.paschoolperformance.org>. I encourage you to take time to review the data concerning our district and to work with us to overcome barriers to student success.

As we draw closer to our annual Parent-Community Open House on Thursday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, I welcome each and every one of you to take time during the day and stop out at the school for a variety of activities including the opening night of our high school musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. This is a great opportunity to stop in and say hello, view student projects, talk to faculty and administration, or simply see what is going on around the school. Please take a moment and save the date; your involvement in the district shows support for students, faculty and staff.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve our students and our district,

T. Karlie

**Come out for the  
dedication of our new  
Greenhouse on  
November 20th during our  
Open House**

**Coming Soon:  
MASD's Own Mobile App  
View your favorite sections of  
the website easily**

# MASD CAFETERIA

- ... Notices will be sent home every week if an account has a negative balance.
- ... Each lunch account will have a maximum charge of five dollars (\$5.00) to the negative.
- ... If an account reaches five dollars (\$5.00) to the negative and no payment is received, the student will not be permitted to participate in the regular meal program. Instead, an alternative lunch will be offered in place of the meal until money is received on the account. Charges will continue to accrue for the alternative meals.

## 2014-2015 Meal Prices

### Breakfast

Full Price: \$0.90

Reduced: \$0.30

Adult: \$2.05

### Lunch

HS/MS Full Price: \$1.55

Elementary Full Price: \$1.45

Reduced: \$0.40

Adult: \$2.70

### Free/Reduced Meal Applications

Free and reduced meal applications are due to the school by Tuesday, October 7, 2014. On October 8, 2014, last year's benefits will expire and any student who has not submitted a new application will be required to pay full price for all meals bought. Applications can be picked up in the school offices or accessed online at [www.masd.net](http://www.masd.net) under Site Shortcuts.

If you apply for free and reduced benefits and are denied, you can reapply at any time throughout the school year. Applications are based upon the number of people in the household and income.

If you have any questions about Free/Reduced Lunch applications please contact Shannon Brant at 814-634-5123, ext. 306.

### Problems with Online Lunch Account?

If you are having difficulty accessing your child's grades or their online cafeteria account, please verify your contact information with your school office.

You may have noticed our website has changed slightly. While all of our important information is still there, it may be in a slightly different location. The school Lunch Menu is now easily accessible by clicking on the Icon - Lunch Menu- at the top of each school's homepage.

# Retiring Faculty & Staff

**The following Faculty and Staff members have retired:**  
*All retirees were recognized at the September 3, 2014, board meeting*  
**Sandy Baer—Instructional Aide**  
**Nelson Crowe—M.S. Science Teacher**  
**Tammy Emerick— M.S. Teacher**  
**Bernadette Hobbs— Special Education Teacher**  
**Beth Kennedy—English/French Teacher**  
**Brenda Lichty—Elementary Teacher**  
**Herb Long— Elementary Teacher**  
**Sandy Seifert—Family and Consumer Science Teacher**



*Your hard work and dedication over the years is greatly appreciated. Although you will be missed, everyone at the Meyersdale Area School District wishes you the best retirement has to offer.*



## MAES is Joining Together for Student Success



The 2014-2015 school year is off to a strong start! At the end of summer break, students in all grade levels had the opportunity to visit the school and meet their teachers prior to the start of school. Families had the opportunity to obtain valuable information regarding the class and the programming that their child would be a part of for the next 9 months. An astounding 74% of the MAES families took advantage of this opportunity to begin the year in superb fashion. Family involvement and communication are welcome all year long. Please contact the school at any time with questions, comments and concerns.



# WELCOME to MASD

There are many new faces here at Meyersdale Area School District. Please take time and review the next few pages to become familiar with our new staff. We welcome them and wish them all the best in their new positions.



Mr. McIver

Hello, my name is Mr. Brandon McIver, and I was recently hired at Meyersdale Area School District as the Life Skills Support Teacher. I'm a 2009 graduate of Meyersdale Area School District. After graduation I continued my education at Lock Haven University in Lock Haven, PA, where I earned a dual degree in Secondary Social Studies 7-12 / Special Education N-12. During my time at Lock Haven University, I served as the President for Lock Haven University's Council of Social Studies. This role took me to conferences in places such as Seattle, WA and Washington, DC. In my spare time I enjoy watching college football, snowboarding and am an avid fisherman. Special Education has become my passion, and I look forward to sharing that with the Meyersdale Area School District.

