Communications Survey for MRH Families, Spring 2025

169 responses

Publish analytics







If not satisfied, please explain.

35 responses

The newsletters are really overwhelmingly hard to read because of the lack of design effort. I am a graphic designer however, so I am especially picky. Simplicity and consistency in font, layout, color and design would make reading these newsletters much easier. It triggers anxiety on my end to be honest!

I very much appreciate the time and effort that is put into each newsletter. However, they are sometimes too much information, with high yield info sometimes buried at the very end of the update. For our family a more succinct email would be more effective.

It's way too lengthy. It's easy for the important bits to be missed in all the unnecessary stuff or for the parent to say TLDR (too long, didn't read).

The emails are very long and the information that I find most relevant is often buried at the bottom.

It's fine.

It's a LOT of information in one email - I love being so informed, but I still miss things because some info gets buried. It would maybe be easier if there was a bulletpoint list of items, where we could click on each one for more information on a website?

too much information, a lot of the time there are flyers/information about the events that have passed or incorrect information (field day friday???)

The content is relevant but comes out on Sunday - the weekend is over and leaves no time to prep for things, especially if it requires going to the store.

Better this year but still kind of AI-esque

I often find them too long to fully read...maybe there could be a TLDR section at the top with the main highlights / new items each week?

Emails have a lot of content with the same information week after week.

I would like to see a clickable table of contents or something similar at the beginning of the email about the different topics covered. I would like the header to say more about the content within rather than just Blue Devil Bulletin. For example the header from may could be "BDB: testing, climate-culture, senior celebrations, end of year events, "The upcoming events would also help more if they were clickable for more information. I'd like to see fewer pictures that are unrelated to students, teachers, or staff. Regarding the next question about timing of delivery, I have no preference.

I am satisfied but will mention sometimes they are a little long for my email browser. I do appreciate the links at the bottom.

Too long especially content pasted at the end, often is repetitive.

Principal newsletter was not received for the first three months of school. OUr exchange student enrolled late, so communications had a few gaps. Would have like to see my request for coverage of American Councils, and also coverage of the participation of the exchange students in general in both principal's and district newsletter. Maybe I missed this from not receiving the High School newsletter most of last Fall.

i have some confusion about the emails from district vs. the school (HS). they seem to overlap with content.

It would be lovely to hear more about what project work individual classrooms are working on throughout the year. Each week spotlight a classroom to help share with and build community.

Some information isn't always consistent (dates, etc)

The newsletter needs to be edited. Sometimes it is so long and I don't have the time to parse through to find the relevant information for more immediate events. There should perhaps be a monthly newsletter for larger initiatives and upcoming important dates for that month. AND then a shorter weekly newsletter for stuff happening that week.

There is so much information and language is not always clear.

Too lengthy. Important information is buried

Events calendar format isn't super clear

Personally, I'd prefer a more short-form email. The length is overwhelming at times. I would prefer for it to just be pertinent information about upcoming events; I rarely read the (often lengthy) letter from the principal. Also many parts of the email seem to stay in week after week with no update/new information, adding to the length without offering anything new.

There's a lot there, I rarely read any of it.

I always have to choose View in Browser because the text doesn't appear in the Gmail app on my phone. I don't have the same issue with the weekly emails from the middle/high school, so there must be some formatting differences. It's not a huge deal, but it is annoying and makes me want to not bother reading the emails.

It would be lovely to hear more about what grades are working on throughout the year. Each week spotlight a grade/classroom to help share with and build community. Student spotlights? Classroom spotlights? Club highlights? Etc

I think I would've liked more details about future dates that were important. Like when the last day of school was and things like that. I also would've liked more advanced notice when controversial topics were being taught on that week.

sometimes the important dates that apply to everyone get lost in the long list of athletics/events also happening. would like more advance notice of big events - prom, homecoming, conferences, when possible

It would be nice to see more photos of kids, hear more about what's going on during the day, etc. It also seems like sometimes there is info but no follow through. Such as stating when things are coming home but then I'm looking for them on the day mentioned but it's no where to be found.

It's not that I am not satisfied, but it is hard to differentiate between just FYI and what I NEED to know. Maybe a bolder more "important status" title to show more important dates and notes? It is more for those who don't necessarily have the time to read through so much information. They can read the important notes and move on or read the remainder at a later date.

Sometimes events or some details to events are only communicated to students it seems

I have 4 kids at 4 different schools and EVERY Sunday I get a letter from EVERY school that I have to read so I don't miss anything important. It's just too much!! Please make it easier. It's the parents like me who really need streamlined communications.

They still feel a bit hard to read; lots of text, lots of bold content within one block of text.

Sometimes VERY important news (e.g., the end of looping) is buried below things like, say, pictures of preschool Chinese New Year.

I wish the time-sensitive / essential updates were highlighted at the top as a time saver when I am not able to scroll through the full updates.



