

# SMS Newsletter

October 2020



## October Core Value: Curiosity

*At Sacajawea, we are a compassionate community that honors grit and celebrates growth in order to face the future with a level head and a critical eye.*

## A Note from the Principal

Well, it's been awhile since our last newsletter--we stopped publishing them and moved to more communication via e-mail when COVID hit--but we are back. The purpose of the newsletter is to provide regular and on-going information about the events of Sacajawea with the intention of our parent community staying informed and involved.

Thank you all for your patience and flexibility as we have implemented the Blended Learning structure this school year. Our teachers have been working incredibly hard to provide a strong and robust learning experience for all of your students--both in-school and remotely. We've faced challenges--are still facing some--but are becoming more adept at utilizing Canvas and establishing the routine and expectations for your students.

Thank you as well for your support of your students during this time. We want to encourage you to continue to support them, but to also allow some independence with your students' learning. One of our mantras since last spring is "We got this!" Our students also have "got this," or, at least, have the ability to get this.

- Students have the training in class to manage Canvas and should be able to navigate it effectively.
- Resources and help for students are provided each day at school and are only an email away if needed.
- Encourage your students to persist; often the answers they need are available in the LMS if they commit to finding the solutions (they do it really well with their phones and video games).
- Parents do not need to co-teach; again, the students have the information and the resources to access their learning and be fully engaged.

- A schedule for home learning can be very beneficial; contact your child's teacher for ideas if it would be helpful.
- Each day--Monday through Friday--is a day of learning.

Finally, we are in a situation unlike anything any of us have experienced. Our schools, like our families, have had to adjust but *we can do this!* Thank you for your partnership.

*Gordon*

## CHANGE TO SCHEDULES WEEK OF OCTOBER 12

Due to **NO SCHOOL PIR Days** on Thursday, October 15th and Friday, October 16th:

**Track A students** will attend school in person on **Monday, October 12th**

**Track B students** will attend school in person on **Tuesday, October 13th**

## Parent Night--Tuesday, October 13

We will be conducting a fully remote Parent Night at **5:30 on Tuesday, October 13**. Teams are sending out information with links for you to meet the teachers, gain information about their classes, and learn how you can partner with us for your child's growth. Elective teachers are producing videos for you to view at your convenience. Team presentations will also be recorded and available for viewing if you are unable to do so live. Plan to join us virtually for this informative night.

## New Interim Assistant Principal!

Earlier in the summer, **Cale VanVelkinburgh**, our Assistant Principal, was selected as the administrator for the Bozeman On-Line School for all K-8 students who chose to learn remotely. It became apparent, quite quickly, that this was a full-time position and Mr. V reluctantly realized that he would not be able to fulfill the commitment to the on-line program as well as serve as Assistant Principal for Sac.

**Ashley Henigman**, who has served as a Behavior Specialist at Hyalite and completed an administrative internship at SMS several years ago, has agreed to serve as the Assistant Principal for the remainder of the year. Many of our students and families know Mrs. Henigman from Hyalite and our staff is very excited to welcome her back to Sac.

## Grades

Although Canvas is the primary forum for instruction, learning, and communication with students and families, reports on student progress are best found through **PowerSchool** accounts. Canvas will indicate whether the assignments have been submitted; PowerSchool will provide more detailed standards-based reporting on your student's growth. Details on our standards-based gradebook can be found on this video: [How to View Assignments in Power School.webm](#)

## Emergency Drills

Throughout the year, we will be conducting emergency drills to prepare students and staff in the event of actual events which may disrupt our school. We intend to announce the drills at the beginning of each day when they are conducted, but this [list](#) will also provide the anticipated dates we will practice the drills. Students are informed of the protocols by teachers prior to the drills and follow-up discussions also take place. Our intention is to guide our students in understanding the purpose of the drills, teach efficient protocols, and maintain the safety of our students.

## WE'RE ALL IN THIS TOGETHER!

BEFORE YOUR CHILD HEADS OUT THE DOOR FOR SCHOOL  
CONDUCT A HOME HEALTH SCREENING

### STAY HOME

if he or she is experiencing one or more of the following:

- Fever or chills – temperature greater than 100.4°
- Cough
- Headache
- Muscle aches
- Nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
- New loss of taste and/or smell
- New runny nose or congestion
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person with confirmed COVID-19

**NOTIFY SMS – 522-6400**

IF YOUR CHILD TESTS POSITIVE OR IS IDENTIFIED AS A  
CLOSE CONTACT OF SOMEONE WITH COVID-19



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## SMS Library

[Reminder to all SMS Families](#)

The SMS Library is open for you to use!

We are here from **7:30 a.m. (Early Birds) to 4 p.m. Monday - Friday**

You are welcome to stop by, to get support with our databases and to check out books and for quiet study time.

If you have questions, concerns or need clarification please contact me at [brenda.wilson@bsd7.org](mailto:brenda.wilson@bsd7.org) or call 522-6414.