I am the new K-12 Autistic and Behavioral Support teacher for MASD in room MS 29. I live in Friedens (Somerset PA) with my husband John and daughter Megan. I graduated from Somerset Area High School in 2000, Saint Vincent College in 2004 with a BS in Psychology, and Saint Vincent College in 2010 with a MS in Special Education and PA Teaching Certificate. I was most recently teaching at Pressley Ridge (in Johnstown, PA) in an Emotional Support and Autistic Support classroom for the past 4 years. Prior to teaching I worked at Adelphi Village for 3 years as a MST therapist (basically...a family therapist!). I enjoy spending time with my family, watching college football, and cooking/baking. I am excited to be a member of MASD and am looking forward to exploring the community and getting to know all of the staff and students.



Mrs. Peters



Mrs. Smith

Hi, my name is Becky Smith, and I am a new employee at MASD. I have previously worked in the school as a substitute teacher, and I also work for the Alternative Community Resource Program. I work with children in the county schools in the After School Program, the Summer Treatment Program, and previously as a therapeutic support staff member. I am excited about working in the school district as this has been my home for 30 years. My husband, Dean Smith, and my sons, Matthew and Patrick are all graduates of Meyersdale. Patrick is married to Julie Smith, and they have one daughter, Adalynn.

## WALKING TRAIL IS OPEN

Meyersdale Schools invite the community to come use the MASD walking trail. Everyone is welcome. The trail starts in the high school lobby. Please sign in and grab your badge from the "walking trail" station. (It's marked) - Trail hours are from 4-6 pm on days school is in session. The trail is clearly marked with signs posted along the way. Bring a friend and let's get "walking".

# WELCOME to MASD

Adrienne Beiler is a 2009 graduate of Salisbury-Elk Lick High School. She graduated from Fairmont State University this past spring with a Bachelor of Arts in Education and a specialization in Family and Consumer Sciences. In her spare time she enjoys spending time with her family and friends, sewing, and cooking. Adrienne has a strong passion for teaching FACS and is excited to begin her teaching career at MAHS.

Miss Beiler



Mrs. DiFebo

I graduated from Frostburg State University in 2011 with a bachelors degree in Early Childhood/ Elementary Education. After college, I worked as an Instructional Support Teacher at HOPE for Hyndman Charter School for 3 years. I love what I do and get great joy from helping students reach goals for themselves to achieve their full potential. I grew up in Wellersburg, Pennsylvania, and I still live there with my husband. When I am not teaching or planning awesome things to do at school, I enjoy shopping, spending time outside with my husband and family.

Megan is a 2013 graduate from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown, where she worked as a tutor and a Resident Director. She is currently taking classes for her Master's Degree in English and Creative Writing at Southern New Hampshire University. She is originally from Pittsburgh, and she just moved to Meyersdale in August. In her spare time, Megan enjoys to dance--tap especially! Reading and singing are also some of her favorite hobbies. She is a loud, energetic, optimistic person, and she believes that the key to success is a positive outlook! This is her first year teaching, and she is thrilled to begin her career at Meyersdale!



Miss Girimonti

Ms. Kimmel



Hello, my name is Liz Kimmel. I am the new math teacher in the middle & high schools. I recently graduated with an education degree from Frostburg State University. I live in Confluence with my two children, Maria, 12, and Chaz, 9. I am very excited to be here and look forward to working with the students, parents, administration, faculty, & staff at Meyersdale School District.



Miss Moser

# WELCOME to MASD

My name is Miranda Moser. I am a 2014 graduate of the University of Pittsburgh-Johnstown, where I received my bachelor's degree in English Secondary Education. I did my student teaching at Greater Johnstown High School, where I taught four classes across 9th through 12th grade. During my student teaching I taught Science, English, and Health in Alternative Education at Windber High School. I look forward to starting my career at Meyersdale and bringing with me a passion and drive for education and student success. Welcome back to school!

Hello, my name is Miss Bradley. I am originally from Rockwood, PA. I have a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education from the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. My teaching certification is in General Science. I am currently pursuing my master's degree through Ball State University; I will graduate this upcoming December with a Special Education and Autism degree.