If not satisfied, please explain.

44 responses

It's fine. From middle school on up, there's too many teachers and individual updates become overwhelming. The thoughtful but concise updates from Zitzer are more useful.

The content was fine but it was often not timely

We received little to no communication from classroom teacher this year. No use of ClassDojo (that's fine but why do we even have it then!). There was a paper newsletter sent home in kid folder but there were many weeks when kid did not deliver that to parents. Would like to receive consistent electronic communication from teacher (could be the paper newsletter just sent directly to me not via kid and I don't care what the platform is (email, app or email platform)

Some teachers are better than others.

I get no communication from teachers in middle or hs unless I initiate

I didn't care for Class Dojo at all.

I would appreciate more frequent communication from more teachers; I have gotten regular communication from some teachers but not others.

I generally didn't pay much attention to these emails; there was redundancy sometimes with the principal's email, there were sometimes misspellings that made things a bit confusing.

Could have been more concise at times

Only two of my child's teachers ever communicated with me outside of the conference days in his two years at the MS. (Shout out to Ms. Macky and Mr. Rapini!)

The use of ClassDojo wasn't the ideal. The app isn't designed well for this use, which meant a lot of scrolling to find class info. Also the app's notifications were inconsistent/unreliable.

I hate having all communications through Class Dojo, an app that spams me with ads. I want email.

I have had a very bad experience with some of my child's teachers this year. They seem to want to deliver problem information and are unresponsive to problem solving - literally, ignored me and my very legitimate concerns. Of the responses I did receive, they seemed petty, unproductive, and resentful. Heartbreaking. I only receive regulat communications from the math and band teachers. Very occasionally from the science teacher.

Class Dojo is not a great app for important communications. It is hard to search through for past information like dates and times that are shared through graphics on the app.

Some teachers are better than others at communicating information. I would prefer to have all communication come from one place (i.e. email only) instead of multiple platforms such a Class Dojo etc.

i didn't hear as much from them regularly. maybe that is for the best.

I feel like we were often out of the loop with our child's communication at home. We often received our single page update for the week on Sunday night with little or no time to prepare for the next week (especially for special events on mondays). The update was also too brief often only mentioning events by name with no description of details. We also went some months where things like monthly homework calendars weren't shared at all.

I've heard some teachers do not send weekly newsletters. I think that should be a standard across the board. I prefer a weekly newsletter explaining what they'll be working on, what they did accomplish specifically highlights of their learning. Including pictures whether it's a link to a google drive or embedded in the newsletter is a must too. It again helps build community getting to know the kids in child's classroom. And all kids vary in the amount of information they share about their day this would help those that don't share openly.

I prefer email over Class Dojo. My child's teacher mainly used Class Dojo and I don't like the interface. I currently have a rising 4th grader and half of my feed is for the ECC. It may be a setting I need to change? But regardless, it is easy for me to miss things.

I don't feel that the teachers adequately communicate with us. We rarely find out about problems/concerns in a timely manner.

Would like more regular weekly or at least every other week communication. Seemed not very regular this year (or it was only sent to class dojo and I can't always access it). Didn't feel like I always was aware of larger projects. Would prefer a direct email or a newsletter platform sent to my email.

Simply, communication was incredibly infrequent.

Common theme: too many places to receive information

We only got 4 newsletters over the course of the whole school year. They were delivered via Dojo and often difficult to open or read on a mobile device where I most frequently access Dojo. There were little or no reminders or information preceding field trips or major events like testing.

I hear frequently from 1 or 2 teachers but not all of them. I'd like even communication from all.

I only hear things when my child's teacher directly emails me. Normally this wouldn't be a problem as no parent wishes to hear things however I'm now getting messages regarding my daughter being off track for "summer school". I didn't know she was to be in "summer school". Obviously whatever form of communication is broken.

We receive little to no communication from my child's teachers

I don't receive anything from teachers

My child is in the early college program.

This year they sent information through Class Dojo and I absolutely hate that app so I refuse to use it. I really wish they'd just stick to emails for newsletters and updates. I shouldn't need so many extra apps just to view information. What's more annoying is that the newsletters were just a link to a Google doc! An email would have been just as easy in that case.

Communication was a little disjointed. One teacher would use ClassDojo, which is a pain, while another would use like a google doc (had two kids, so different teams). I like receiving one email for the whole team, but sometimes it wasn't clear if "event days" like PJ day or whatever were for the switching teacher's class or the home room teacher.

Would prefer something other than class dojo. Some messages get lost among too many less important posts within class dojo. It is cluttered and tries to upsell features I don't need.

I've heard some teachers do not send weekly newsletters. I think that should be a standard across the board. I prefer a weekly newsletter explaining what they'll be working on, what they did accomplish specifically highlights of their learning. Including pictures whether it's a link to a google drive or embedded in the newsletter or on class dojo is a must too. It again helps build community getting to know the kids in child's classroom. And all kids vary in the amount of information they share about their day this would help those that don't share openly.

