

# From Mrs. O'Bryant's Desk:

Oct. 20, 2018

2018-19-Issue #3



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

## Important dates

- Oct. 20- 10-2pm Grades 4-8 Stemfest
- Oct. 31- Halloween
- Nov. 1- Turkey Trot
- Nov.2 – End of Term 1
- Nov. 2- After School Roller Skate
- Nov. 5- Begin Term 2
- Nov. 6- Parent Conferences/ No School
- Nov.12-Veteran's Day no school
- Nov. 21- 22-Thanksgiving vacation

**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](mailto:sms-attendance@conval.edu)

**Please note that the Student Planner, has in error, December Vacation begins on Friday, Dec. 21. It will begin on Monday, Dec. 24**

Oct. 20- Stemfest- Students should enter the back of the building by the gym door. 10-2pm. We still have spots available, contact SMS 924-7105.

Students who have signed up with permission slips are on the list.

## School Procedures

- 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.
- 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.
- **Pick Up Patrol cut off is 1:00pm**
- 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.

## Halloween Costumes-

Students are welcome to dress up for Halloween as long as the costumes are appropriate subjects for school. Students may not wear masks, have pretend weapons or clothes that could cause them to trip. Dress code still applies for costumes.

## Social Media-

Please monitor the pictures, texts and emails that your children are sending through social media. Inappropriate pictures or texts can lead to legal issues if students are not appropriate. Every year, we deal with serious issues between students that cause problems for students and parents. Students seem to have a lot of independence with phones and computers in middle school and that can get them in trouble. Know the passwords to your children's digital devices and have them show you what they are doing on social media. This can be an opportunity to share and learn from your child. It is very important to monitor this through middle and high school for the safety of all children.

**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.

## Popcorn Wednesdays- \$1.00 per bag

### 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.

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.

## Grade 8 AHT Dates-

Group meetings: We tried to make the meetings the 3rd Friday of the month.

- October 19
- November 16 - Joe Byron for World Service Project Honor Flight New England
- January 18
- February 15
- March 22
- April ?
- Tour April 15-19 2019

**Tour will cost close to what it did last year approx. \$850.**

**Nov. 2- After School Roller Skate  
2:30-4:00pm \$5.00 per student**

**Students need parent permission slips indicating how students will get home at 4pm. (Parent pickup or late bus )**

Recess- Students go outside every day. Please be sure that they are dressed to be outside for approximately 30 minutes.