

From Mrs. O'Bryant's Desk:

Sept. 9, 2017
2017-18-Issue #2



2017- Orientation!

“Caring, Cooperative and Respectful Community of Learners”

2017-18 school year begins!

Important dates

- Sept. 14- Open House 6-7pm
- Sept. 14- 1:1 Meeting for parents grades 7 & 8
- Sept. 19-1:1 Parent Meeting 2:30-2:45 Grades 7 & 8
- Sept. 21- AHT Parent Night 6-7
- Sept. 21 -1:1 Parent Meeting 5:30-5:45
- Oct. 6 - School Picture Day
- Oct. 28- 10-2pm Grade 5 & 6 Stemfest

Pick up patrol – Use by 1:30pm for changes in end of the day transportation.

Pick up Patrol is now up and running. If you have any questions, please call the office.

Please be sure to call the office by 1:30pm for any changes in transportation at the end of the day. We want to avoid any miscommunication at the end of the day for our students to get home safe and sound.

NHDI – Open Class 9/20 and 9/27- Students who are interested in learning about NHDI Dance Academy can come to the 9/20 and 9/27 class visits during Advisory. Students in grades 5-8 are welcome to participate.

Attendance: All absences must be called or emailed in to SMS office by parents before 7:30am.

- School number 924-7105
- Email- to report absences-
- sms-attendance@conval.edu

Grade 7 & 8- 1:1 Computers

We are very fortunate that ConVal School District has funded a 1:1 initiative for our students in grades 7 & 8 this year. That means that each student in grade 7, 8, 9 & 10 will be issued a Chromebook Device. There will be parent meetings for parents with students in grades 7 & 8 in order for us to issue this educational tool to the students. The first of those meetings will be during Open House on Sept. 14. There will be a brief meeting at 6:20 in the gym for parents of grade 7 & 8 students. Parents will then be able to go to their grade level meetings. Once a parent has participated in the parent meeting they will receive a form to sign. A parent could also attend a high school parent meeting. We plan to begin issuing the Chromebooks the week of Oct. 2 to students to have parent forms completed.

There will be additional meetings on Sept. 19 @ 2:30-2:45 & Sept. 21 at 5:45-6:00 pm if parents can't come to open house on Sept. 14. Parents only attend one meeting.

Hurricane Harvey and Irma

Fundraiser-SMS Student Council is running a week-long fundraiser to support the victims of both hurricanes. The students have researched UNICEF and will donate all monies to them to help rebuild schools.

There will be a theme day each day from 9/11-15 and if students want to participate in the fundraiser they will pay \$1.00. This is totally voluntary for students with the intent to show caring and support to our neighbors.

Theme Days-

- 9/11 Moustache Day
- 9/12- Blue and White Day
- 9/13-Wacky Wednesday
- 9/14 Throw-back Thursday
- 9/15 Flannel Friday..

Fresh Picks: Food Service Link for parent payments and info.

<http://www.k12paymentcenter.com/>
Please note that it takes 24 hours for payments to reflect on accounts.

Open House- Sept.14 : 6-7:15pm:

Open house is on Thursday Sept 14 from 6-7:15 to meet your child's teachers and hear about the classes that they are taking this school year.

The night will begin in the gym for all parents to meet our specials teachers.

This night is for parents but if students do come they must stay with parents in the classroom. Students can't be in the building unsupervised for safety reasons.

Band rentals will be available in the band room from 5:30pm -7:15pm

Band Fundraiser- Open House

Dinner is also available to be purchased as a fundraiser for the band from 5:30-7pm in the café. Take out is also possible.

Free and Reduced Lunch Forms:

Please note that we will be sending the forms for free and reduced lunches next week to be returned as soon as possible. I know that many of the parents want to have this in place for the first day of school. We will also send a hard copy of this form home in the packets sent with students on the first day of school. If you already sent in the form before school starts, please ignore the form in that packet.

Parent /School Connection:

Please start off the year supporting healthy habits:

- **Students should not arrive to school tardy.**
- **Time should be set aside each night for reading and homework.**
- **Attendance is a priority to a student's success in school**
- **Dress should be appropriate for school and not beach.**
- **Check Planners for homework assignments each night.**
- **No hats are allowed at SMS**
- **No gum chewing**
- **No cell phones are allowed in school**
- **Promote: "Caring, Cooperative and Respectful " behavior at all times.**

Oct 28-SMS Stemfest -UNH/SMS STEMS Collaboration: 10am-2pm

The UNH Engineering Department has teamed up with SMS to host the first ever SMS Stemfest. The UNH ambassadors are students who will offer STEM experiences for our younger students, encouraging the love of learning about Science, Technology, Engineering and Math for students grades 5 & 6. SMS will host two other middle schools; Great Brook and Jaffrey Middle School on Oct. 28 from 10-2pm.

STEMbassadors are a team of more than 40 CEPS students who are dedicated to providing inspiration, role models and hands on STEM activities to students. All nine academic departments within CEPS are represented, ensuring a wide-range of topics are delivered to the K-12 community.

Lunch (pizza) will be provided that day. This event is free to the first 60 students who sign up in the SMS office by Oct.1. We will be sending more information home with parent permission slips in October. I wanted to have parents save the date and have students sign up as soon as possible, if interested.

I am very excited to have this opportunity to work with UNH ambassador students from the field of Engineering at SMS to work with our students.

There will be a brief parent meeting that morning at 10am in the gym and then students will go to workshops until 2pm. Permission slips and medical forms must be turned in before students can participate. Lunch will be for students only and parents can leave as long as we have permission slips and medical forms.

2pm pick up out back by gym.

Grade 8 AHT Trip 4/16-20/18-

The grade 8 AHT Trip to Washington DC in April is being offered to our students this week.

The trip includes a community service piece and a historical report for all students who participate on the trip.

There are mandatory student meetings and two mandatory parent meetings.

We hope that all grade 8 students come on the trip since it is an exciting experience for them.

The AHT Dates for meetings are: 9/21 – 6-7pm Mandatory Parent Meeting

- 10/19: Student Meeting
- 11/16- Student Meeting
- 1/16- Student Meeting
- 2/8 Student Meeting
- 3/8-Student Meeting
- 3/21- Student Meeting
- 4/5 Student Meeting
- 4/5-Parent Meeting Mandatory 6-7pm

First Day Packet of Important Forms:

Please return forms by Friday, Sept 8. We need to distribute health forms and legal forms for guardianship as soon as possible. Thank you in advance for your efforts.

Student Planners- Student Planners are issued to each student the first day of school. The planners are very important every day to let students know the rotation of each day. Students should write down their assignments every day in the planner. Please monitor the work that students write down on a daily basis. If a student loses the planner they will have to purchase a new one at the cost of \$5.00.

Power School Parent Portal is open. Please check to see that you can get in to the Parent Portal. This is a great way to monitor student performance. Teachers are asked to update the student information every two weeks.

If you can't get in to the portal we will have support in the computer lab during Open House 5:30-7:15pm.

Welcome Back Dance!