I loved the weekly newsletters. On some of the emails I didn't realize that there was no school on certain days because it wasn't in the last two months of emails and my husband went to the school on accident for drop off. But overall really really good!

Doesn't seem to be a lot shared. Newsletter feel generic and not personalized. Rarely get pictures. Never know how student is doing until report cards so there is no way to help them prior to the end of the quarter. One teacher would take weeks-month to reply. Never got emails from either on very rare occasions. So frustrating.

Don't feel like the middle & high school teachers don't communicate with parents at all unless they are in a specific club/extra curricular, or unless the student is doing poorly in the class.

I will speak to the teacher at the beginning of each year that if there is even a slight drop in my childs scores or accountability in the classroom. This past year my son dropped from over 50% to 38% and I was not notified until the paper came in his bookbag the day before school ended, so now I am scrambling to help him in the summer to get him back up hopefully.

I never get emails from teachers

It would be nice if teacher communications were standardized across the district. Some use dojo, some use Canva, etc. and I don't get updates from middle school teachers.

We don't get much information from teachers due to the age of our student.

She doesn't communicate well at all with parents.

HS teachers rarely communicate unless there's an issue, so I am unsure how to answer this question. (we haven't had a lot of issues we needed to communicate with a HS teacher about)





If not satisfied, please explain.

22 responses

It's better and more streamlined than district content in earlier years but still more busy and crowded than I would like.

I'd love a more bulleted UX, with the option to click for more information. It can be hard to navigate through.

This has been going to a folder in my email that I don't check, but I will be looking for it now.

I appreciate the intentionality here. I don't follow on social media but understand this is often content that is shared there too so thanks for offering multiple platforms to consume.

It's just another email to read and it's not usually important so I often don't get a chance to read it until the week is already over.

a lot of the information repeats from the principals emails, so you have to really be searching and looking for info that has not been communicated in the principal emails

Again, it comes out on Monday. Could we have one of these weekly updates come out on Friday?

There are too many newsletters which seem disconnected from each other. A more streamlined communications plan would be really useful, especially for parents who have a student in more than one location, which is man of us.

Too long especially content that doesn't change week over week b

Such an incredibly well designed, attractive and timely publication...good writing and clearly professionally laid out. The "four" is related to my comments about coverage, above.

The format on my phone doesn't work well - I have to highlight text to see it, otherwise it shows as big blank spaces.

give it a rest with the 5 year plan already.

Student event schedules aren't really listed. It would be useful to have an activities calendar for sporting events, fine arts performances, etc. For example, the district did not advertise the Cabaret night at the high school/middle school at all.

It is overwhelming and I feel important information may go missed but I just can't keep up with reading all that every week.

Design needs work (especially the header) and content could be structured in multi-panel format for better readibility/scanning

It's just another email to check for anything important. I'm not a fan of getting so many broad emails. But there's not usually anything important in it, so sometimes I just skip reading it. By the time I get to it, the week is already over.

comments in a survey from another building.

Every once in a while I notice things are not included; like youth sports, Scouts, library sometimes is just RH, not Maplewood.

Sometimes there's information that probably should be there that isn't always there such as dates and times of upcoming museum nights.

I sometimes read it, but I know I can skip this one, especially if I'm still exhausted from reading 4 principal's emails on the previous day.

Continually highlights the same students. Would love to heard more about what students outside of winning teams are doing?

I really dislike that communication tree. It discourages rather than encourages communication.



If rarely or never, please explain.

80 responses

No need

I don't like the layout of the website. It can be hard to navigate.

I don't know where to go.

I get most of what i need via email

I understand there is a lot of information / content to be shared - but basic things like finding sport and after school club information is difficult to navigate.

We rely on the emails and app communications from teachers for updates and info, typically. I'll go to the website to check a date on occassion.

I rely on the newsletters and only look at the website if I am looking for something specific, like off days.

I expect to be told about important things, parents are more likely to read what is pushed to them

The communication received from his teacher and the principal are very comprehensive.

I rely on the newsletter rather than visiting the website.

Information on updates are hard to find on the website sometimes - I usually check my emails instead

I only use it for reference info, like looking up an email address or some general information, not news or updates.

I think of websites as more for static information

Because the emails cover most that I need to know

I rely on direct communication from schools/staff.

I get what I need from the principal's email, and honestly, I don't even know where I'd go on the website for information on events, school updates, etc.

Usually just use the weekly email newsletter.

Only if I have a question

Mostly related to weather related notices

Website difficult to navigate

I don't go there for updates; if I go there it's for contact info or school hours

I personally don't have a reason to check frequently, and I feel most information is in the weekly newsletter

If there is an important update, it should be mentioned in an email or newsletter.

