

The Poca Middle News

*Poca Middle School
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<http://putnam.schoolspan.com/pms>
August/September, 2007*



August – September Calendar

August 23 – First day for teachers
August 23 – Open House 5:00 – 7:00 PM
August 27 – Students first day
August 30 – PMS vs. Commack Middle at PMS, 7:00p.m.
September 3 – Labor Day, no school
September 6 – PMS vs. Winfield Middle at PMS -7:00p.m.

A LETTER FROM THE PRINCIPALS

Welcome to the 2007-2008 school year at Poca Middle School. We are looking forward to a year of learning, challenges and rewards.

We invite all parents to attend the Open House on Thursday, August 23, 2006 from 5:00 to 7:00. This is an excellent opportunity to meet your child's teachers and to tour the building. Your student will have a team of teachers who will be responsible for the basic classes of Language, Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies this year. During the open house, you will be able to meet the team and see the area where your student will spend the majority of their school day. The team will also be able to answer any questions so that you may help to prepare and insure your student's successful year.

During Open House, we ask that you take a few minutes and stop by the Parent Organization booth to ask what you can do to help during the school year. The parent organization is instrumental in providing extras for providing extras for the students throughout the school year. Your help is needed and appreciated with both activities and donations.

Remember: The motto of Poca Middle School is “Participation Means Success”. Participation by both the students and their parents will make for the best possible learning experience.

We are looking forward to working with you to assure your student a successful and rewarding school year.

Mr. Dale Eggleton
Principal

Ms. Peggy Persinger
Assistant Principal

OUT OF ZONE STUDENTS

Parents of any child who reside out of the Poca Middle attendance zone are required to make application to attend Poca Middle School on a yearly basis. The decision to allow any out-of-zone child to attend will be based on the Putnam County out-of-zone Attendance Policy. Preference will be given to students who are currently attending Poca Middle and have been previously accepted for admittance. This decision will be made at the beginning of the school year after all in-zone students are enrolled. If you have any questions please contact Dale Eggleton at Poca Middle School.

FIRST DAY PROCEDURES

Students should arrive at the school no earlier than 7:30 and no later than 8:10am. When the 7:55 bell rings all students should report to their area and look at the posted lists of homerooms. They should report to these homerooms when the 8:15 bell rings. All home – room lists will be posted in the area for the Open House, so students who attend will be able to look at the list at that time.

TRAFFIC PATTERN

Parents: Following is the procedure to be used when dropping off or picking up students.

In the morning, drop students off in the lower parking lot in front of the walk. Students are also to be picked up in the lower lot after school. **PARENTS ARE NOT ALLOWED TO DRIVE INTO THE TEACHER’S PARKING AREA TO DROP OFF OR PICK UP STUDENTS.**

By following this procedure you will ensure a more rapid movement of vehicles through the parking area and allow the buses to pick up and drop off their students more efficiently. This policy will also ensure the safety of our students as they enter and exit the building.

PUTNAM COUNTY CODE FOR STUDENT ATTIRE AND APPEARANCE

Students are expected to dress and groom in an acceptable manner protecting everyone's right to an equal educational opportunity. At all times, the school administration reserves the right to restrict any attire which is offensive, presents a safety hazard, and/or interferes with a student's right to an equal educational opportunity. Disciplinary action for violators will be taken in accordance with the school and county discipline policy. Students should follow the following guidelines when choosing school attire:

Hats are not to be worn inside the building.

The midriff must be covered.

While standing straight, upper body attire must come to the top of lower body attire.

See-through tops or open-sided shirts are to be worn with a shirt underneath..

Shirts, tops and dresses must have straps at the shoulder of at least one-inch in width.

Lower body attire shall be no shorter than mid-thigh.

Footwear, with soles, must be worn at all times.

No bike pants, bike shorts, or boxer shorts may be worn.

Aerobic wear may not be worn.

Clothing which has been cut, torn or mutilated to alter the appearance may not be worn.

Clothing of an extremely baggy, loose design which presents a distraction or a safety hazard may not be worn.

Clothing that is imprinted with slogans or advertisements, contains obscenities, profanity or offensive information may not be worn.

Body piercing which may become dangerous to the student must be removed or covered.

POCA MIDDLE SCHOOL'S DRESS CODE POLICY

In addition to the Putnam County Policy in its entirety, the faculty and administration of Poca Middle School have agreed to the following clarifications: The mid-thigh length for lower body attire is acceptable only for shorts and skirts. Skirts should be worn at the top of the knee to allow for bending and sitting. This includes skirts worn with leggings. Pants or jeans must be worn around the waist – undergarments should not be showing when the shirts are pulled up. The midriff must be covered during all activities: standing, sitting, walking, bending and raising arms. Shirts, tops and dresses must have straps at the shoulder of at least one-inch in width and off-the-shoulder shirts are not permitted. Compliance of these restrictions are regulated by the administration. If you are in doubt as to whether an article of clothing meets these guidelines, it is suggested you wear an alternative.

POCA MIDDLE SCHOOL PRICES

Middle school meal prices have increased for the 2007-2008 school year. Prices are: students breakfast \$ 1.25, adults \$2.40, students lunch \$1.85, adults \$3.40. Milk or juice may be purchased for .25. Applications for free or reduced meals are being sent home the first day of school. Please review the guidelines for eligibility and return the completed application to the school. The government some school programs dependent upon the number of participants in the service, so please take the time to fill out the application. You may contact the school for assistance if needed.

VISITORS

Visitors who need to enter the school should do so through the front door. ALL VISITORS MUST REPORT TO THE OFFICE AND SIGN IN UPON ENTERING THE BUILDING. PLEASE REMAIN IN THE OFFICE UNTIL OFFICE PERSONNEL ASSIST YOU.

CELL PHONE POLICY

The faculty and administration of Poca Middle School have established a “No Cell Phone” policy during the school day. Students who are found in possession of a cell phone during the school day will have it confiscated and it will remain in the possession of the administration until a parent/guardian can come to school to get it.

POCA MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOSTERS

The Boosters are a group of parent volunteers of Poca Middle School students. They support all areas of the school. For the teachers they provide extra learning materials and equipment. For the students they provide snacks for the WESTEST week, host ice cream socials for attendance, provide awards and banquets for academic achievement, run the concession stand, host banquets for athletics, and host dances for all students socialization. All parents are encouraged to become involved in as many of the activities as their schedule allows. If parents can not be active in the programs, please help by supporting the Boosters with donations whenever there is a need.

The first Boosters meeting will be held in the cafeteria immediately following open house, August 24. The officers for 2007-2008 are: President – Gary Morrison, Vice President – Neil Kennedy, Secretary – Laurie Cunningham, Treasurer – Kathy Riggall

ENTERTAINMENT BOOKS

The Entertainment Books fundraiser will begin during the week of September 11. The book is full of money saving coupons and is a great buy for families who eat out in area restaurants. The book also makes a great gift. We hope everyone will support this Poca Middle fundraiser.

**POCA MIDDLE SCHOOL
2007 Football Schedule**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Team</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
August 30	Commack Middle	Home	7:00 PM
September 6	Winfield Middle	Home	7:00 PM
September 13	Ravenswood Middle	Away	7:00 PM
September 20	GW	Away	7:00 PM
September 27	Logan Middle	Away	7:00 PM
October 4	Pt. Pleasant Middle	Home	7:00 PM
October 11	Hurricane Middle	Away	7:00 PM
October 18	Ripley Middle	Home	7:00 PM

