



# MRMS PTSA HUSKY REPORT

Parent Teacher Student Association

August  
"2007"

Moreland Ridge Middle School

## ***From the MRMS Principal***

MRMS Family,

Summer time is quickly approaching its end, signaling the start of another great school year. Welcome back to Moreland Ridge Middle School for our returning students and a big WELCOME to our new students entering MRMS for the first time. Your Parent Teacher Student Association, PTSA, brings this publication, entitled "Husky Report," to you. It is sent home with each grade card throughout the year. Your PTSA is an active and important component to Moreland Ridge Middle School, and I encourage you and your student to join.

It has been a productive summer for MRMS, as many of our teachers have completed numerous professional development activities and graduate classes as well as upgrading our heating and cooling system, lighting systems and water fixtures. Four new staff members are joining our staff this year.

We are excited about each of them and are confident you and your student will find them to be top notch.

I encourage you to read my letter in this packet because it contains vital information concerning the start of the school year. I look forward to serving as your student's principal and encourage you to read all the information found on the Husky Report as well as the other materials in this mailing. As always, don't hesitate to contact any of the staff members as needs arise.



Mr. Kevin R. Grover  
Principal

## ***From the PTSA President:***

Dear Husky Parents AND Students,

I would like to introduce myself to you! I am Jennifer Casey, your PTSA President for the 2007-2008 school year. I am happy to be greeting all returning and new parents and students to Moreland Ridge Middle School.

My number one goal for the upcoming year is to have each family join our Parent Teacher Student Association (PTSA). **Every membership helps to support our students and school.** Join now by completing the enclosed form and returning it to your students PACK teacher in the enclosed envelope. Make sure to mark which type of membership you are purchasing because once again our membership department has accumulated a variety of prizes for our students to choose from if their name is drawn!

In order to be eligible for the drawings, a student membership must be purchased. You won't want to miss out on the grand prize drawing on September 14<sup>th</sup> for a Fly Fusion Pentop Computer and Algebra software cartridge from Leapfrog! Please join now and start this year showing support for our students and Moreland Ridge MS.

The volunteer form and parent involvement is our next goal. Too many times I have heard that there are no places to volunteer at the middle school. I hope that after reviewing the enclosed form, you can find at least one opportunity that will fit into your already too busy schedule!

Also on the form is a volunteer opportunity for students. We will be putting together a group of student leaders to help us plan events and activities for the upcoming year. All meetings will be held during the school day.


Enclosed with this mailer is our Student Directory information. This is our second year for the publication. Only information that is returned on the form will be included in the 2007-2008 MRMS Student Directory. You must complete this form and return it to the school by September 21<sup>st</sup> to be included in the directory. Only those participating by providing information in the directory will receive a complimentary copy. Thank you to our business members for providing us with the opportunity to distribute the directory at no cost. You will find a list of all business members attached to each Husky Report along with their listing in our directory.

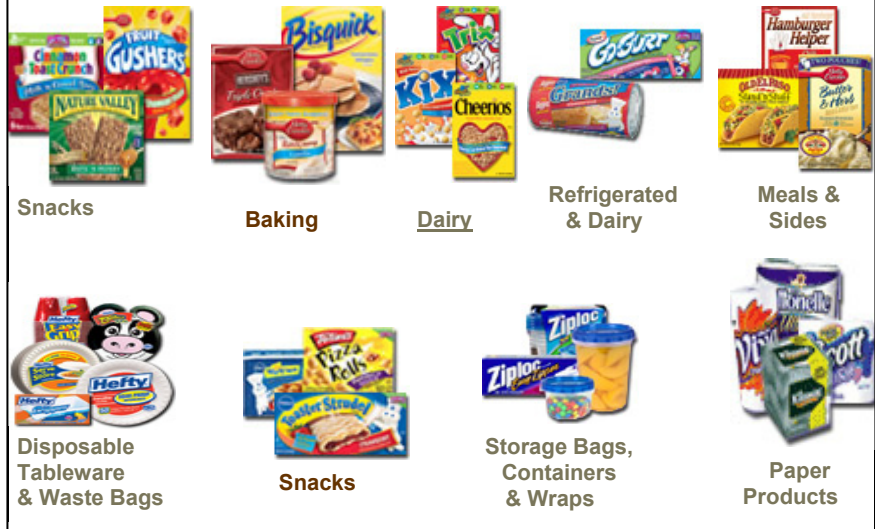
In each Husky Report you will find a calendar of upcoming events. I hope that you will attend as many events as you can this upcoming year so that your child will see that school is an integral part of your family life. My sincere wishes for a successful and enjoyable middle school year!

