

MAVERICK ROUNDUP

Volume 1

September 2011 Newsletter

SCHOOL DISTRICT APARTMENTS

MLS has entered into an agreement to purchase a four apartment complex in Mohall to provide housing for school employees. It is apparent that housing in the district is at a critical need. Future needs will continue to grow as oil development moves our way. Many North Dakota Schools that are being impacted now by oil development have purchased or built school housing to address shortages and provide the district with an option to address this issue. The district has discussed housing needs for future employees and what can be done to insure that adequate housing would be available. A local owner of an apartment complex ap-

proached MLS to see if there would be any interest to purchase his property. The owner had been contacted by an outside investment group looking to purchase property in the area and he wanted to give the district first opportunity. The school board discussed this issue at two monthly meetings and during the September meeting voted to purchase the property that is close to the Mohall building. The districts cost for the property is \$220,000.00 and will be paid for out of its reserves, insuring that the district will not have any long term obligations. Rental income will be used for maintenance and at a time in the future if this

fund has excess funds the school board can use the dollars in other areas if needed. The district will establish a rent level that will be appropriate to the salary for the district employees. All individual apartments will be reserved for school employees but if an apartment is available the district may consider a non-school employee as a renter. The lease agreement with a non-school employee will be only for a short term basis or until the apartment is needed by the district. Rent to non-school personnel will not be based on what school employees are charged.

Inside this issue:

Weather Dress	2
Volleyball Apparel	2
Box Tops & Soup Labels	2
Annual Progress Report	3
Teen Risks	4
Resolution Dispute	5
Maverick Gear	6

Special points of interest:

- Oct 3 Lifetouch Pictures
- Oct 7 Student Flu Shots
- Oct 14 Homecoming
- Oct 31 Book Fair Starts
- Nov 14 ASVAB Testing

ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE TIMES FROM SCHOOL

Students should not arrive at school prior to 8:00 AM, teachers and aides are not contracted to be in the building prior to that time. Lack of supervision for those students arriving prior to 8:00 AM can cause problems in the school building. Students and parents should also be aware that the stu-

dents coming to school in the morning will be asked to drop their backpacks off in the room and then go outside on the playground prior to the start of school. After school when the students are dismissed at 3:20 PM for the day, they will be asked to leave the building unless they are there for a specific school activity, or

to get help from a teacher. Students should not be left unsupervised by parents or siblings in the building after normal school hours. If they choose to play on school grounds after school, they are expected to follow the rules of the playground, just as if school was in session.

BUILD A BOND WITH YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

What's the secret to having a great year? Ask the expert--a teacher. Here are one teacher's tips on ways your high schooler can have the most successful year possible:

1. Bring the right tools for the job. A carpenter can't work without a hammer and a saw. A student shouldn't show up without a textbook, a notebook and something to write with. If organization is challenging for your teen, have her use color-coded binders so she gets to English class with her English homework.
2. Do homework daily. In some classes, such as math, today's lesson builds on what students learned yesterday. If your teen hasn't done the homework, she may miss the entire point of the lesson. Then she'll fall further behind.
3. Learn how to study. Learning how to take notes, how to read a textbook and how to study for tests will make homework time more productive. Ask your teen's teachers for tips on study skills. Also, look in the library for books that teach this important survival skill.
4. Make up missed work right away. It's not uncommon for students to get sick some time during the year. But your teen should take the responsibility of finding out what work she has missed--and turning it in as soon as possible.



BE PREPARED FOR THE WEATHER



Every year at this time we have to shift our thoughts to a change in seasons, it looks like winter will come again. Students need to have the proper clothing with them when they come to school. There are several times in the day when extra clothing will benefit your child at school. A few examples would be; to stay warm when going outside for recess, riding the bus or going to an extra-curricular activity.

It is recommended that all students come to school with gloves, a stocking hat, boots, snow pants, and a warm winter jacket. This will not only help them when they go outside for recess but also make them better prepared if they ride the bus. Students and athletes who are going on a field trip, to practice and games need to be prepared for situations that may arise on the bus. Parents please help us by making sure your son or daughter has the proper clothing when coming to school or going on a school sponsored activity.

