
AUGUST NEWSLETTER

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From the Principal's Desk

By Anthony J. Cox

Shawnee Middle School

Welcome back to the 2009-2010 school year! I am looking forward to this year; my fifth year as the principal at Shawnee Middle School.

Believe it or not I look forward to the end of summer. I miss the added time I get to spend with my kids at the pool or in our backyard. However, the end of summer marks a new beginning for everyone. To borrow a term from The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens, the beginning of a new school year is a **Momentous Moment**. As explained in the book, there are certain moments in life that contain momentum and power. A new school year does this for students. The beginning of a new school year marks a fresh start and fresh starts are great for goal setting.

In the next few weeks, sit down with your student and try to harness the power that a new school year brings. Have your child envision what type of student they want to be this year, write down goals and make commitments while the excitement of the moment lasts.

Schedule Pick Up

Students may pick up their schedules and pay fees on the following dates:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Times</u>
Wed., Aug. 19 th	7 & 8	8-11 AM & 1-3 PM
Thurs., Aug. 20 th	5 & 6	8-11 AM & 1-3 PM
Fri., Aug. 21 st	5,6,7, & 8	8-11 AM & 1-3 PM

School Fees

Students must pay fees (preferably by check payable to Shawnee Middle School) the same day they pick up their class schedules. Total balances (previous years' fees/fines) as well as this year's fees are due at this time. Students who do not pay their fees will receive the schedule the first day of school. Special Education fees will vary by grade level.

Grade 5	\$55.00
Grade 6	\$59.50
Grade 6 (Special Ed. – Resource Room)	\$45.50
Grade 7	\$33.00
Grade 7 Advanced	\$35.00
Grade 7 (Special Ed. – Resource Room)	\$38.00
Grade 8	\$62.50
Grade 8 (Special Ed. – Resource Room)	\$58.00
Grade 8 Advanced German	\$85.75
Grade 8 Advanced Spanish	\$92.00

Supply Lists, Newsletters, & Daily Announcements

These are available on the Middle School Website. To access the site go to <http://www.limashawnee.com>.

Student supply lists for fifth and sixth grade students are available in the office and on the website. ***There are no supply lists for students in the seventh and eighth grade.*** For seventh and eighth grade students, we recommend the basics to start – pens, pencils, & paper. Each teacher might have a more specific list once school starts.

Achievement Test Results

Achievement test results for 2008-2009 Shawnee Middle School students are enclosed. If you have any questions about how to interpret reports you can contact the Guidance Office at (419) 998-8074.

Edline . . .

Edline software will no longer be used by Shawnee Schools. A new software called Progressbook will be used for the 2009-2010 school year. Progressbook has many of the same features as Edline but more options for teachers to utilize. **Grades will still be posted on-line.** Once School begins be on the lookout for new account information. The information will come via mail.

AlertNow . . .

The Shawnee School District will utilize AlertNow technology during the 2009-2010 school year. AlertNow technology will allow school personnel to deliver voice, e-mail, and emergency messages to parents. More information pertaining to this service will come in future mailings.



Welcome . . .

We would like to welcome Carol Allen to Shawnee Middle School. Carol takes over as the 7th & 8th grade study hall monitor. She has worked before in the Shawnee system as a paraprofessional. Welcome back Carol!

Becky Diglia will rejoin the staff to teach 7th & 8th grade Health. Also, 8th graders will be taking 9 weeks of Keyboarding this year. High school teacher Deb Dieringer will come to the middle school for the afternoon to teach this subject.



School Pictures

School pictures will be taken Monday, August 31st. Picture envelopes will go home with your student on the first day of school.

Cell Phones



Cell phones are to be shut off when entering the Middle School building (not on vibrate or silenced but shut off). Cell phones should be placed in lockers and not be visible. Students should secure their phones because the school is not responsible for lost or stolen phones. Students may use their phones after the final bell at the end of the day. Parents are asked to not phone or text their students during school hours. If there is an urgent message that needs to be given to a student, please call the school office and the message will be delivered. Please reserve this privilege for urgent messages only. If a student is ill, they are to report to the office and a secretary will phone home for them. Violation of these rules will result in progressive discipline.



The office will be **closed** on **Monday, August 24th** from **8:00 AM – 10:00 AM** for our district-wide meeting.