Jennifer Casey,  
PTSA President

**All About Box Tops Participating Product**


The PACK that turns in the most BOX TOPS will win a pizza party at the end of the school year, so turn in your BOX TOPS to your PACK teacher. What a way to earn money for your school's PTSA, it's so easy just clip the BOX TOPS off of the products listed below!

 You can choose to make a difference for your school in nearly every aisle of your grocery store. Clip Box Tops from hundreds of your favorite brands and send them to school. See all participating products



**MRMS**  
**STUDENT DIRECTORY**

Information is due for participation on September 21st for your MRMS student directories. A directory form is in your student packet, so please fill out and return to school with your student.



**CHECK OUT THE PTA LEGISLATION WEBSITE!**  
[www.mopta.org/legislation.htm](http://www.mopta.org/legislation.htm)

**FOUR RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT 2006 PTA CONVENTION**

**TEEN DRIVERS & CELL PHONE**

**DRIVER'S EDUCATION & TRAINING**

**BONDING CAPACITY**

**VOTING SCHOOL BONDS**


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**Your PTSA Husky Updates**

Every six weeks students will receive a Husky Report attached to their grade cards which will include current clubs and activity information. Don't forget to visit the MRMS PTSA website which can be accessed at [www.bluesprings-schools.net](http://www.bluesprings-schools.net). Once on the district website, click on PTA, then Middle School, and then MRMS. Our website will be updated on a regular basis, so CHECK IT OUT!

- CALENDAR OF EVENTS**
- AUGUST**
- 20- Fall Sports Begin
  - 21- 6th Grade "Meet the Teachers in the Park" 6:00-7:30pm
  - 28- 6th Grade Band Instrument Rental Night 5:30-7:00 (Cafe)
  - 31- School Pictures
- SEPTEMBER**
- 10- 6th Grade Open House/PTSA 6:45pm
  - 11- 7th/8th Open House 7:00pm
  - 12-13- Fall Musical Auditions
  - 18- TLC 6:00-8:00 (LMC)
  - 20- Magazine Sales Fund-Raiser Kickoff
  - 25- Turn-In Day (Magazine Sales)
  - 27- Turn-In Day (Magazine Sales)
  - 28- 7th Grade Health Fair (during school)
- OCTOBER**
- 2- Turn-In Day (Magazine Sales) TLC 6:00-8:00 (LMC)
  - 4- Turn-In Day (Magazine Sales)
  - 9- TLC 6:00-8:00 (LMC)

**REFLECTIONS**  
2007-2008



**I CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE BY...**


YOU MAY ENTER IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

**LITERATURE:**

**MUSICAL:**

**COMPOSITION:**

**PHOTOGRAPHY:**



**VISUAL ARTS:**

**DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY:**

**FILM/VIDEO PRODUCTION:**

LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION TO COME HOME IN OCTOBER

## District News

Welcome to another exciting year at Moreland Ridge Middle School. We have an outstanding year planned and the advances you will see in your building this year will also be reflected across the district. Through the outstanding leadership of our Board of Education, we have been able to provide the latest technology in our classrooms. This year at Moreland Ridge Middle School students and teachers will be using Team Boards, LCD projectors, Electronic Chalkboards and instruction systems.

As a district we feel it important to provide the technological resources to best serve the instructional needs of our students. This technology brings with it greater opportunities for student interaction and engagement in the process of learning through creation and discovery. It will also allow teachers to have instant results to quizzes and inquiries and give them opportunities to improve delivery of the curriculum.