COLLECTING BOX TOPS AND SOUP LABELS

MLS Mohall Elementary Grade Three will be collecting **Box Tops for Education** and **Soup Labels** this year. They will be responsible for cutting them out if needed, counting them and getting them ready to ship off. When we get "cash" from the box tops and "points" from the soup labels, they will

get to help decide what to order. Most of the things will be for the playground like new balls, jump ropes, hula hoops etc. We are all hoping to get enough money raise to get a couple of tether balls!



Soup is good for you



PROMOTE EFFECTIVE STUDY HABITS

Homework can be a major source of conflict for parents and kids. But even if study time goes well in your family, it's important to make sure you're covering the basics. Take small, simple steps that promote cooperation and good study habits. Remember to:

- Choose a regular time and place for studying. It should be somewhere quiet with no TV or similar distractions. Pick a comfortable spot and stock it with necessities. Kids study better, and with fewer complaints, when they follow a routine.
- Allow free time first. Some kids need to blow off steam after school by exercising or chatting. Many also head straight for a snack or drink. Keep healthy options available that will energize your child for work and play.
- Encourage organization. Productive studying starts with a to-do list. Older elementary school students should make one each day.
- Postpone screen time. Watching TV and playing video games are privileges that often take away from priorities, including homework, reading and socializing. Save all screen time for after homework and studying.
- Pay attention. Homework time is a chance for you to learn about your child. Does she excel at reading? Struggle with multiplication? Have trouble with spelling? Work with her teacher to build on her strengths and overcome challenges. Be supportive. Don't do your child's homework for her. But do stay nearby to supervise. It's okay to answer questions and guide your child through problems. But if you feel she needs too much help in an area, talk with her teacher.

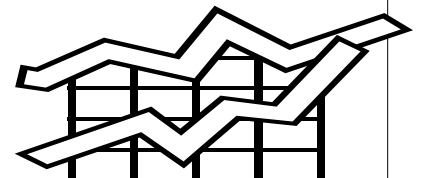
Reprinted with permission from the September 2011 issue of *Parents make the difference!*® (Elementary School Edition) newsletter. Copyright © 2011 The Parent Institute®, a division of NIS, Inc.

Annual progress report

Every year the MLS Public School District, in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, publishes an annual progress report on student achievement called the School District Profile. This profile is now available for your review. We encourage you to access and study this important information. This report demonstrates the progress our students are making in terms of our challenging academic standards. You may access the MLS School profile for on the department of

public in- structions web-site at the following address: <http://www.dpi.state.nd.us/dpi/reports/profile.index.shtm>. Simply select the MLS School District and the most recent year to access the various reports available. If you prefer, the staff at our school will assist you and provide a printed copy to review. The annual profile summarizes how well our students performed this past year in reading, language arts and mathematics on the North Dakota State assessment and on other academic in-

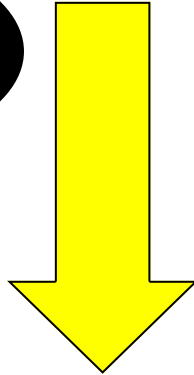
dicators. Information includes proficiency levels, graduation rates and attendance with achievement of all students and for specific subgroups. We encourage all parents and patrons to familiarize themselves with this information. Providing a quality education for our student population is everyone's concern. We thank you for your continued support of our school system and if you have any questions, please contact school officials.



**MLS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
MLS MOHALL
MLS SHERWOOD**

***MLS Mohall 756-6660
PO Box 187
Mohall, ND 58761
Fax: 701-756-6549***

**Website
www.mls.k12.nd.us**



***MLS Sherwood 459-2749
PO Box 9
Sherwood, ND 58782
Fax: 701-459-2749***

Teens take risks with friends



He's a responsible kid. So why did he and his friends get in a car and drive way too fast? Or go to a party where they knew there would be alcohol?

