
AUGUST NEWSLETTER

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From the Principal's Desk

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Shawnee Middle School

New Faces and Changes at Shawnee Middle School

We welcome Dylan Webb to 7th grade Math. He will replace Mr. Kristoff. Rachel Ciminillo will teach Physical Education. Mr. Huber has moved to the new Digital School. Ashley Alge will be joining our Special Education Department and she will be replacing Jessica Whittaker. Due to retirements and openings we will have a brand new Music Department. The new Choir director will be Anthony Taylor. The new Band Directors will be Seth Justice and Ranga Munasinghe.

Choir Open House

On Monday, August 15 from 6-7 pm we will host an open house for any choir students. This will be held in the Middle School cafeteria. Mr. Taylor will be introduced and it will be an opportunity for students to meet him. Feel free to stop by.

Welcome to Shawnee Middle School!



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>
Mon., Aug. 15 th	7 & 8	8-11 AM & 1-3 PM
Tues., Aug. 16 th	5 & 6	8-11 AM & 1-3 PM
Wed., Aug. 17 th	5, 6, 7, & 8	8-11 AM & 1-3 PM

School Fees

Students must pay fees (by check payable to Shawnee Middle School or cash) 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	\$60.00
Grade 5 (Special Ed. – Resource Room)	\$45.00
Grade 6	\$54.50
Grade 6 – Advanced	\$55.50
Grade 6 (Special Ed. – Resource Room)	\$40.00
Grade 7	\$64.00
Grade 7 (Special Ed. – Resource Room)	\$41.00
Grade 8	\$70.50
Grade 8 (Special Ed. – Resource Room)	\$47.50
Grade 8 – Advanced with 8 th gr. Math	\$62.50
Grade 8 – Advanced with Algebra	\$55.50
Grade 8 – Adv. \$62.50 with Spanish	\$74.50
Grade 8 – Adv. \$55.50 with Spanish and Algebra	\$67.50

Open House – Fifth Grade

Fifth Grade Open House will be on Wednesday, August 24th at 5:00 PM. **Team A** (Mr. Cummings listed as their science teacher) will meet in the 7/8th grade cafeteria from 5:00 – 5:30 pm. **Team B** (Mr. King listed as their science teacher) will meet in the 5/6th grade cafeteria from 5:00 – 5:30 pm. At 5:30 pm both teams will move to their classrooms. Also, we will have a cafeteria cashier here so that you may put money on your child's lunch account. **Remember to bring your schedule and school supplies.**

Open House – Sixth Grade

Sixth Grade Open House will be on Wednesday, August 24th at 5:00 PM. Please see the attachment for more information. Please do not bring any supplies with you. Lockers will be assigned the first day of school. Also, we will have a cafeteria cashier here so that you may put money on your child's lunch account.

Open House—Grades 7 & 8

Our Middle School Open House will be on Wednesday, August 31st at 7:00 PM. Parents of 7th and 8th graders will have the opportunity to follow a mini schedule of their child's school day. Also, we will have a cafeteria cashier here so that you may put money on your child's lunch account. Hope to see you there!

Supply Lists

Fifth and sixth grade supply lists are posted on the Middle School website. Seventh and eighth grade supply lists are also posted on the Middle School website. However, 7th and 8th grade students will need to know their schedule in order to buy supplies.

Locks

Students in grades 6th, 7th and 8th **WILL NOT** have to purchase a lock this year. Shawnee Middle School will provide a lock for each student's locker.

Title I

Jen Hefner

You have the right to know about the teaching qualifications of your child's classroom teacher in a school receiving Title I funds. The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act requires that any local school district receiving Title I funds must notify parents that they may ask about the professional qualifications of their child's classroom teacher.

These qualifications include:

1. Whether the teacher has met the Ohio teacher licensing criteria for the grade level and subject areas in which the teacher provides your child instruction.
2. Whether the teacher is teaching under emergency or temporary status that waives state licensing requirements.
3. The undergraduate degree major of the teacher and any other graduate degree or certification (such as National Board Certification) held by the teacher and the field of discipline of certification or degree.
4. Whether your child is provided services by instructional paraprofessionals and, if so, their qualifications.

ProgressBook . . .

