
2ND QUARTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 13 Issue 2

November 3, 2017

From the Principal's Desk

By **Judith A. Gephart**

Shawnee Middle School

For the 2017-2018 school year, the English Language Arts (ELA), Math, and Science state tests will be given. At the middle school, all tests will be completed online. Tentatively, all testing will take place in the mornings, periods 1-3.

2018 Testing Schedule

Monday, April 9 th :	5th & 6th- ELA Pt. 1
Tuesday, April 10 th :	7th & 8th- ELA Pt. 1
Monday, April 16 th :	5th & 6th- ELA Pt. 2
Tuesday, April 17 th :	7th & 8th- ELA Pt. 2
Monday, April 23 rd :	5th & 6th- Math Pt. 1
Tuesday, April 24 th :	5th & 6th- Math Pt. 2
Wednesday, April 25 th :	7th & 8th- Math/Algebra Pt. 1
Thursday, April 26 th :	7th & 8th- Math/Algebra Pt. 2
Monday, April 30 th :	5th & 8th- Science Pt. 1
Tuesday, May 1 st :	5th & 8th- Science Pt. 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences in the Middle School are student-led conferences. These differ from traditional conferences because the student leads the conference and the teacher is more of a facilitator. We would like all students to bring their parent(s) in for conferences.

Dates for this year's conferences:

Fifth and Sixth Grade – Monday and Wednesday, November 6th and 8th from 4:30 – 8:30 PM

Seventh and Eighth Grade – Tuesday and Thursday, November 7th and 9th from 5:00 – 8:30 PM

**Friday, November 10th all grade conferences from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Conference Meeting Locations:

**Please visit www.limashawnee.com for the link to sign up for 7th & 8th grade conferences online. Time slots are filling up quickly!*

Mon., Nov. 6th & Wed., Nov. 8th (evening)

- Azzarello Team – 5th/6th Gr. Gym
- Biss Team – 5th /6th Gr. Café.
- 6th Grade – 7th/8th Gr. Café.

Tues., Nov. 7th & Thurs., Nov. 9th (evening)

- All 7th & 8th Grade conferences are in the 7th/8th Gr. Café.

Friday, November 10th

- 5th Grade – 5th/6th Gr. Gym
- 6th Grade – 5th/6th Gr. Café.
- 7th & 8th Grade – 7th/8th Gr. Café.



Sixth Grade Heads to Camp Willson

Shawnee Middle School 6th Graders will once again have the opportunity to attend a 2 ½ day learning experience at Camp Willson in Bellefontaine, Ohio. Students will attend on the following dates:

November 13th – 15th, 2017: Kieffer, Garman, Lundin, Quatman

November 15th – 17th, 2017: Howard, Ewing, O'Brien, Vonderwell, Adlesh

Cost: \$108.00

This fee will be collected in the student's first period class. We would like all payments made by Wednesday, November 1st.

Question about Conferences:

How many conferences go on at once?

Since we are trying to get every student to come in for a conference, multiple conferences will be held at once.

Will I still be able to see teachers if I have a question?

All of the teachers will be close at hand. The teacher will not direct the conference. However, if a question arises a sign will be placed at your table that will signal to the teacher that you have a question or would like to speak to them. The teacher can then come over and answer specific questions.

How will my student know what to talk about?

We are going to train students to hold a discussion about their education. Topics will include: progress, areas of strength, areas needed for improvement and performance on assessments. A structured schedule and checklists have been created by teachers to help your student hold this conference.

Does preparation take a lot of class time?

Preparation is the key to success. Students will spend class time writing about their performance and preparing what they will say during the conference. Both of these tasks align closely with the writing processes and oral communication standards in our curriculum.

Will this be confidential?

Enough space will exist for your conference to be confidential. We will have many small clusters placed throughout the cafeteria and only your small group should be able to hear your discussion.

What are the benefits to this type of conference?

- Format provides a forum and time for parents and students to speak about educational progress. With busy schedules and the reluctance of the student these opportunities are very rare.
- Students learn and are given the opportunity to evaluate their own progress. Students know where they stand and what they need to do to improve.
- This type of conference allows the student to share some positives with parents and reduces the
- opportunity for the conference to be just about the negatives.

Book Fair

WHEN: November 6th – 10th

WHERE: Shawnee Middle School IMC (Library)

TIMES: 7:30 A.M. – 2:45 P.M.

FAMILY EVENTS: November 6th – 10th during student conference times

Thank you for your support and hope to see you there!