Brain researchers now know some things about the teenage brain. And what they're learning is that teens may be wired to make bad decisions and take risks when their friends are watching them.

Researchers asked teens and adults to play a short driving game. They were rewarded for finishing quickly, as long as they followed basic traffic rules. While they were playing, researchers monitored their brain activity. Half the time, the teens played alone. Half the time, they were told that their friends were watching in another room.

The result? When teens thought friends were watching, they took many more risks. They drove faster. They ran yellow lights. They were more likely to crash.

In other words, just knowing others are watching made the difference. The "peer pressure" was simply the presence of peers.

What does this mean for parents? Perhaps most important, parents should never assume that their teens will make responsible choices when they're with friends. So before your teen goes out, be sure to review the rules--and help your teen think through consequences.

Reprinted with permission from the September 2011 issue of *Parents Still make the difference*

Title 1 Dispute Resolution Policy

Federal regulations require that each school district adopt procedures for receiving and resolving disputes pertaining to any of the Title programs. The following is the MLS District policy, procedure and forms for its title dispute resolution program.

Mohall Lansford Sherwood Policy states:

AN INDIVIDUAL

Under most circumstances parents who lodge a complaint against a teacher will be referred to that teacher for resolution of the problem. If the situation is such that this procedure fails to resolve differences or if the parents refuse to meet personally with the teacher, the complainant shall be required to submit a written complaint on a district form provided by the District. This form would be submitted to either the building principal or superintendent.

The teacher will be notified of the complaint and will be given an opportunity to respond to the charges. The building principal and the superintendent will investigate the complaint, review the response and attempt to resolve the differences between the parent and the teacher.

If the teacher is not satisfied with the judgment of the superintendent and the building principal, he/she may appeal the decision to the School Board.

A PROGRAM/POLICY

Under most circumstances parents who lodge a written complaint against a program/policy, which includes handbooks, board policy, federal programs and other established systems, will be referred to the immediate supervisor of that program. If the situation fails to resolve the issue it will be referred to the superintendent of schools or school board dependent on who is defined as immediate supervisor.

The superintendent or school board will investigate the complaint and may meet with the complainant to review the program or policy and attempt to resolve the issue. A decision by either the superintendent/school board will be done in a timely manner.

If the patron is unsatisfied with the decision by the superintendent/school board the policy/program may be appealed to the North Dakota Department of Instruction and if not satisfied to the USDE.

District Forms can be picked up in the office.

ORDER YOUR **MLS FOOTBALL APPAREL** TODAY!

We have partnered with

Under Armor and Required Team Gear...

to bring you the best prices on your

MLS Football Apparel

Go to the website below,

www.rtgbeta.com



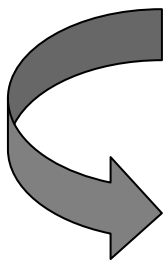
Click '**Create Account**' and enter

the Special Code below to buy your MLS

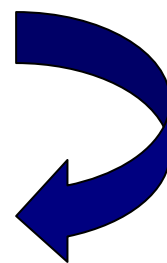
Football Apparel

MLS Football Package Code: **198533**

EXPIRES: 9/25/2011



A Reminder



You can go to the MLS website click on MLS Calendars then click on MLS School District Events Calendar and see what is happening on a daily, weekly, or monthly basis. You can also click on the event for additional information.

The website is www.mls.k12.nd.us

**ORDER YOUR
MLS VOLLEYBALL APPAREL
TODAY!**

We have partnered with **Under Armor and Re-quired Team Gear...**to bring you the best prices on your MLS Volleyball Apparel

Go to the website below,

www.rtgbeta.com

Click '**Create Account**' and enter the Special Code below to buy your MLS Volleyball Apparel

MLS Volleyball Package Code: **147963**

EXPIRES: 9/25/2011

www.rtgbeta.com

For any questions contact Required Team Gear 817.922.8448 or email customerservice@requiredteammgear.com