A bit difficult to navigate

Get all I need from the newsletter.

There is a lot of info in the e-newsletters, so I don't tend to independently visit the website for more.

Emails from the school generally give me all the information I need

Most of what I need is communicated other ways

Not sure what type of updates I'd be looking for there

i refer to the emails for the details and links i need.

updates around upcoming athletic and extracurricular events need to updated closer to real time.

I usually get what I need from the newsletter and add events to my calendar from there.

Only check it to find out about school calendar as well as High School Sports / events updates. Wish their was an easier way to find out changed sporting times

I would prefer more concise communication and not so much volume. It's too much.

I use classroom notifications or text notifications primarily

Most info is in email or dojo

Typically only to review the school calendar again. Specific details I get from searching emails and newsletters.

I check only when searching for specific information.

I feel I get enough info from newslettwrs

I get communications from 2 schools, the district, many teachers at the ECC, and Facebook. I am not sure why I would go to the website for updates.

It doesn't occur to me.

I go to the website for specific info I am seeking. I don't expect to find news pertinent to my child from the district website.

I find the emails and newsletters have the content I need.

I go there for the calendar since we no longer get one either in snail mail or emailed to us directly. Otherwise I go there for numbers so I can physically talk to someone regarding an absence. I, as a low number of parents, am unhappy with the lack of simple communication being lost to those who support our youth. We, both school and parents, are moving through the process without truly knowing what is happening "in/with the other hand."

I go there if I need specific information (absence form; school phone numbers, etc) but I don't go there to look for updates

Most info from the school comes from newsletter

I'm not getting any new information that I would otherwise get from the newsletters. Furthermore, any links attached to the newsletter direct us to other places, I feel, besides the website.

I look forward to the weekly newsletter updates.

I just don't think about it. I will try harder, but figure anything noteworthy is out in the email

I assume if it's important it'll be in the newsletter

Information is not readily accessible on front page

I'm always frustrated that there doesn't seem to be a calendar that is complete. I feel there should be a calendar that is comprehensive for the whole district- complete with sports, concerts, dances, PTO/Booster Club meetings, days off, etc. I feel like I have to search to find the date for homecoming on one calendar, the game or meet, on another, if there is school on Friday, etc.

I only go to the website if there's specific information I need to lookup. I don't ever check for "updates" or news.

I usually find what I need in email newsletters because there are links to things there.

I expect pressing news will be in the newsletter

Not necessary. The school is doing fine. If I need more information, I know where to get information.

The Principal's email usually covers all the information that I am interested in.

No puedo meterme a la pagina

I get all my updates from either my child's teacher or from Dr. Stanciel's newsletter. I've felt very informed and up-to-date all year.

I just figured the website was not getting updated so I never checked there

I only think to check it when there's a link that interests me in the Whats Happening Weekly newsletter

i don't often get updates unless they are sent to me.

I rely on email and Facebook. I guess I didn't realize there were updates on the website ro check.

Feel like it's hard to find things on the website, and that it is not updated very often. Would really like a more comprehensive website platform. Really would like the different sports to have their own pages with the schedule, links to important documents, etc.

I find I get everything I need from the newsletters

It's to complicated to navigate. Loads slowly. It's hard to navigate to find the specific information I am looking for.

1

Honestly I didn't know it was really a thing, I read the newsletters or Class Dojo

I use the news letters

I usually only see updates from sources that send them to me.

Calendar only

It isn't normally where I look for updates.

It does not occur to me

I typically rely on direct communication from teachers or the newsletter from the principal.

Not needed

I assume that all info I need will come though the emails.

I read all the emails.

Website is difficult to navigate. LInks sometimes broken.

The website does not seem particularly user friendly. It is not always easy to find what I am looking for.

I don't think of the website as a place to go for new / time-sensitive information.

What types of information do you prefer to find on the school district's website?

85 responses

Calendar

schedules (school, athletics), email addresses, photos

Calendar, registration deadlines, school activities

I would love for everything to be available in one location, whether it is the website or an app.

Community Activities Student Spotlights News for the district as well as each school Top Stories in Education Tips for parents (academic,social emotional and future planning)

Bell schedules, PDF calendars, staff contact info.

Athletics, extra curricular / clubs available. I am just trying to find what resources the school extends.

Schedule

calendar

No school days, school events

Calendars

attendance info, schedule, phone numbers, current events, bell schedule

Reference stuff. School start times. Links to get to lunch menus or powerschool. Stuffs like that

Calendar events

Calendars, forms, etc.

It would be great if there was a calendar on the website with all the special events/dress up days/spirit days, etc. And maybe there is... I honestly just have never looked for anything on the website beyond the year's general academic calendar for No School days.

Email

up to date events schedule at each of the campuses, shout outs to students and staff

School events, closures, teacher names gor each grade level,.