Open House

Our middle school Open House will be on Monday, August 31st from 7:00 PM until 9:00 PM. Parents will have the opportunity to follow a mini schedule of their child's school day. Hope to see you there!

Emergency Medical Information

We request that all parents fill out an emergency medical form. It is imperative that we have the most up to date information on your child in the event of a serious injury. We need a form completed for each child. Emergency forms will be included in the packet of information that you receive the first day of school. Please return all of that information by Tuesday, September 1st, 2009 to the student's homeroom teacher.



Any Changes?

Parents, please be sure to notify Mrs. Lehwald, in the guidance office, at (419) 998-8074, of any of the following changes:

- Phone number (including your cell phone number, work number, home phone, emergency contact number)
- Address
- Name (parent and/or student)
- Custody (you are obligated to provide the necessary court document/divorce decree for your student's file)

Lunch Applications

Lunches will be served daily beginning Tuesday, August 25th, 2009. The price of a student lunch will be \$2.25. Some children may be eligible for a free or reduced lunch depending on family income. If you wish to apply for a free or reduced lunch, please complete the application form that will be sent home the first day of school and return it immediately. All information including the knowledge that your child is receiving free lunches will be kept confidential. Students may also pack lunches and bring them to school. Please follow the guidelines spelled out in the student handbook.

Teacher In-Service Dates

Teacher development and staff training will occur on the following dates throughout the 2009–2010 school year. A two hour delay schedule will be followed on these dates. Please mark them on your calendars.

September 30th
December 2nd

January 27th
February 24th

Pay Phones

We have a pay phone students are permitted to use during free periods when the necessity arises. Students will not be permitted to use the office phone because they forgot a book, gym clothes, etc. If students would like to place a call for these items the pay phone costs \$.50. Students should **NOT** use the pay phone if they are ill. If students are ill, please have them report to the office.

PTC Information

The Middle School Parent Teacher Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at **9:00 AM** at the Middle School. All parents are cordially invited to join the Parent Council and attend the first meeting on Tuesday, September 8th, 2009. The elected officers for the 2009-10 school year are the following:

Krista Miller – President
Jeri Arabpour & Cindy Ukwewi – Vice President
Cindy Hanover – Secretary
Heather O'Connor – Treasurer

Football Ticket Sales

Tickets for home football games this fall will be sold in the cafeteria the Thursday **before** the home games from 7:10 AM – 7:30 AM. The home games are as follows:

August 28th
September 18th
October 2nd
October 16th
October 30th

Ticket Prices:

Pre-sale Student \$4.00
Pre-sale Adult \$6.00
Tickets at Gate \$6.00

Students may purchase student passes for the football season in the High School Athletic Office beginning August 19th. Season passes are \$20.00.

Football Games

Football games are an extra-curricular activity sponsored by the school. The same standards that apply to in-school behavior are demanded for out-of-school activities.

More importantly, I want to keep your students safe at football games. I believe I can do this and still have students who are having fun. However, I need your cooperation and help. To keep our students safe, I believe I need to impose some rules for the games. They are:

- 1. Students came to watch the game. Middle school students need to be sitting/standing in the middle school stands while the game is being played **OR** be sitting with parents.*
- 2. Students can still go get refreshments or use the restroom; however, they must return to their seats when tasks are completed and the game is being played.*
- 3. No items of any kind should be thrown.*
- 4. Students should walk at all times.*
- 5. If students are being harassed, they need to see an administrator as soon as possible.*
- 6. High school students will not be permitted to sit in the middle school section.*

The area behind the stands at football games is not a good place for our students to spend their time. At times, this area is very chaotic. I am asking that students follow these very simple rules. Students will be asked to be in the stands during the game. If any of these rules are violated, students will be given the option of having an assigned seat in the student section or sitting with parents for that particular game.

Thank You Custodians!

Our custodial staff has once again worked diligently to prepare our building for the opening of school. We are extremely proud of the Shawnee Middle School facility and the efforts of our custodial staff.



Upcoming Dates:

Tues., Aug. 25th – First Day for Students

Mon., Aug. 31st – Open House at 7:00 PM

Mon., Sept. 7th – **NO SCHOOL** – Labor Day

Wed., Sept. 30th – 2 Hour Delay –
Teacher In-Service

Mon., Oct. 12th – **NO SCHOOL** –
Professional Day for Staff

Fri., Oct. 30th – End of First Nine Weeks

Welcome Back!!