Please maintain your ProgressBook login information for the 2016-2017 school year. In addition, verify that your email address is updated so that ProgressBook information can be forwarded to you at the start of the school year. If you need to update this information please contact the office at (419) 998-8057.

School Messenger (Alert Now)

The Shawnee School District will utilize AlertNow technology during the 2016-2017 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 be included in the packet of information that your child will receive 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**). 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.

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 Friday, September 2nd to the student's homeroom teacher.

Any Changes?

Parents, please be sure to notify Mrs. Wiechart, 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 Thursday, August 25th, 2016. **THE PRICE OF A STUDENT LUNCH WILL BE \$2.75.** 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 blue application form that is enclosed and return it with your child or to the Middle School office. 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 2016-2017 school year. A two hour delay schedule will be followed on these dates. Please mark them on your calendars.

September 21st
October 26th

December 7th
March 1st

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 13th, 2016. If you are interested in becoming a part of our PTC, the sign-up forms will be available at Open House.

The PTC will operate a School Store this year. Funds raised will help to cover their expenses for the Camp Willson trips. The store will be open during lunches. Attached to the newsletter is the supply list of what they will carry and cost for each item. The store will be open each Wednesday, beginning September 14.

Incoming 7/8th Graders:

Class change times will be 5 minutes. Students will not be permitted to carry over-the-shoulder style book bags when traveling in the hallway during class change. Students may use draw-string style bags to assist them with books and other types of class supplies. Students will be permitted to carry over-the-shoulder style book bags before and after the designated school day.

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. Ticket sale dates are as follows:

September 6th
September 22nd
September 29th
October 13th
October 27th

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 29th. 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 come to watch the game. Middle school students need to be sitting/standing in the middle school stands while the game is being played OR sitting with parents.*
- 2. Students can still go get refreshments or use the restroom with permission from the principal; 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.

Dress Code

The Middle School Dress Code can be found on page 16 of the fifth and sixth grade handbook and on page 18 and 19 of the seventh and eighth grade handbook. When shopping for school clothes modesty is always welcomed.

Please be aware that the dress code at the middle school has changed. **Shorts must be a “Bermuda Short” length. That is defined as within 1 inch of the knee.** Students who do not comply with the dress code will be given a verbal warning for the first violation. Further violations will result in progressive discipline. Parents may be called to provide a change of clothing.

Here are specific rules that you need to discuss with your students:

Tank tops, spaghetti straps, muscle shirts, halters, bare midriffs, cut-off shirts and short tops are unacceptable for school wear. Shoulders must be covered.

Girls’ tops should be no lower than 2” below the collarbone. A quick way to check is for the student to measure three fingers down from the collarbone. Backs and stomachs should be covered at all time, including while sitting, bending, or standing.

Excessive make-up, face painting or writing on other students is not permitted at any time.

Sleepwear, pajama bottoms or slippers are not permitted.

Ragged clothing or offensive language/sayings that distract from the learning environment should not be worn to school.

Violators of the dress code will be given a written warning for the 1st offense. Further violations will result in progressive discipline.

The violation must be corrected before the student can go back to class. This may be a phone call to parents for different clothing, changing clothes, or the administration providing something for the student to wear.

Temporary Drop Off/Pick Up

During the Zurmehly Rd Bridge closure we will experience changes in our before and after school traffic flow.

All traffic leaving the middle school **MUST** turn left on to Zurmehly Rd. The last row of the parking lot will not be open during these transitions so that all traffic can follow the left turn flow.

We will change our entrance and exit routes. The exit will be used as the entrance and all traffic will flow to the “original entrance” to flow out for the left turn exit.

Morning Drop-Off

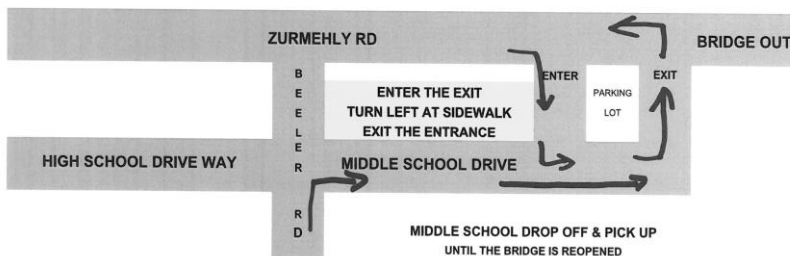
The buses will release students at the high school and our students will walk across the street to the middle school. Please be aware of the many students crossing Beeler Rd. There will be times that traffic will be stopped to accommodate the students crossing. Cars will be able to use the bus lanes in front of the building for drop off similar to after school pick up.