Upcoming dates, general I do for reference, staff pictures and contact

East access to calendar and powerschool access

Policies, calendars, news

How to contact people, schedules, and calendar.

Contact and procedural info, calendars

I enjoy the publication as it is. MRH does a great job putting it together.

Bus schedules, easy access to lunch menus and calendars.

Where to go with my problems or complaints

I have a really hard time finding key information on the website. I feel like it needs a content and structural overhaul.

Calendars, staff lists/directories, etc.

School updates throughout the school year.

Closures. Changes in schedule. Calendar/events

Clearer staff directory and centrally located contact information for each school. We would all like to be able to phone/text/voice mail teachers, but understand this is difficult for a busy teacher to manage, and providing this contact information could lead to many disruptions in the classroom. It will be VERY INTERESTING to watch developments as MRH implements a narrower protocol for cell phone use by students next year, as I guess they will implement per new legislation...I'm all for it!!!

General information: start/the times, district calendar, staff directories, etc

Accomplishments, how school is serving mission, focus on kids and young adults.

School calendar, staff email directory

calendar and deadlines

School Calendar, Events at the schools (including sports / theatre at high school), staff in various buildings.

Calendar of events, school schedule calendar, contact info

staff, contact info,

Dates/Calendars, Communication Tree, Handbooks, Policies

School calendar, dismissal times

What you have is great! I also appreciate easy link to lunch menus.

School calendars, lunch schedule, registration information, contact information for school officials

Upcoming events

I only go to the website for static information (calendar, contacts, sports schedules), never news or updates.

Updates, events, menus

Only for calendar or directory

Contact info, who to contact in certain situations, the calendars

Opportunities for parents to get involved.

Board meeting information and community events

Calendars, board info

general school information / facts (contact info, forms, hours, etc)

More detailed information as it relates to operational standards/procedures of MRH

0

Anything happening at school

Upcoming events and recent changes that directly impact the students.

Events. Photos. Updates.

Calendars

Vacation and events

Upcoming events and deadlines

District info, staff directory, forms/registration instructions for special programs (A+ program, early college, volunteer opportunities, calendar, special recognition for students and staff.

School start times, email directory, etc. Information that is a good reference that doesn't change very often.

Calendar, building updates. Would be nice if the staff directory on the site was updated. The pictures are outdated and not sue current positions are updated either?

Calendar for sure, how or who to contact, public events, sports

School Calendar, Events at the schools (including sports / theatre at high school), staff in various buildings. Wish there was an easier way to get changes to HS sporting schedules

Phone numbers/contacts, policies

calendar, contact details, attendance line, upcoming events & due dates for critical documents

I would like a calendar of information about what's going on every day

Changes that should be shared with parents, improvements, accomplishments from students/teachers/etc.

It has all of the information I need.

Staff directory, events calendar, sporting events and locations, spirit wear, MRH logo and branding info, community events, building updates

1

Most essential

N/a

I don't have a preference

Sports schedules, lunch

full calendar big picture schedule and infomation

All good

teacher emails, lunch menus, and A VERY OBVIOUS CALENDAR that is actually useful and tells what's going on.

Bell schedule

I go to the website to find the academic calendar or use the directory

Correct spelling of teacher names, teacher or school employee email addresses, absence reporting, the school calendar (days off, dates of holidays, etc)

Calendar, special events, student sportlight

The only thing I look at is the calendar.

Easier calendar link. School bucks link. Etc. Etc.

Easy access to report absences, sports and activities schedules, staff email with link



If rarely or never, please explain.

58 responses

I don't use social media.

I don't use social media very much. One thing my family has found is that sometimes information is *only* available on facebook — details about certain events (feels like last minute stuff that maybe didn't make it into a newsletter). My wife got back on facebook just to use it to make sure she's got all the info, which is kind of a bummer lol.... But I also understand that it's a convenient platform for timely updates.

Not on socials if I can help it

I don't use social media frequently

I don't use Facebook or Instagram. I'm a Bluesky person.

I actually did not know that MRH had a social media presence until this moment

I don't have social media

Don't have social media

I dont use social media

Never suggested to follow them, no advertising

I prefer not to engage in social media.

I don't engage in social media often

Sometimes I see pictures of events

It is just to much emails and other info coming in. Takes up too much time.

I don't really think of it as a communication platform

I'm not on social media because it all makes my tummy hurt.

I don't participate in social media as a mental health choice.

Not subscribed

i'm rarely on social media

Honestly i find some of the negativety and rudeness from some mrh familes to be repugnant . MRH always does the best it can to listen to the needs of the district while protecting all student needs and i feel some people try to use it as a political platform and wrongly insight a negative view.

I'm a teacher. I'm busy.

I try to avoid social media.

I don't use social media

I am not on social media much

Don't use FB, or instagram to get school news. Too much to filter.