Top AR Point Earners

August 23 - October 27, 2017



Grade 5

Mackenzie Onan*

Caiden Garlock

Alexandria Karapondo

**Top 5th Grader earned 243.9 points*

Grade 6

Ribka Eyob*

Daniel Koh

Kaley Cottrell

**Top 6th Grader earned 167.8 points*

Grade 7

Kayla Frost

Grace Typpi

Lauren Niesen

**Top 7th Grader earned 270.2 points*

Grade 8

John Norris*

Katherine McMurry

Jamari Johnson

**Top 8th Grader earned 111.6 points*



REMINDER:

**Wednesday, November 22nd –Friday, November 24th:
NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Recess**

**Wednesday, December 6th:
2-Hour Delay Schedule -Teacher In-Service**



Election Day

Tuesday, November 7th



November PTC Meeting

The PTC meeting for November will be at 9:00AM on Tuesday, November 14th.

Canned Food Drive

The canned food drive for Shawnee Middle School is November 13th – November 17th. Goods will be donated to Chi Ki Lo Food Pantry in Cridersville.



Toy Drive

What: Toy Drive for Cincinnati Children’s Hospital

When: November 20th and 21st

Where: Shawnee Middle School ~ Please drop off toys to your homeroom teacher.

Both of my nephews were born with hearing impairments. Jack and Eddie have been treated at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital. Eddie, age 1, recently had surgery for cochlear implants and Jack, age 4, will start the process soon! We are thankful that they simply travel there for appointments. Many kids are not so fortunate. There are kids bravely fighting cancer and other diseases that keep them in the hospital for months at a time. It’s difficult to keep children’s spirits up during these stays, but it is even more difficult during the holiday season!

Shawnee Middle School is hosting a toy drive to pay it forward and donate toys to the patients at Cincinnati Children’s Hospital to help make their holidays a bit brighter! A suggested list of toys can be found on the back of this letter, but any donation, big or small, is appreciated. Stuffed animals are to be avoided due to difficulty in sanitizing them for hospital purposes. We understand that many of you give in other ways and to other organizations, but wanted to offer this as an opportunity to spread holiday cheer beyond your own family!

Please see the attached toy wish list.

Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated! ~ Mrs. Jen Vonderwell



Winter Sports Pictures

Pictures for winter athletes will be taken throughout the day on **Thursday, December 7th**. If you would like to order team and individual pictures, the members of sports teams will receive order envelopes from their coaches. All photos must be paid for on picture day. This, of course, is purely optional; all athletes will be in the picture whether they choose to purchase photos or not.

“Rockin’ with Santa” Dance

The “Rockin’ with Santa” Dance will be held on **Monday, December 18th from 5:30pm – 7:30pm**. Drop off for the dance is at the back cafeteria entrance. Eighth grade parents please pick up your students in the back of the school at the 7th/8th gr. cafeteria entrance. Seventh grade parents pick up students at the main entrance of the school. This dance is for Shawnee Middle School 7th & 8th grade students only. Students are encouraged to dress nice.

Shawnee Middle School

2017 Yearbook on Sale Now!

There are two ways to buy your yearbook this year. Pick up an order form from the literature tray, attach your check and drop it off at the office or to Mrs. Heatwole’s room. You may also order online at: www.yearbookforever.com. The price is \$27.00 without name stamp and \$34.00 with name stamp if purchased before **December 20th**. After this date, the price will be \$32.00 without name stamp and \$39.00 with name stamp. Either way.....Don’t miss out on an early order price!!

Spring Picture Day

Spring Picture Day is **Tuesday, February 6th**. Once again the Middle School will be using Lifetouch for spring pictures. Lifetouch will be using a prepay program where you select your package and pay for pictures on picture day, just like in the fall.

DIGITS

Don’t forget free DIGITS tutoring for grades 6-8 is offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in Mr. Favro’s classroom after school until 3:10PM.

News from the Guidance Office

By: Mrs. Schmiedebusch

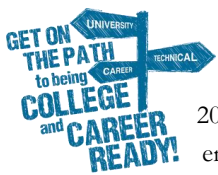
7th & 8th Grade Guidance Counselor



It's hard to believe, but I will start discussing 9th grade scheduling with the 8th grade students in mid-January. Further information about the scheduling process will be sent home at that time. There will be an 8th grade parent meeting at the high school in late January/early February.



We will be hosting a **STEM Day** for all 7th and 8th grade students on Thursday, February 22nd, 2018. We are looking for parents/community members who work in STEM fields. Participation in the event will involve the entire school day. The goal for the day is for students to have the opportunity to gain knowledge about STEM careers through related hands-on activities and/or experiments. If interested, please email Mrs. Schmiedebusch at ericas@limashawnee.com or call 419-998-8072 as soon as possible as the plans for the day are in the works!



