

From Mrs. O'Bryant's Desk:

August 14, 2018
2018-19-Issue #1



Past Orientation Day



Welcome to SMS: "Caring, Cooperative and Respectful Community of Learners" 2018-19 school year begins!

Important dates

- Aug. 29. -Grade 5/New student orientation -2-4 pm Voluntary
- Aug. 30- First Day of School
- Sept. 11- Picture Day
- Sept. 13- Open House 6-7:30pm
- Sept. 21- Roller Skating. 5:30-8pm
- Oct.9- School Retake Picture Day
- Oct. 20- 10-2pm Grades 4-8 Stemfest

Advisory information for students:

Advisory teachers -grades 6-8 will email parents to notify students of the advisory assignment by August 29th.

Students will report to the advisory on the first day of school to get their schedules. No schedules will be distributed until then.

Grade 5 – Letters have been mailed home at this time.

Website- Information-

Grade level newsletters are on the South Meadow School website front page.

Aug. 29-Grade 5/New student Orientation Day 2:00-4:00

August 29 is Orientation Day for our new grade 5 students and any other new student to South Meadow School. (This is voluntary)

- 2-2:30 Parents, Teachers and Students report to the gym. Please park in the back lot.
- 2:30-3:30 Parents go to advisories
- 2:30-3:30 Students take tour with Peer mentors.
- 3:30 students report to advisories to meet parents and find lockers.

Assistant Principal-

I want to thank Mrs. Parker for her incredible dedication and passion in her work at South Meadow School for the last 10 years. I will personally miss her support for students, teachers and staff members. I wish her lots of luck in her new position at the elementary school and know that she will always be a PUMA.

I am excited to introduce Mr. Tim Conway as the new Assistant Principal at South Meadow School. There is no doubt, that Mr. Conway will bring the same commitment to SMS that Mrs. Parker has through her career here.

August 30 -First day of school:

- School starts at 7:20am
- Only buses may enter the front parking lot before 7:30am
- Students who are driven to school will be dropped off in the back upper parking lot no earlier than 7:00am
- The front lobby is the waiting area for students who arrive between 7 and 7:10am. Student dropped off in back will walk to front lobby.
- Breakfast is served from 7:05-7:20am.
- After 7:30am the back door is locked and students should come in the front and sign in as tardy.
- 2:15pm is dismissal- Students being picked up by parents will report to the back of building in upper parking lot. Please wait in line and not cut out of the traffic flow to leave once your child is in the car. To ensure safety of students getting in and out of cars this needs to be done in a slow flow of the traffic pattern.
- Please send in a note about any changes in bus transportation or parent pick to your child's advisor.
- If there are changes to dismissal plans be sure to call the office by 1:30pm. The end of the day is hectic and we don't want any student to miss messages that come in at a later time.

Open House- Sept.13: 6-7:30pm:

Open house is on Thursday Sept 13 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

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.

Parents of grade 5 and new students could bring the completed form to Orientation Day on August 30th.

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
- No tobacco or electronic vapes(Police reports will be made with potential \$100 fines.)
- Promote: "Caring, Cooperative and Respectful " Behavior at all times.

Oct 20-SMS Stemfest -UNH/SMS STEMS Collaboration: 10am-2pm

The UNH Engineering Department has teamed up with SMS to host the third annual 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. 20 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.

It is very exciting to have this opportunity to work with UNH ambassador students from the field of Engineering at SMS.

There will be a brief introductory 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.

Please welcome our new staff members to SMS:

- Mr. Conway- Assistant Principal
- Mrs. Sipe – grade 7 special ed
- Erika Cutter- grade 7- ELA
- Ms. Black – Grade 5 Special Ed
- Ms. McLean-Art 5 &6
- Ms. Stearns-Library

Planners/handbook- Please review the handbook rules with your child and sign the form that you have done so. Please note that the planners are very important to the students each day. We charge \$5.00 for any additional planners handed out throughout the school year.

First Day Packet of Important Forms:

A packet of important forms to be filled out by parents will go home on the first day of school for all students.

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.

Welcome to SMS- I want to welcome all of our students and family members to SMS for the 2018-19 school year. I am so excited for our students to take advantage of the wonderful opportunities that SMS offers them. Please encourage your child to find an after school activity to participate in throughout the year. Success of students does correlate with student involvement in after school activities. If students are encouraged to participate in after school activities they will become more connected to SMS.

Please note that your child's advisor is the first point of contact if you have any questions or concerns. Please feel free to communicate with your child's teachers if you have any questions.

The newsletters keep you informed of events that are happening. I hope that you have a wonderful experience this year at South Meadow School.

Principal O'Bryant

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