

Southwest Middle School Newsletter  
*News that you can use!*  
March 5, 2018

**Congratulations to our Spunky Spirited Cheerleaders on winning first place Saturday at the Cheer Competition! Go Eagles!**

**\*\*\*Spring Break is March 26<sup>th</sup> – March 30<sup>th</sup>\*\*\***

March 7<sup>th</sup> is the last day of the Third Marking Period!

**What's new on our website? Check us out at:**

<http://internet.savannah.chatham.k12.ga.us/schools/swms/default.aspx>

**School Spirit shirts and House shirts may be purchased on the website!**

Take our Parent Survey! Are we communicating effectively? Are you active at SWMS? Tell us all about it by visiting the following link:

<http://gshs.gadoe.org/parents>

**Do you have Parent Access? If not, please come and visit the SWMS Family Center in room 621 to obtain your child's login information!**

### **Student Attendance at Southwest Middle School**

Student attendance is a critical and key component to student success in school. At Southwest Middle School, we encourage all of our students to attend school each day. Attendance is consistently monitored by our school staff and our Attendance Committee. Parents we also encourage you to sign up for Parent Connect so that you can help us by monitoring your child's attendance from home. In addition, if in any event that your child needs to be absent, please make sure you submit a doctor's note or handwritten excuse on the day that your child returns to school. Overall, our student's attendance affects the Climate Rating at our school and also our College and Career Readiness Score (CCRPI) score. We thank you for your continued partnership! Attendance Matters!

## **What's happening at SWMS?**

**Title I News: Our International Baccalaureate Language Arts & Social Studies Fair and Early Report Card Pick Up will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.!! Come and eat dinner with the Principal, meet with the teachers and enjoy all of the wonderful activities that we have for you! We hope to see you here at SWMS!!!**

**Save the Date: Join us on March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 9:30a.m.-12:00p.m.for a Pre-Employment Lunch and Learn Workshop at Gould Elementary School! The topics that we will discuss include: resume writing, how to search for jobs and interview skills. There will also be a Dressing for Success Fashion Show! You must R.S.V.P to attend this workshop! You don't want to miss this awesome event.**

**Save the Date: Your input matters! SWMS will host our Title I Annual Parent Forums on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00p.m. (Spaghetti dinner) and April 4<sup>th</sup> at 11:00a.m. (Hot dog social)! Your invitation is on the way and don't forget to fill it out! Which session will you attend?**

**Are you going to the 9<sup>th</sup> grade? High School Transition Night will be held at Windsor Forrest High School on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.**

Are you an Engaged Eagle Volunteer? If you are interested in signing up to be an Engaged Eagle through the district's Operation Beacon Program please visit [www.sccpss.com](http://www.sccpss.com) and sign up under the Operation Beacon link.

### **Cafeteria News:**

Breakfast is FREE to ALL enrolled students. We have a variety of choices ready for you to choose from every day. Eating breakfast can improve cognitive performance, test scores and achievement scores in students. Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria from 7:10-7:40 am every day. The full price for lunch is \$2.25. Parents can apply for free and reduce (.40 cents) pricing. Applications are available on [www.myschoolapps.com](http://www.myschoolapps.com), the SCCPSS website, or on paper. Paper applications are located in the school's cafeteria. Funds can be added to a student's account in the cafeteria or on-line at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com).

### **Testing Announcements:**

What did your student make on the MAP Math and MAP Reading?

Students must make a minimum of 214 in Reading and 221 in Math in 6th grade; 217 in Reading and 226 in Math in 7th grade; and 221 in Reading and 230 in Math in 8th grade in order to be considered for promotion to the next grade. Please email [Jessica.heilman@sccpss.com](mailto:Jessica.heilman@sccpss.com) or any administrator if you have any questions regarding MAP testing.

### **Million Book Challenge:**

Students are invited to donate their new or gently used books for the SCCPSS Literacy Initiative, the "Million Book Challenge." The top six students in the district who bring in the most books will win an android tablet, and the top three classes will win a pizza party! Students may turn in donated books to the media center or to their homeroom teacher.

## **Fine Arts:**

**The sounds of spring is in the air! Join us for our Spring Concert on March 20<sup>th</sup>! Don't miss the sounds of Eagles singing and playing in the spring!**

## **Media Center:**

The media center now offers a “mobile” media center to students! **The mobile media center will allow students to borrow and return books in the cafeteria during their lunch period every Tuesday and Thursday.** This will make it easier for students to read and return books on time.

Please remind your student to wear their ID every day and encourage them to keep it in a safe place when they are not at school.

**IB Sound Bite:** (IB Profiles- **Reflective**) In the movie *The Lion King*, the character Rafiki says, “*Oh yes, the past can hurt. But you can either run from it or learn from it.*” By looking back on past decisions and actions made by ourselves and others, we are able to learn and grow with more wisdom and insight. As a parent of a middle school student, consider spending some time talking to your son or daughter about your life as a young adult; talk a walk and have an honest discussion with them about your mistakes, your triumphs, your fears and your times of joy. Enjoy a night of star-gazing or an afternoon of fishing and let the conversation be one to strengthen your relationship at a pivotal time in both of your lives.

## **REPEATS AND REMINDERS**

MobyMax – All students are expected to utilize MobyMax for additional support in the areas of Math and ELA (2 hours weekly).

Free Digital Textbooks available through the Georgia Department of Education- Please be aware that you and your child can access free, interactive digital textbooks through the Georgia Department of Education's website. The textbooks can be accessed by visiting [www.gavirtuallearning.org/Resources](http://www.gavirtuallearning.org/Resources). Texts are currently available for middle and high school courses.

## **Additional Resource:**

[www.khanacademy.org](http://www.khanacademy.org)

[www.Readwork.org](http://www.Readwork.org)

[www.Readtheory.org](http://www.Readtheory.org)

## **Kudos Corner**

### **February Students of the Month**

Nassiya Hall (6th), Aaron Taschler (7th), Sariah McAvoy (8th)

### **FBLA Regional Leadership Conference**

**Makayla Oates**, 6th grade, won 2nd place in Parliamentary Procedure Concepts, 3rd place in Elevator Speech and 3rd place in Employability Skills.

**Tamira Brown**, 7th grade, won 4th place in Parliamentary Procedure Concepts.

**Ka'Mari Dennis**, 8th grade, won 4th place in Employability Skills and 5th place in Parliamentary Procedure Concepts.

### **SSU Science and Engineering Fair**

**Zambia Rumph** – 2<sup>nd</sup> place in Behavioral Social Sciences

**Emily Martinez** – 1<sup>st</sup> Place in Engineering and Mechanics

# **#Soar2newheights**