Students can be dropped off at the Middle School at 7:00 am. If they enter the building before 7:20 am, they are to report to the 7/8 cafeteria for supervision. After 7:20 am, they can go to their lockers or first period. School begins at 7:35 am.

The Afternoon Pick-Up

Students riding busses will load in front of the high school. Therefore, both traffic lanes can be utilized in the PM. Parents can enter the Zurmehly Road entrance. Make sure all parking lot lanes are used. Parents can also use the Beeler Road entrance as long as they enter before 2:35. Cars should pull up as far as possible. To avoid congestion in the PM, you may want to wait until 2:45 to pick up your student. At this time all busses will be gone. If you choose this option, just have your students wait by the doors at the main office. Students should not be picked up in the back of school.

Reminder: Traffic will flow to the “original entrance” and exit with a left hand turn.



Upcoming Dates:

- Wed., Aug. 24th - 5th/6th Grade Open House
- Thurs., Aug. 25th -First Day for Students
- Wed., Aug. 31st -7th/8th Grade Open House
- Mon., Sept. 5th -***NO SCHOOL*** – Labor Day
- Wed., Sept. 21st - 2 Hour Delay –
Teacher In-Service
- Thurs., Oct. 6th - Fall Picture Day
- Mon., Oct. 10th - ***NO SCHOOL*** –
Professional Day for Staff
- Wed., Oct. 26th - 2 Hour Delay –
Teacher In-Service
- Fri., Oct. 28th - End of First Nine Weeks

Welcome Back!!



SHAWNEE MIDDLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE POLICY

The faculty and administration have a commitment to provide a high quality education to its students. To achieve this goal, students must consistently be in attendance at school. All students are expected to be in all classes and study halls. Attendance and promptness to class are the responsibility of each student and his parent/guardian. Attending classes regularly and being on time allows the student to benefit from the instructional program as well as to develop the necessary job habits of punctuality, self-discipline, and responsibility.

Excessive absence causes a disruption in the learning process. Make-up work does not adequately substitute for classroom work. Students who display a good attendance record generally achieve higher grades, are more self-confident, enjoy school more, and are more employable after leaving school.

Therefore, to insure the highest level of success for each of our students, Shawnee Middle School will work cooperatively with parents/guardians and students to promote increased student attendance. Our policy is based on state attendance standards, clear and enforceable guidelines, and positive motivation for good attendance.

Furthermore, we are entrusted by Ohio law with accounting for the attendance of all students. Students and parents are both bound by Ohio attendance requirements. Such requirements state that students must be present at school unless excused for one of the reasons listed in Section 6 under "Attendance Policy" in the student handbook.

Parent/guardian must notify the attendance office at 419-998-8058 by 9:00 am the day the student is absent if their student will not be in attendance at school, for any reason. We have voice mail at this phone number 24 hours a day for the convenience of the parent/guardian. Any student whose parent does not notify the attendance office of their student's absence will be counted as unexcused for that day. Please try to schedule appointments after school hours. We realize that this is not always possible. For those appointments scheduled during school hours, an excuse must be turned in to Mrs. Wiechart in the guidance office. A medical excuse must be turned in for ALL medical appointments.

Students arriving late to school must sign IN with Mrs. Wiechart in the guidance office, not the front office. Students having appointments during the school day or leaving school early because of illness must have the person picking them up sign them OUT in the front office with Mrs. Long. (A reminder that a student who signs in after **8:15** a.m. or signs out before **1:45** p.m. will be considered **one half day** absent. Tardies after **8:15** a.m. are counted as a one half day unexcused absence.)

Students having an unexcused absence will first be given a warning. The second unexcused absence will result in a Saturday School assignment. Any unexcused absences acquired after that time will result in further Saturday School assignments or suspension out of school.

Excessive absences (eight absences or more from school or class in a semester, excused or unexcused) may result in the requiring of students to provide a certificate from a physician on the day the student returns to school to have the absence excused (O.R.C. 3321004). Excessive tardiness and unexcused absences shall result in a referral to Juvenile Court.