



SMS FALCON NEWS

SACAJAWEA MIDDLE SCHOOL

APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER

Principal's Corner

As we wait for spring to reach the Gallatin Valley, we are well into the final third of our school year. This time of year brings the annual summative assessments of which I wrote in last month's newsletter—the state science CRT for 8th graders and the new reading and math Smarter Balanced Tests for all three grades. These tests are intended to measure the learning of our students on the essential standards in each of those subject areas.

Besides these summative tests, our students continue to develop their writing skills. Each student is expected to complete 15-20 pieces of formal writing through this year across all subjects. In Communication Arts classes this term, the students are focusing on argumentative writing—taking a position, identifying a claim, and providing supporting arguments with meaningful evidence. The students will utilize the writing process to organize their thoughts, create drafts, revise and edit the drafts, and publish their writing. We continually guide them in increasing their skills along the writing continuum.

The spring also begins the process of scheduling our students into classes for next year. Elective choices have been made and we are reviewing each student's progress in core classes to determine the best placement with the right amount of support or challenge needed for their continued growth.

All of these activities are intended to recognize the strengths and challenges of each of our students, to further each one's learning of essential skills, and to monitor the growth of each. Thank you for trusting us and working with us in these initiatives.

Hershey Youth Track Meet

If you love to run, jump or throw --- this event is for you! The Bozeman Track Club is hosting the Gallatin Valley Hershey youth track meet for elementary and middle school children of all abilities and skill on Saturday, May 17, 2014 at the Montana State University track complex.

The event is a grass roots program for all children 7 to 14 years old to be actively involved through the sport of track & field. Track apparel and shoes are not necessary --- just show up with a big smile and ready to have some fun while making new friends! The goal of this event is to channel young children's energy and enthusiasm into an organized track and field event, where children are given the opportunity to learn about themselves, others and teamwork.

~Gordon Grissom~

PAC News

Snacks Needed During State Tests!

PAC is organizing a "snack drive" to provide each student with a nutritious snack on *Smarter Balanced Test Days: April 7-11, April 21-25, and May 5-9*. We need donated snacks and volunteers on each test day. We need approximately 2,000 individually bagged snacks or packaged, single snacks such as goldfish, cheese crackers, peanut butter crackers, Ritz Bits, yogurt covered raisins or pretzels, GoGo SqueeZ, cheese sticks, Go-Gurt, etc. Please drop off the donations in the SAC office as soon as possible before April 4. **NOTE: ANYTHING CONTAINING NUTS MUST BE PACKAGED BY THE PRODUCER – NOT SORTED INTO BAGGIES AT HOME – TO PREVENT CROSS-CONTAMINATION.** We also need two volunteers each morning to distribute snacks to kids prior to testing. Times are approximately 8 to 8:30 a.m. on Monday through Thursday, April 7-10, April 21-24, and May 5-8. Kids and teachers really like the snacks – it helps keep the students energy and brain power up! Please contact Elin Hert at elinanddoug@hotmail.com and let her know what you can do.

Ice Cream Social

We need help with the incoming 5th Grade Ice Cream Social on June 3rd after school. This is our chance to help introduce the next generation of SMS students to the community. We will need help with gathering items for the Social, setting up, serving ice cream and cleaning up. Please contact Rhonda Coles at coles4@live.com to help with this very fun event.

8th Grade Celebration

Eighth grade celebration is June 10th! If you are not a parent of an 8th grader and would like to help, PAC volunteer coordinator Pam Westphal would love to hear from you at volunteers4sms@gmail.com.

We have several positions open next year, and volunteering is a great way to get involved in school. Consider volunteering now so you can "shadow" the current job-holder and make the transition easier: Vice-President/Treasurer/Co-chair Contribution Drive/Co-Chair Thanks-4-Giving/CRT Snack Chair/Spirit Wear coordinator

Contact Pam Westphal at volunteers4sms@gmail.com, or simply join us at our next PAC meeting.

Upcoming PAC Meetings

Monday, April 21 at noon we'll hear about cyber safety and how to help your child safely navigate the online world.

Attention 8th Grade Parents

Monday, May 19 at noon Bozeman High School principal Kevin Conwell will talk about the transition to high school. More details will come on Facebook and via email. Join us!

PAC Officers

Co-President: Becky Ellig k12m09@msn.com
Co-President: Danielle Freeburg dfreeburg@montanadsl.net
Vice President: Kristin Lauman kvlauman@gmail.com
Treasurer: Pam Bittner plbittner@gmail.com
Secretary: Douglas Fischer fischwing@gmail.com
SMS PAC is on Facebook: Friend us at "Sacajawea Pac Bozeman Montana."

Around School

Orchestra Solo/Ensemble Performances

8th grade Orchestra Solo/Ensemble performances will be April 18th during their class time.

7th Grade Orchestra Solo/Ensemble performances will be April 11th during their class times.

Bike, Walk, and Wheel To School

Sacajawea Middle School will be celebrating Bike, Walk, and Wheel to school May 5-9. Several events are in the works, including community rides, bike parade, bike repair stations, a raffle for participants, and much more! Keep a look out for more information to come.

Great American Can Roundup

Falcon it Right! is again collecting aluminum cans until Earth Day, April 22nd. We are earning money to purchase a bench for the north side of the building in the parent pick up area. Several competitions are taking place in the school. Please have your students bring in your aluminum cans to school and help purchase that bench!

PAC Meeting/Internet Crime

Detective Dana McNeil of the Bozeman Police Department will speak at the PAC meeting on April 21, 2014. Dana is our detective who specializes in Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). He is a very knowledgeable asset when it comes to internet crimes and safety for children. He will be able for questions and answers regarding anything related to internet safety.

Library Used Book Sale

Due to Smarter Balanced Testing, the Library Used Book Sale will be postponed until May 20-23. Remember to bring your gently used books to the library any time during school hours.

Around the Neighborhood

Traffic Education Classes Correction

Please note the correction from previous information mailed: Your student must have a birth date on or before Jan. 7, 2000. Registration will begin **April 9 at 6:30** at a meeting at the **Bozeman High School South Cafeteria**. It will continue April 10 - April 23 in the Willson Office, room 227. Call 522-6013 for more information.

Dates to Remember

April	4 No School K-12
	7 6, 7, & 8 Grade Bands, gym
	16 Early Release 1:45 Dismissal
	21 PAC Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM
	25 Mid Term
May	1 Mid-Term Reports Sent Home
	5-9 Bike/Walk-to-School
	6 School Election Day
	19 PAC Meeting 12:00-1:00 PM
	21 Early Release 1:45 Dismissal
	26 Memorial Day Holiday
	29 8th Grade Jump UP Day at BHS
	30 5 th Grade Shadow Day
June	3 Ice Cream Social 3:30-5:00 PM
	10 8th Grade Celebration 7:00-8:00 PM
	11 Last Day of School 12:35 Dismissal
	13 End of Final Grading Period
	20 Final Report Cards Mailed Home

April 2014

Sacajawea Middle School
Mission Statement

Working together, we encourage curiosity for life-long learning and set high expectations for students' academic and social growth.

Return Service Requested

Sacajawea Middle School
3525 South 3rd Avenue
Bozeman, MT 59715
(406) 522-6470