## Box Tops For Education

**Did you know Sacajawea Middle School is part of the Box Tops for Education program?**

It has changed to a mostly digital program. Traditional clip out Box Tops are being phased out but you can still send them to school (make sure it doesn't say scan) to be turned in to the library.

The new process is so much easier!

1. Get the free new and improved **Box Tops mobile app** on your phone
2. Buy your groceries and ask for the receipt
3. Get into your car and take pictures of your receipt (within 14 days) with the app.
4. It will find any qualifying products and give 10 cents for each one to the school.

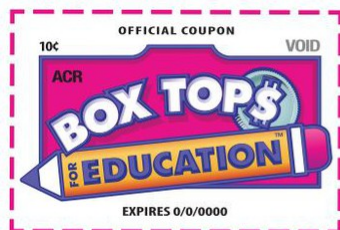
The money adds up and is used to enhance the book selection at our library.

It's costs you nothing but 30 seconds of your time and you can help ALL the students at your child's school. Encourage your friends and relatives to do the same.

On the Box Tops for Education website, you can find coupons and special deals.

Thank you so much for giving back to others!

*Your PAC Team & SMS Library*



SEE THIS...  
**CLIP IT**



SEE THIS...  
**SCAN  
YOUR RECEIPT**

**Here's How It Works**

## Thrive

**Is your child able to 'hook' you into an argument? Are you constantly battling for control with your Middle Schooler? Do you simply want a better relationship with your child?**

If so, consider Parenting Your Adolescent and Teen with Love and Logic! This phenomenal class will help you stay connected and have more fun with parenting.



Here are the details: **Three consecutive Monday nights, Nov. 2nd, 9th and 16th from 6-7:30pm. Class will be held via Zoom. Register online at [allthrive.org](https://allthrive.org) to receive a Zoom link.** Course Instructors are Thrive Parent Liaisons, **Ashley Mares Jones** (SMS) and **Betsy Pufahl** (CJMS).

Questions? Email your SMS Thrive Parent Liaison, **Ashley Mares Jones**, at [amaresjones@allthrive.org](mailto:amaresjones@allthrive.org).



## Parenting the Love & Logic Way

### Yearbook Club Needs Your Help!

**ATTN: SMS PARENTS/GUARDIANS**

Please help your SMS yearbook club capture as many school activities as possible.

If you are willing, send your sms student activity photos (football, volleyball, robotics etc) to [smsyearbook@bsd7.org](mailto:smsyearbook@bsd7.org)

Thank you for your continued support!

### Girls Basketball Begins October 19th

7th Grade will practice Monday - Wednesday @ 3:45-5:00

8th Grade will practice Monday - Wednesday @ 5:00-6:15

Team practices will begin on Thursday, October 22nd.

Registration is now open via DragonFly: <https://max.dragonflyathletics.com/maxweb/max-cover/login>

Payment can be made via RevTrak: <https://bsd7.revtrak.net/>

### BSD 7 Food & Nutrition Services



**AT THIS TIME**  
**ANY STUDENT**  
**CAN HAVE A FREE**  
**MEAL**

***YOU MUST TAKE THE FOLLOWING FOR  
YOUR MEAL TO BE FREE:***

FOR FREE BREAKFAST:  
ENTREE  
FRUIT  
MILK (OPTIONAL)

FOR FREE LUNCH:  
ENTREE  
VEGGIE/FRUIT  
MILK (OPTIONAL)

***ALL OTHER ITEMS WILL BE  
CHARGED TO STUDENT ACCOUNTS***

Free meals also available for curbside pickup at all schools (excluding GHS) M-F 9:30-10:30 on remote learning days.

# REMOTE MEAL PICK UP

MENUS: [BSD7.NUTRISLICE.COM](https://bsd7.nutrislice.com)  
QUESTIONS?  
CALL: 406-522-6381  
EMAIL: [BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG](mailto:BRITTANY.SELVIG@BSD7.ORG)



- FREE GRAB-N-GO MEALS AVAILABLE FOR CURBSIDE PICKUP DAILY, FROM 9:30-10:30 AM AT ALL SCHOOLS (EXCLUDING GHS - GO TO MEADOWLARK)
- NO PREORDER NECESSARY
- GRAB-N-GO BREAKFAST ALSO AVAILABLE AT:
  - BHS
  - CHIEF JOSEPH & SACAJAWEA
  - IRVING, WHITTIER, HYALITE
- STUDENT DOES NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT
- FREE TO ANYONE 18 & UNDER

## Upcoming Dates

### October

- 12 Track A Students in School
- 13 Track B Students in School
- 13 Parent Night 5:30 pm - **Remote**
- 15 **No School** PIR Day
- 16 **No School** PIR Day



## Sacajawea Middle School

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🌐 [sms.bsd7.org/](https://sms.bsd7.org/)