I'm not very active on social media, but MRH accounts are one of the ones I usually view.

I try not to use social media

I don't use social media

I prefer to only hear about important topics and issues.

I don't really use social media

I am over saturated with information and so my social media use is focused on friends and other personal interests.

I do not spend time on social media for that purpose.

If by engage you mean comment or like, I just don't do that.

I don't love social media

I am not on social media.

I don't use social media

Not a social media person

Social media is a plague on society and a cancer on our children. I refuse to use any of it.

Personally just trying to cut down on use of social media

I occasionally see Facebook posts. I look at them if there's pictures.

I'm not often on social media.

Not interested

I obtain the information I need from the Principal's email

I don't often use social media.

I am not on Facebook or Instagram.

I try to, but it is hit or miss on what is posted where.

I am not following the school on social media and prefer not to comment on social media in general. If I have a problem with my children and the school, I will take note privately.

i do not have social media

I don't use social media often.

Don't know about them

I use my social media for family & close family content

Don't really use social media

It doesn't seem to come up in my feed frequently.

I don't engage with any social media posts

Just don't have time, unless it's something important that I need to know.

I review but don't engage.



What kind of updates do you find most useful on social media?

79 responses

None

Accomplishments of kids & staff, highlights of excursions, upcoming events, updates to projects, etc

N/A

outcomes of school activities (speech/debate, sports, choir, etc), I like to learn about the staff member activites as well

District/school updates or important information

What's Happening in the community and schools, spotlights

Event or schedule reminders.

n/a

Photos, info on special events

Sports, events, important dates

current events

I don't use social media for updates so as long as it's not the only place to hear about something, I really don't care what goes there

Celebratory posts regarding teachers

Upcoming events

School closures, notices of events

What's going on or new or info about upcoming events at all the different schools

1

NA

Upcoming events, student achievements

pictures from events

Activities

Work completed. Fun activites the kids do. Community outreach requests.

time-sensitive reminders or upcoming events

Fun stuff about kids succeeding in their activities

none

A lot of the information I want to find on the website I have to go to social media to get. Sometimes it's on a district page, sometimes it's asking in a group. I would like it if the website were more informative and the central authoritative source, but it can't be because so much isn't there.

Teams or academic accomplishments in general. I like the superintendents posts very much :)

Events, personal care and etc.

Closures

Summary of events, pictures, etc

I'm perfectly satisfied with text and email alerts as a "parent". These provide timely info about urgent and emergency information, much better than phone....Social media alerts are too much, so I turn them off, so updates vis that channel are pretty irrelevant for me. Any content like that...recognition, after-event reviews, features, ets. can wait for each week.

Good news stories, adhoc news (e.g. snow days)

successes for our children and engagement with the community.

School building updates, staff and student highlights, sports/activities reports

upcoming events and opportunities

None I prefer not to use social media for anything. They exploit our data for profit.

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Photos and events that are upcoming

l don't

Student successes

Love the photos of student activities and awards!

Weather/school closings.

Student accomplishment, school awards, etc

Event updates

Volunteer opportunities

Emergencies, deadline, upcoming opportunities

Sports games we can attend and events for charity hosted by our schools which require our attendance

Announcements, kuddos, celebrations

upcoming events or what's happening at the school (non-urgent information)

Upcoming activities, important reminders

Sports

All

Calendar events, special days at school, PTO events

closures, schedule changes and programming. I love seeing what the kids are doing

Celebrations of student and staff accomplishments, school closings

I don't use social media for updates, so it's not particularly useful, but I don't care if updates are also there, as long as it's not the only place to get the information.

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Pictures of events. New hire information

Celebrating students for different achievements

Todas

Inclement weather delays or shut downs, early release information.

Basically exciting things that are happening in certain classrooms, student achievements, all school related events, teacher achievements

I love the posts about what's happning with teams, clubs, special projects in classrooms, etc.

Student centered are my favorite. However, important info helps as well. Upcoming events, new hires, etc.

Results of sporting events, times and locations for fundraisers, arts activities, how to buy spirit wear, results of board meeting votes

Shout outs, district highlights, videos, pictures, successes, school closures etc

Events that are happening the coming week.

Updates about student accomplishments and reminders about upcoming events.

Pics of kids doing great things .

na

Anything

When kids are on overnight expeditions and parents want to see updates.

Closures, reminders

Events

I didn't know you had a social media page

I'll take anything.

Activities, sports, events

Reminders about upcoming events and news about student and teacher accomplishments.

I enjoy seeing successes of the kids. I would be interested in seeing more successes of the teachers and staff. I am less interested in seeing highlights of central office administration.



Here's the place for your open comments and suggestions. Thank you for your valuable time. Again, we expect to distribute results before school resumes in August.

53 responses

I very much appreciate the time that the district as well as each school leader puts into the updates. I know they're a lot to read, but I or my wife read all of every single one that's sent, and that's how we stay informed on the happenings of the district.

