

NEWS RELEASE



Mascoutah Community Unit School District 19 *Community of Excellent Schools*

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Electronic Payment Option Coming to Schools

Mascoutah Community Unit School District No. 19 is pleased to announce a new electronic payment program that allows parents several options when paying various student fees and charges.

Beginning, Wednesday, Nov. 12, parents and guardians will be able to schedule school payments to be electronically withdrawn from their checking account or charged to a credit card. The new option allows parents the flexibility to pay at any time through the school's website.

The convenience and flexibility of the electronic payment program helps eliminate last minute check writing hassles, improves efficiencies, and cuts costs for parents and the school district. An additional benefit is peace of mind for parents and guardians. No longer will they need to worry their children could lose or forget money intended for school items or that funds be misspent on non-school items.

Examples of payments acceptable under the plan include: cafeteria payments, instructional materials, field trip fees, yearbook fees and graduation fees. The system may be expanded to include other school fees in the future.

Parents and guardians are in full control of their accounts and can make a payment at their convenience. The secure payment system ensures no payments are allowed without parental knowledge and authorization. By providing a home and/or work e-mail address, an e-mail notification containing the student's name, purpose of the payment, and the amount of the payment will be sent each time a payment is processed. Payment history for the year is available with the click of a mouse.

The electronic payment service is provided by a third-party provider who charges a nominal fee for their service. A one dollar transaction fee applies to each electronic payment made. For payments made by credit card, there is an added convenience fee of 1.99 percent of the payment. A non-sufficient funds charge of \$15 also applies.

For more information, visit the school district website at **www.mascoutah19.k12.il.us**.

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Mascoutah Community Unit School District 19, a “*Community of Excellent Schools*,” is a high-achieving district that serves as a beacon of excellence for other school districts in the region. The district encompasses 104 square miles in southwestern Illinois, including the city of Mascoutah, all of Scott Air Force Base, MidAmerica Airport and parts of the cities of Belleville and the villages of Shiloh and New Baden. The district’s mixture of rural, suburban and military communities provides a rich and diverse educational experience for its approximately 3,000 students.

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