Miss Bradley

Mrs. Rosenberger



Greetings! My name is Mrs. Jessica Rosenberger, and I am the new third grade language arts teacher. I graduated from Meyersdale, so it is good to be home! I also have two bachelor's degrees from Frostburg State University: one in English and the other in Elementary and Middle School Education. I reside in Finzel, Maryland, with my husband and many pets. I look forward to a wonderful and exciting school year!



Mrs. Sines

Mrs. Kristi Sines is a 2003 proud graduate of Meyersdale Area High School. She attended Shippensburg University and graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor's of Science in Social Studies Education in 2007. Mrs. Sines is currently in her eighth year of teaching. She began her first four years of teaching as the Educational Assistance Program Facilitator for Meyersdale High School. For the past three years, she taught Social Studies classes at Hope for Hyndman Charter School and Salisbury Elk-Lick School District. Mrs. Sines will be teaching 6th grade Social Studies, which will focus on Civics and government along with teaching 7th grade Geography. She is attending Frostburg State University and pursuing a master's degree in special education. She is currently in her third year as the Meyersdale Varsity Girls Soccer Assistant Coach. She looks forward to sharing her love of history with her students at Meyersdale Middle School.

# Nurse's Corner



*Mrs. Rough,  
School Nurse  
634-5123, ext. 308*

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S MEDICATION

The start of school is an exciting time. Unfortunately, with it comes the spreading of germs and student illnesses. As such, more students need medications during school hours.

If you are sending medication to school with your child, please be sure to follow district policy which is in place to protect the health and well-being of your child.

- ... If your child requires medication during school hours, a parent permission form **must** be completed
- ... The doctor who prescribed the medication **must** sign the permission form

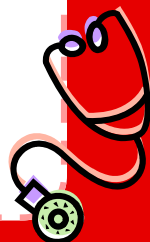
- ... Medication must be brought to school in the **original** pharmaceutically-dispensed container
- ... The medication container **must** be properly labeled
- ... If sending over-the-counter medication, a parent permission form **must** be completed by the parent **and** the child's physician
- ... Over-the-counter medication must be brought to the school in its **original** package
- ... Medications brought in baggies or unmarked bottles will **not** be accepted

## STUDENT IMMUNIZATIONS

State Legislation passed new immunization regulations that were effective and implemented for the 2011-2012 school year. Those regulations remain in effect for the 2014-2015 school year and subsequent years to follow. These changes state:

- ... All 7th grade students are **required** to have **one dose of Tdap** (tetanus, diphtheria, acellular pertussis) if five years have lapsed since their last tetanus immunization.
- ... All 7th graders are **required** to have **one dose of MCV** (meningococcal conjugate vaccine)

Once these requirements have been met, parents/guardians must submit copies of medical records to Mrs. Rough.



## STUDENT PHYSICALS

The Pennsylvania School Health Law **requires** medical examinations for **all** students in Kindergarten, grade 6, and grade 11. This is also a requirement for any newly enrolled student regardless of grade level. PA School Health Law also requires dental exams in grades K, 3, & 7. This is also a requirement for new students coming from another state.

These grades were selected because they represent periods of growth and development in a child's life. We recommend that examinations be completed by your family physician since he/she can best evaluate your child's health and assist you in obtaining necessary treatment and corrections. **Please contact Mrs. Rough to obtain a copy of the required form that must be completed by your family doctor.**

The district physician will provide a free medical examination if you prefer. Please contact Mrs. Rough if you wish to use the district physician's services.



## PA Core Curriculum Revisions at MASD

The beginning of the 2014-2015 school year also marks the start of the much anticipated and often misunderstood transition to the new PA Core standards. These standards, which are often confused with the national Common Core standards, were recently adopted by Pennsylvania as the guidelines for the content to be taught in all state public schools. A complete copy of these standards can be downloaded at [www.pdesas.org/Standard/PACore](http://www.pdesas.org/Standard/PACore), but a quick example standard from grade five math is that students will “use the understanding of equivalency to add and subtract fractions”. This year the curriculum at MASD, along with all other public schools across the Commonwealth, will be aligned to these new standards.