Communication is good phone text email

Love you guys. Thanks for your hard work.

Thank you for your ongoing communication efforts :)

Pick one: canvas or power school, and make teachers use one platform robustly. Parents are likely used to using canvas if they've been to college recently. Automate emails from canvas to parents email accounts when there are test retakes, important info, dances, whatever you think we would like to know. Teach kids to organize and look for assignments in a single place instead of teacher preference to pick either platform and make helping our kids so difficult. Make it easy for students and parents to do the right thing.

I am most disappointed in the communication in the transportation department. I have seen them tell us way too late when they have delays. Throughout the year we had a lot of delays with late notification. I'm listen I have never got the bus tracking app to work.

As my child enters MS, I hope to receive event dates with plenty of advance notice.

it's a bit overwhelming the number of ways the information that may not be that critical/relevant is provided: emails, phone calls and texts (ex: texts and phone calls about saturday spring food collections, technical difficulties with the newsletter). You need to reserve these for true emergency situations (a newsletter being late is not one of them)

The level of communication from the district is phenomenal, particularly in time-sensitive and emergency situations. The weekly school newsletters are great, too, for general and PTO info.

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I love the MRH district. Our current superintenant is amazing. She really puts alot of effort and personal time into her role. I want her to know we appreciste all that she fights for on our behalf. She reminds me of Linda H in that way. She takes the time to really know her families and support them where possible.

The person who works the front desk at the elementary school consistently comes across as aloof at best and rude at worst. The person who is the face of the elementary school should have an engaging, friendly, outgoing personality. One of my children just graduated from the elementary and my second child is entering into fourth grade. This has bothered me for years and there has been no improvement. I haven't gotten into any particular arguments with this person, but every time I deal with the front desk in any way I leave feeling frustrated. She seems annoyed with having to do her job. She needs to change the way she engages with people or move to a position that does not directly deal with the public.

I was disappointed that I got NO information about fall sports sign-ups this year. I keep up with my emails and follow both the MRHE and MRH ECC Facebook pages, but I heard about sports sign-ups through word of mouth a week after it opened. Yet I get Summer Journey updates and my kids are not even signed up for that...

1. It's hard to answer surveys that don't have an other option with a brief text entry for each question. It forces you to respond in a way that is not accurate because the survey designer didn't think to add an option that is accurate/applicable. I think it's better to not answer than provide bad data.

2.

Nicole Huffman does a fantastic job. However, there is a systematic problem which awards kids who exhibit certain characteristics and villainizes those who they see as less ideal. I've been surprised to see a set of teachers lean into their biases and narrow understanding of student challenges. Some teachers display a very-fixed mindset approach, and seem to have lost the mission of developing all students. I think the principal should be able to intervene to a greater extent when teachers display fixed-mindset approaches to student challenges. I don't mean penalizing them in an annual review or something. I mean intervening at the time of need so student don't suffer from teacher's lack of understanding, compassion, or due an antiquated approach.

I like that sometimes the texts are "check the email that just went out", instead of putting all the info in text. I also get the calls and so sometimes there's a bit of repetitiveness but that seems like a me-issue (where I get the various types of updates) and not a communications-issue.

Thanks for all you do. My family and I appreciate you.

Superintendent's FB page? What content does the Superintendent need to convey to patrons that can't be included in the District page/ I don't have a child attending next year, but if I did, I certainly would not be interested in that publication, and would almost certainly follow the classroom FB page for news of my child, more than anything, and leave the rest to newsletters.

On another note: technical issue. I subscribe via Apple calendar to the District Calender. I know

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it's probably not possible, but it would be nice if a user could individually delete events from the calendar without unsubscring to it. So many of them cause huge purple blocks on an entire day's agenda, that mask or disguise any other entries for that day...just sayin'

With the diverse nature of the school district, as with the community at large, it is always a challenge to best reach everyone to share the news, needs and accomplishments of the district via all of the various ways that the community would receive such news. I, like many, feel that the information is almost to diffuse due to all the types communication that are utilized, but unlike many, I understand that many in the district don't even have stable internet access nor social media compared to others in the district that prefer Facebook, Instagram, Tiktok, x, y, z etc. So the job to communicate to so many is not an easy task. My main ask then, is that throughout all of the use of the various media that information is distributed, continue your best efforts and to make sure that information consistent and not lost between the different media outlets.

As a whole I think the district does a great job of communicating what's happening, when events are taking place, and spotlights on students and children. My only communication complaints from this last year were specific to my child's classroom. While we received weekly updates they often came late on Sundays with relevant information for early in the week and were often too brief to understand what certain events meant. Our child would often come home telling us about things we didn't know were happening and was often frustrated that we were out of the loop.

I like class dojo for highlights in learning from that day, however, I do think that should be used in conjunction with a class weekly newsletter that is emailed to parents.