Our **2018 Career Fair** for 6th-8th grade students will be Thursday, May 17th, 2018. If interested in participating, please email Mrs. Schmiedebusch at ericas@limashawnee.com or call 419-998-8072.



The Shawnee Middle School Spelling Bee will be held **Tuesday, December 5th, at 3:00PM** in the Hugh Downs Auditorium at Shawnee High School. The snow date will be **December 7th**, same time and place. Good luck to all students!



The Office Phone

Middle school is a very important step on the way of becoming an adult. It is a time of learning, growth, and becoming more responsible. With this in mind, don't be shocked or surprised if we do not allow your child to call home for forgotten homework, gym clothes, or other items. By dealing with the consequence of forgetting something, our hope is that they learn and become more responsible for the years ahead. The office phone will only be allowed to be used when the office deems something forgotten is an emergency. Examples of emergency situations are: a forgotten lunch or missing the bus. Any abuse of the phone will cause the office staff to take away this privilege.

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Reminder

As winter arrives, the weather conditions in the morning are often poor so many drivers need extra time to get to work. Please drop your children off in front of the middle school in the morning. **Do not drop your children off on Beeler Road.** Many parents recently have been using Beeler Road as a drop-off point. Pull in the east entrance off Zurmehly Road, follow the car line along the sidewalk, and pull out of the west exit in the morning. In addition, please do not pick up your children in the back of the building. Pick-up at the end of the day should be in front of the middle school. Thank you for following this policy so that the morning drop-off and after school pick-up is safe and smooth for everyone.

From the Nurse:

Students that are carrying an epi-pen or inhaler with them or have them in their lockers **MUST** have a current order from a physician on file along with a parent's signature. These must be completed each school year. The permission forms can be obtained from the office or at www.limashawnee.com, select district and then Health and Wellness. Any questions you can contact the nurse Andrea Vogelgesang, at (419) 998-8065



Box Tops for Education

Our PTC is now collecting Box Tops for Education. Please have your student bring Box Tops into the main office of the Middle School.

Download the Box Top app. With it you can:

- Buy - find offers, buy products
- Scan - scan your receipt
- Earn - watch the earnings stack up

NOTES FROM FOOD SERVICE

The USDA has mandated that all schools have an unpaid meal policy. Below is the policy that Shawnee Food Service has written and put into practice.

SHAWNEE SCHOOLS CHARGE POLICY FOR UNPAID MEALS

- Students in elementary and middle school may charge up to \$10.00. There is **NO CHARGING** at the high school.
- Weekly unpaid balance letters will be sent home to parents of elementary students.
- When a student reaches the charge limit a phone call will be made to the parents by the food service staff.
- When the limit is reached a student may get a courtesy meal of a peanut butter sandwich and milk. If there is an allergy, a cheese sandwich will be substituted. A high school student may ask for the courtesy meal if they have no money.
- Food service staff will work diligently to enroll all eligible students in the free/reduced meal program.

If you have any questions please contact Sally Allen Nutrition Services supervisor. 419 998-8036



WE HAVE THE MEATS

Thank you to Arby's for providing our newspaper in education for the year.

A Glance Ahead

Monday & Wednesday, November 6th & 8th 2017:
-Student Led Conferences Grades 5 & 6

Tuesday & Thursday, November 7th & 9th ,2017:
-Student Led Conferences Grades 7 & 8

Friday, November 10th, 2017:
-NO SCHOOL – Student-Led Conferences

Monday, November 6th, 2017 – Friday, November 10, 2017:
-Book Fair

Monday, November 13th , 2017 – Wednesday, November 15th , 2017:
- Camp Willson Team 6A

Wednesday, November 15th , 2017 – Friday, November 17th , 2017:
- Camp Willson Team 6B

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday, November 22nd – 24th,2017
-NO SCHOOL – Happy Thanksgiving!

Tuesday, December 5th, 2017:
-Spelling Bee

Wednesday, December 6th,2017:
-2-Hour Delay – Teacher In-Service
-Middle School Choir Concert @ 7:00PM
at Hugh Downs Auditorium in the high school

Sunday, December 10th, 2017:
-Middle School Band Concert @ 3:00PM
at Hugh Downs Auditorium in the high school

Monday, December 18th, 2017:
-School Dance for Grades 7 & 8

Thursday, December 21st, 2017 thru Tuesday, January 2nd, 2018:
-NO SCHOOL – Winter Recess

Wednesday, January 3rd, 2017:
-School Resumes

Friday, January 12th, 2017:
-End of First Semester

Monday, January 15th, 2017:
-NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Day