There is a confusing relationship between the National Common Core and Pennsylvania’s PA Core standards. The Common Core standards were developed by the national Governor’s Association as part of an effort to bring the states together in the education we each provide. Prior to this effort there was very little alignment from state to state in terms of what’s taught at a given grade or in a particular course. This created many issues, especially in the example of a student who moved from one state to another. The governor’s group, as a national entity, holds no power to implement a national set of standards as the responsibility to govern education is held independently by each state. Consequently, Pennsylvania utilized the Common Core standards as a framework to develop the PA Core. These two sets of standards, while sharing some similarities, are not the same.

The adoption of the PA Core standards by the state of Pennsylvania now directs the requirement that all public schools develop a local curriculum. Pennsylvania law has always provided that local schools establish their own curriculum outlining how and when to teach given content. This locally developed curriculum is required to address all of the demands established within the standards but provides local flexibility in selecting methods to best educate their population of learners. The success of this curriculum is determined through both local assessments as well as the PSSA and Keystone exams.

Meyersdale Area School District started a strong new year with a local curriculum that has been revised to meet the requirements of the new PA Core standards. While this curriculum has been put into place to start the school year, it will remain under revision for a number of years to make adjustments based on data reported to the district from test results. As always, the students of MASD will be provided a high quality standards aligned curriculum designed to enable them to “communicate effectively and function as responsible and productive citizens in a changing world.”



## Curtain Going UP! At Meyersdale High School

It's back! Thanks to our dedicated community, school board, and students, the Meyersdale Area High School will present their 33rd musical, "Thoroughly Modern Millie" on November 20, 21 and 22, at 7 PM, in the high school auditorium. The winner of six Tony Awards including Best Musical, "Thoroughly Modern Millie" was the 2002 season's most awarded new show on Broadway. This musical, based on the 1967 Academy Award winning film, takes you back to the height of the Jazz Age in New York City. Set in 1922, it tells the story of young Millie Dillmount from Kansas, who comes to New York in search of a new life for herself. Her grand plan is to find a job as a secretary for a wealthy man and then marry him. The owner of her dingy hotel kidnaps young women to sell to the Far East; her wealthy boss is slow in proposing marriage, and the man she actually falls in love with doesn't have a dime to his name. This story was written by Richard Morris and Dick Scanlan with music by Jeanine Tesori.

"Thoroughly Modern Millie" will be filled with frisky flappers, dashing leading men and a dragon-lady of a villainess audiences will love to hate. There will be explosive tap numbers and a Fred Astaire/Ginger Rodgers routine that will show off the dance and vocal skills of our students. Cast members as of this writing are : Erin Hetz, Kendra Murray, Alexis Day, Claire Rowley, Hattie Luster, Ben Helinski, Kendall Swick, Kirk Bryant, Evan Shankle, EricShankle, Robert Thompson, Kendra Long, Emily Saylor, Olivia Kretchman, Amber Haer, Samantha Tipton, Kelissa Woolslayer, Sami Korns, Bailey Edwards, Emily Schaeffer, Sidney Lear, Leah Sines, Maddy Lear, Natalie Marteney, Brooke Crouse, Kaitlyn Tipton, Shana Thomas, Cortni Dirienzo, and Danica Smith.



Ms. Katie Strong, Instrumental High School Band Instructor will return as the director. Mrs. Cindy Brant will be the accompanist and Cassie LaFramboise will be the choreographer.

The Meyersdale Drama/Musical Boosters will be having several fundraisers to help meet expenses. The cast is currently selling World's Finest candy bars for \$1.00. Caramel, Crispy, and Milk Chocolate flavors are available. The Boosters will also be sponsoring a Halloween Dance for grades 7-12 on October 25th, from 6-9 PM, at the Meyersdale Community Center, thanks to the generosity of Parks and Rec. In October, cast members will be looking for ads for the program. Please support our young people with your donations. Donations can be sent to Meyersdale Drama/Musical Boosters, at 515 Sherman St., Meyersdale, PA, 15552, or call 634-8584 for information. Hope to see you at one of our performances in November.