Technology alone does not complete the educational picture. We must have all of the elements for success. Our district will continue to train our staff with the latest research and proven practice to assure they can meet the educational needs of students. We also need the continued support of our parents in this partnership. We ask that you continue to be involved in your child's education and keep providing school to home connections that are so valuable. We are fortunate to have so many talented, motivated students and this is a direct result of the guidance and support each receives in his/her home. The on going support of our community and business partners also assures that we are continuing to travel down the right path.

We have a great foundation for educating our students. Once again the district has received a Distinction in Performance recognition from the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). For the sixth consecutive year the district was given this award. In addition, the Blue Springs School District has had six years of perfect scores on the Annual Performance Report (APR) conducted by the state. We are only one of eight school districts in Missouri to have received this perfect score for six consecutive years.

The APR report uses data such as graduation rates, attendance rates, course offerings, and MAP test results. In recent years, our district was named the "Best Place to Work" in the large business category by Kansas City Business Journal based on employee ratings. Our Board of Education was also named the "Outstanding Board of Education of the Year" for leadership and commitment to students. In the spring of 2007, the National Association of Elementary School Principals awarded our district the Leadership for Learning Award, the first given nationwide. While each of these awards is significant, they are just some of the indicators we use to measure the success of our students, teachers, schools and district.

The education of our students takes an effort from everyone and together we can provide the necessary components to create an educational community where students acquire the knowledge and skills to function as literate citizens and achieve personal goals. I look forward to another exciting and productive year.

Thank you,  
Dr. Kinder

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### HOW TO HELP YOUR CHILD SUCCEED IN MIDDLE SCHOOL!

The middle school years are a time of rapid physical, emotional, and academic growth for students. The parent's role is also changing during this transitional period. Although changing, the role of a middle school parent is still instrumental in the success of their child. Below are ten areas that a parent can assist in the successful transition of their middle school student:

1. Participate in curriculum night and parent teacher conferences.
2. Be sure to ask for grade checks on the dates they are scheduled to be sent home.
3. Be sure to communicate with your child's teacher if you have questions or concerns.
4. Check your child's planner on a daily basis. Be sure to give attention to class activities as well as homework assignments.

5. Set aside a time and place for school work. On nights your child does not have homework have them read or work on other academic based activities for a designated period of time.
6. Utilize the TLC program when extra resources or help is needed.
7. Empower your child to make decisions.
8. Praise your child's good decisions and allow them to take ownership of their bad ones.
9. Encourage your child to become active in extra curricular activities and clubs at school.

#### CHECK IT OUT!

#### NEW SPIRIT ITEMS FOR SALE

Don't miss the new items that will be available during orientation and our 7th and 8th grade curriculum nights!



Moreland Ridge students and parents the school year is just beginning and I'd like to ask you to join the MRMS PTSA. You may not realize it but here at Moreland Ridge your membership fees provide a lot of money for student activities. Unlike elementary school we don't ask you for contributions very often. That is why it is so important to this school that you join our Parent, Teacher, Student Association. This year we are look for more student members so we can win the Missouri PTSA's award for having the most student members. If your student joins on or before Friday, September 14th he or she will be entered in our prize drawing. The Grand Prize is a Fly Fusion Pentop Computer and one Fly Fusion Algebra software cartridge. Your student can view it and Many other smaller prizes in the Lost and Found display case near the school office.

Please return your MRMS PTSA Membership Dues to your student's PACK Teacher

**Each membership is \$6.00. Make Checks payable to: MRMS PTSA**

Parent Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Parent Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

(Please circle: P=Parent, S=Student, or O=Other for each line.)

Name on Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ P S O

Name on Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ P S O

Name on Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ P S O

Name on Membership: \_\_\_\_\_ P S O

Student's PACK Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_ Total# of Memberships: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Total \$ Enclosed:\$ \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE MRMS PTSA!**



**Moreland Ridge Middle School PTSA Business Membership Form**

Business Membership is \$20.00 Make checks payable to: MRMS PTSA

Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please enclose a business card to be used in our Husky Report newsletters and student directory!

If you have any questions contact Nancy Mickelson @ 229-0782

Thank you for supporting the Moreland Ridge Middle School PTSA!

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW BUSINESS MEMBERS**

*Thank you for your Support!*

**HIGHWAY 7 CHIROPRACTIC**

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Chiropractic Physician

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