Mr. Zitzer has to be one of the hardest working administrators in MRH. He does a tremendous job. In my experience thus far all the principals have been great, but I've just been very impressed by him these past two years.

Would like more communication regarding confirmation about the programs my child is enrolled in (summer journey, discover club, Y club). Just filling out the interest form in power school and having to follow up with whoever is in charge to make sure everything is good to go is stressful and makes us feel unorganized.

I usually always respond to MRH surveys. I missed this one because it came at a very busy and hectic time - end of school year.

Parents are inundated with information. A little less and highlighting the most important topics would be super helpful.

Regarding dissatisfaction with teacher communication this year: To a degree, I appreciate NOT getting overloaded with updates about what's happening in the classroom, and we have to trust that our kid is doing what they need to do and our teachers will report if they are not. But some regular communication is also appreciated, maybe every other week and then one-off notes for the big stuff? Doesn't have to be much. Like, "Math: long division. Reading: autobiographies. Science: fire."

I recognize that the art and science of communicating broadly and in a tailored fashion is incredibly complicated. But given the growth of our district, and the nuance of our communication needs, we really need to deploy a more robust communication strategy.

The level of communication from the district is phenomenal, particularly in time-sensitive and emergency situations. The weekly school newsletters are great, too.

Enjoy summer

I feel at least my household would benefit more from written communication. Best example is at the beginning of every year we are to fill out paperwork pay fines, etc. Every year I am locked out and have to have it reset and within a month I can no longer get into it. I look at my daughter's grades and assignments through her portal. Every year I ask for this paperwork mailed or I come with her to open house to try and retrieve it in person and. Get told there is no physical paperwork to give me. I just received a voicemail from a teacher provided support for what I assume is summer school performing a wellness check on my daughter. I was not aware she was to be in summer school.

While I am overall satisfied and enjoy reading the newsletters, it would be most helpful for the newsletters to come out earlier in the day on Sunday. That may allow families more time to prepare for any adjustments needed in preparation for the week ahead, as opposed to later in the day when planning has already concluded. Additionally, it would be helpful if there was some context around some of the events/important dates noted. For example, I had no idea what "slide into first" was, I just kept seeing a date for it. For first time families of MRH, it would be helpful to have that information, rather than assume I know what that means.

Good job. Keep up the good work

I have no comment at this time.

Thank you for all you do!!! We love MRH!

No more apples in the vending machine please.

Thanks!

We greatly appreciate how much the teachers and administrators at Elementary care for the students.

I don't think surveys are going to get you the information you are looking for for.

I always respond to the MRH surveys, but that wasn't a question. Maybe branching is here for a missing question ("How frequently do you fill out the school district's surveys?")?

I would've liked some mail coming directly to our house so I could reference paper details



instead of just electronic communication which can get easily lost

appreciate all you do to communicate in so many ways!

It feels like the district could use more staff in the communications department.

I always respond to surveys as I feel the district uses our input. Thank you!

I don't have any more suggestions from what I have already given throughout the survey. I am fully aware that it is more of a me problem, but gave my opinions in case anyone else is like me.

I personally don't like things repeated on so many emails or platforms. I understand the point is to find people to deliver info to but for those who are reading, too much repetition makes me want to not read. It's not a severe problem but just want to mention a possible consequence of repeated info.

thank you for always trying to improve communication.

I almost always fill out surveys. Teacher parent communication is most important at the early grades. Especially at ECC when children are learning basics and things that can be worked on at home. SSD students really need to have parents informed to see accomplishments and area to work on at home.

Pick one: canvas or power school, and make teachers use one platform robustly. Parents are likely used to using canvas if they've been to college recently. Automate emails from canvas to parents email accounts when there are test retakes, important info, dances, whatever you think we would like to know. Teach kids to organize and look for assignments in a single place instead of teacher preference to pick either platform and make helping our kids so difficult. Make it easy for students and parents to do the right thing.

Please let us know your response plan for if the Internet goes out or someone is out of the office and there is a true emergency situation. I was out in that tornado because I thought my child would be coming home on the bus and there was NO MESSAGE! I know the ECC prioritizes safety and I was not safe! It has taken me much of the last two weeks to process what I went through and I would really like to receive a statement and of some sort and be notified of the plan for future message sending in case of emergencies.

Urgent updates via text and calls are very helpful, especially for snow days.

I don't understand why the younger children start school 1st and get released 1st. Some families may have to depend on the older children to watch the younger children until parents get home from work. Not every family can afford before and after care and/or on a waiting list for a spot to open.

Definite improvement this year!

I would really appreciate easy access to information from the website and MRH app. It is not easy to find the weekly activities schedule or sports schedules. It's very frustrating. We want to make it easy for families and others to find the information they are looking for across all media ahead of time, not just the day of.

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