# IMPORTANT BUS INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

**Bus assignments have been established to provide the most cost effective transportation possible for our families and taxpayers. Most buses will be filled to capacity. For that reason, there will be very limited flexibility to accommodate special requests for occasional changes (e.g., going home with a friend, going home to a relative, etc.) Any such requests MUST BE PREAPPROVED to assure the requested change is not exceeding bus capacity.**

Meyersdale Area School District disability services are diverse and unique in attempting to provide students with the level of supports, services and accommodations they need to acquire learning, develop independence, and become successful adults.

All special education programs must be in compliance with guidelines from the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act '04. Please browse the links included on the district web page under the "Services" tab for additional information regarding special education programs and services and disability awareness. If you have questions or need additional information, contact Mrs. Pat Haglund, Coordinator of Special Education at (814) 634-1437 or [phaglund@masd.net](mailto:phaglund@masd.net).

On September 3, 2008, the MASD Board of Directors adopted Policy 103 - Nondiscrimination in school and classroom practices.

This policy declares that the district provide an equal opportunity for all students to achieve their maximum potential through the programs offered in the schools regardless of race, color, age, creed, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ancestry, national origin, marital status, pregnancy or handicap/disability.

To view this policy in its entirety, go to [www.masd.net](http://www.masd.net) and click on Meyersdale Area Policy Manual.

***People You Need to Know***

**Elementary Office**  
Ginger Ackerman - ext. 312  
Jeanne Klink - ext. 314

**Middle School Office**  
Tammy Hetrick - ext. 338

**High School Office**  
Patti Shaulis - ext. 323

**High School Guidance Office**  
Ginger Geiger - ext. 346

**Administration Office**  
Shannon Brant—Ext. 306

**Business Office**  
Tracy Wedge - ext. 327



***Early Dismissals***

On regularly scheduled early dismissals, students will be dismissed 2 hours early at:

**12:50 p.m.**

Buses will depart at approximately 12:58 p.m.

School Board Meetings are held the first Wednesday of each month at 7:00 in the central office conference room unless otherwise advertised.

School Board Members		
Jeffrey Moser <b>President</b>	Laura Schardt <b>Secretary/Business Manager</b>	Brad Troutman Steven Schrader, Sr. Thomas Deetz Tina Gnagey Tim Miller David Blaney
Dr. Grant Atwell, II <b>Vice-President</b>	Tammy Witherite <b>Treasurer</b>	

**Meyersdale Area  
School District**

309 Industrial Park Rd.  
Meyersdale, PA 15552

Phone: 814-634-0617

Fax: 814-634-0832



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**Policy Notification Statement**

Meyersdale Area School District is an equal opportunity education institution and will not discriminate on the basis of sex, color, nationality, religion, marital status, age, or handicap in its activities, programs or employment practices as required by Title VI, Title IX, and Section 504. For more information regarding civil rights or grievance procedures, contact Tracey Karlie, Superintendent, Meyersdale Area School District, Meyersdale, PA 15552 (Phone: 814-634-5123); or the Department of Health, Education and Welfare, Washington, D.C.

## Dates to Remember

September 16—Title I Dinner and Information Meeting

Sept. 16, Oct. 21, & Nov. 18—Educational Boosters Meeting

October 3 and 13—No School

October 28—End of first 9 week grading period

November 20-22—MASD presents *Thoroughly Modern Millie*

November 20—Parent / Teacher Conferences

November 20— Science Fair

### Throwback Thursday

Hey all Meyersdale Alumni—Check out our website under Alumni and you may just see someone you know. Every Thursday we will highlight a new snapshot from the days gone by. Anyone have a photo we might be able to use? . . . Please submit to sbrant@masd.net.

#### **Administration**

Dr. Tracey A. Karlie  
**Superintendent**  
trkarlie@masd.net

Mr. Kretchman  
**Curriculum Coordinator**  
tkretchman@masd.net

Mrs. Haglund  
**Special Education Coordinator**  
phaglund@masd.net

Mr. Wilttrout  
**Secondary Principal**  
jwilttrout@masd.net

Mr. Vena  
**High School Guidance**  
rvena@masd.net

Mrs. Stahl  
**Middle School Guidance**  
jstahl@masd.net

Mrs. Baer  
**Elementary School Principal**  
jbaer@masd.net

Mrs. Scarrone  
**Elementary School Guidance**  
jscarrone@masd.net