



**Mason Middle School** 235 Temple St. Mason, MI 48854  
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Dear Mason Middle School Community Members:

Welcome to the 2017-2018 school year! As I enter my second year as the principal and instructional leader at Mason Middle School, I am struck by the awesome opportunities that are becoming available to our students. We have some fantastic changes coming to the middle school for our students as a result of our ongoing efforts to improve student outcomes for each of our students.

Mason Public Schools has adopted a new English Language Arts program, StudySync, for grades 6-12. StudySync provides a sequential curriculum that ensures a flexible, critical and effective use of knowledge and skills for students in all facets of language arts. Our teachers have already received professional development in the spring of 2017 and will continue to receive support throughout the year as they implement this comprehensive program with our students.

Our district will continue its development of the Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) model in each of our schools this year. The PLCs consist of collaborative teams of teachers working interdependently on a host of school improvement initiatives. These collaborative teams will use data collected from appropriate assessments and classroom observations to make instructional adjustments in order to improve student achievement outcomes for our students. To this end, the district has scheduled 25 late starts on Wednesdays beginning on September 6. Please check the district PLC website for more information regarding PLCs.

Mason Middle School's 6<sup>th</sup> grade students are piloting a new schedule this school year. Our incoming 6<sup>th</sup> graders will have more minutes devoted to core instruction than ever before...ELA, math, social studies, and science will have a minimum of 60 minutes of instruction per day. Also, the 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are going to bring WIN (What I Need) Time to the middle school during 7<sup>th</sup> period. During WIN Time, students will work with teams of teachers and other support staff to receive support, intervention, enrichment, and opportunities to accelerate their learning.

I look forward to partnering with each of you in providing exemplary learning opportunities for our children. Thanks in advance for supporting the hard work and dedication demonstrated by our teachers, support staff, custodians, bus drivers, and food service personnel. Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teachers or call the offices if you have any questions. We are committed to making sure that MMS is an exemplary place to learn for each of our students!

Sincerely,

Ted Berryhill  
Principal

**Inspire ~ Empower ~ Succeed**