



The Hatchet

TMS News

“Go Hatchets!”



November 1, 2016— TMS Student Council members helped others by raking leaves in the neighborhood. It is part of their focus this year on service learning.

TMS 7th/8th Grade Bands and Choirs performed wonderfully at their Fall Concert on October 24th. Thank you for your support as the auditorium was packed. The 6th Grade Band and Choir will perform on Monday, November 7th at 7:00 pm in the auditorium.



TMS kicked off its annual magazine fundraiser on October 24th. The sale will run through November 10th. Last year we raised \$2500. Thank you in advance for your support!

Our 6th graders attended a field trip to the Farming Museum and Mindtrekkers on October 14th. They experienced many hands-on activities as they learned about science and technology.

TES/TMS and St. Mary's 5th and 7th graders as well as the THS Band and Choir will be participating in the annual Veterans Day ceremony on Thursday, November 10th at 10:30 am in the auditorium.



The Lincoln County Health Department will be offering **free shots** to students on **Thursday, November 10th**, from 5:00-7:30 pm in the TMS library, during parent/teacher conferences.

Students who plan to be absent for deer hunting will need to pick up information on obtaining a school excused hunter's permit from the office. The materials are due to the office by Thursday, November 17th. Good luck to our hunters!

Parent Conferences

TMS Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on **Thursday, November 10th from 5:00 pm-8:00 pm and on Friday, November 11th from 9:00 am—noon**. The format will be open, and parents will be able to go around to the teachers' classrooms to see their child's teachers. This

includes all subjects, not just English, math, science, and social studies.

Given the number of students per teacher and the time allotted, we ask you in advance, to be conscious of time limits. There may be some lines for teachers of certain

subjects. If needed, another meeting can be scheduled for a team conference at another time. We look forward to meeting with you and to working together for the success of your children. We hope to see you at conferences!

Important Upcoming Events

1st Quarter Ends	11/4
Grade 6 Band/Choir Concert 7:00 pm	11/7
Veterans Day Program 10:30 am	11/10
Parent/Teacher Conf. 5:00-8:00 pm	11/10
Parent/Teacher Conf. 9:00 am-noon	11/11
No School—Thanksgiving Break	11/23-25

Special points of interest:

- TMS News
- Parent Conferences
- Spelling/Geography Bee Information
- TMS Fast Facts
- TMS Focus on Personalized Learning



TOMAHAWK SCHOOL DISTRICT

**Tomahawk Middle School
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**Mr. Paul Kurth,
Principal**



Go Hatchets!

**Check out our Website and Facebook Page
www.tomahawk.k12.wi.us/schools/middle/**

**Current Enrollment: 292 Students
School Mascot: The Hatchets**

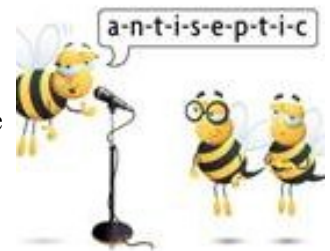
**Grades: 6th-8th
School Colors: Blue and Gold**

Spelling/Geography Bee Information

Tomahawk Middle School will again be participating in the annual spelling and geography bees this year. Classroom bees will be held in January, but you can start preparing now. Sign up for the word club at <http://spellingbee.com/parents-and-students> or go to <http://spellingbee.com/take-test> to get started for the spelling bee. Some words from the 8th grade list include the following: vagabonds, affectionately, habanero, and overwhelming.

Have you looked at a map lately? Knowing where states, capitols, and important bodies of water are located will help you in the geography bee. What direction would you travel to get from New Mexico to Wyoming? Which country is the most populous in the world? What is the largest desert in the world? The resource link for the geography bee is: <http://nationalgeographic.org/bee/study>

Good luck preparing for the bees. The district spelling bee will be in Tomahawk this year on February 9th at 9:30 am in our auditorium. We have had students advance on to the state level in the past. We look forward to another successful year in the spelling and geography bee!



TMS Fast Facts:

TMS Focus on Personalized Learning

There is no doubt that education does not look or sound like it did ten to twenty or more years ago. One such movement in education is in the area of "personalized learning." To address the growing needs of students, schools are looking more at students as individuals, with different learning styles, and varying abilities, rather than a group of students, who all get the same instruction in the same way.

As a school we have control over certain things that can impact student learning. We have control over how we allocate time (our student schedule), the curriculum (what is taught), instruction

(how the curriculum is taught), and the classroom environment.

At TMS we have adopted a schedule this year that allows students who need extra support in reading and/or math to get that support from reading or math specialists in addition to their regular English/Language Arts and math instruction. We are trying to get the right students with the right personnel to achieve success.

As a district, we have also carefully mapped out our curriculum 4K-12 to see where there are gaps or over coverage of particular standards. This ensures that we are teaching the correct material at the appropriate times, and with enough reinforcement.

Our teachers look carefully at student data, to differentiate based on student needs. Teachers may assign an article on a particular topic, but students may read the article at a different grade level. Teachers may group students according to need on a project.



They offer students choice in assessments, so they can show mastery of a concept in different ways. We use technology to give students targeted practice in reading and math skills in their areas of need, much in the way a doctors would prescribe medicine to their patients.

The physical classroom itself has even evolved to include high desks, cushion ball chairs, study carrels, fidgets, sensory tools, and even stationary bikes with desk-tops on them, so students can learn in a comfortable environment and stay focused. At TMS we will continue to do whatever it takes to meet the needs of our students and achieve success.

