



SMS FALCON NEWS

SACAJAWEA MIDDLE SCHOOL

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2013 NEWSLETTER

Principal's Corner

Welcome to the new 2013-2014 School Year! We are excited to be welcoming the kids back to Sacajawea and kicking off another terrific year. It is always a pleasure to have our incoming sixth grade students join our seventh and eighth graders and enhancing our school community. We look forward to getting to know each one of our new students and, along with our returning students, further developing their skills and abilities.

Our focus this coming year, both at Sacajawea and throughout the district, will be the continued implementation of the Common Core State Standards, personalizing the learning for each student, further enhancing a safe and supportive school environment, and fully partnering with our student families. Put simply, we want each of our students to be recognized for their unique abilities and challenges, and supported to greater thinking and learning in a setting that allows them to reach their potential.

To our already outstanding staff, we are also pleased to announce that we are adding a number of talented teachers. (See the related article.) These folks are all excited to work with your kids and joining our returning staff to create a great year.

Finally, please look for opportunities to partner with us throughout the year. You know your son or daughter best; your knowledge and input is invaluable to our work with them.

Stay in touch with us, stay informed of classroom learning, be a part of your student's middle school years. We are all a part of their success.

Anticipate a terrific year!

~ Gordon Grissom ~

New Teachers

Due to increased enrollment and staff changes, Sacajawea is excited to welcome the following new staff members to our school!

- *Tom Schmidt* — 6A Math and CA
- *Trista Babcock* — 6B Math and HE
- *Holly Walker* — 6A & 6B HE
- *Lynn Ahlers* — 7B Science and CA
- *Kelly Haskins* — 7B Math and Social Studies
- *Ann Bernard* — 8B CA and Social Studies
- *Adrienne Ehresmann* — Reading and Math Strategies
- *Scott Kendall* — 6th grade Choir
- *Nathan Wilcox* — Band
- *Melissa Smith* — Band
- *Hal Richardson* — School Resource Officer



School Pictures

Students will have their pictures taken on **Thursday, September 19.** Packets will be sent home several weeks prior to that date.



PAC News

*Welcome to all our wonderful SMS families!
We're looking forward to another great year!*

Schedule Pick Up Day for all SMS students is on Thursday, August 22nd, and PAC still needs more volunteers! If you would like to help on August 22nd with collecting emergency contacts, distributing schedules, and locker assignments, as well as cashier duties and selling agendas, please let us know. The fun begins at 7:30 am and ends at 3:30 pm. If you can spend part or all of the day with us, please contact us by e-mailing our Volunteer Coordinator, Diana Weber, at volunteers4sms@gmail.com. The more volunteers we have, the smoother the day will go!

Our first PAC meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 16th, beginning at noon, Room 156 (6th grade hall, conference room on right). Meetings will typically be the 3rd Monday of every month. Attendance at PAC meetings is a great way to be involved in your child's education and to know what exciting things are happening at SMS. We look forward to meeting you!

Watch for PAC materials coming home the first week of school, which will include a volunteer form. Please complete the form and return it to the main office. There are many different volunteer opportunities within PAC with time commitments from once a week, to once a month, to once a year. If you're interested and/or want more details, please contact PAC Co-Presidents Becky Ellig at k12m09@msn.com or Danielle Freeburg at dfreeburg@montanadsl.net.

SMS PAC is on Facebook!

Friend us at "Sacajawea Pac Bozeman Montana"!

School Resource Officer

The Bozeman Public Schools and the Bozeman Police Department have a long-standing, successful, collaborative relationship. Our growing enrollment and new needs in the areas of prevention and community policing have provided both organizations an opportunity to update the School Resource Officer model to best support students and the work of the District. The District will now have four School Resource Officers who will deliver prevention curriculum instruction as well as provide community policing.

It is our pleasure to introduce *Officer Hal Richardson*, who will be specifically assigned to Sacajawea, Morning Star, Longfellow, Irving and Hawthorne. All of our officers look forward to meeting and working with our students. If you visit our school, don't be surprised to see him eating lunch with students, interacting with children on the playground, or teaching in class!

Visit Sacajawea's website:
<http://www.bsd7.org/sacajawea/>

Open House

Make plans to attend the *SMS Open House* on *Thursday, September 26th* (parents only, please). This is a valuable time to learn more from your student's teachers about curriculum, expectations and team activities. Power-School passwords and information will be made available. More information will be sent home in early September.

Athletics

Intramural Sports - The fee for intramurals is \$60 per sport. Physicals are not required.

Grade 6:
 Volleyball (Co-Ed) Sept. 4 - Oct. 23 M and W
 Basketball Nov. 4 - Dec. 20

Grades 6-8:
 Tennis Sept. 4 - Oct. 16

Interdistrict Sports - The fee for inter-school sports is \$80 per sport. A physical is required.

Grades 7-8—Girls:
 Volleyball Aug. 28 - Oct. 16 M - F
 Grades 7-8—Boys:
 Football Aug. 28 - Oct. 16 M - F
 Equipment Pick Up Aug. 27

Registration packets and Scholarship applications are available at the school office. Additional information is available from the Activities Office at 522-6234.

Supply List

Organizational notebook—3-ring or accordion, 2 1-2" 3-ring binders, Pocket folders
 Paper—loose-leaf, college-ruled
 Pencils—#2 or mechanical; Pens; Highlighters;
 Colored pencils; Colored markers; Glue sticks
 Ruler—standard and metric combined; Pencil/pen pouch; Calculator
 Agenda –required (\$5 at school)
 Flash drive—optional, but recommended

PE Clothes: gym shorts (dark), t-shirt (gray w/name on back; \$10 at school), white socks, gym shoes, sweat shirt/pants

Additional supplies may be needed for individual classes.

Student Drop-Off and Pick-Up

- As part of a healthy lifestyle, we encourage
- students to ride bikes or walk to school if feasible.
- However, if you do drop-off or pick-up your child
- during the year, please use only the north parking lot before and after school. For safety reasons, use
- the lane closest to the sidewalk and be respectful of
- other drivers and students. If waiting for a student
- in the afternoon, please limit the space between
- vehicles and turn off your engine. The loop in
- the front of the school is reserved for buses only
- between 7:45-8:30 am and 3:00-3:45 pm.

Thriving Sixth Graders

A workshop for parents of sixth graders is being offered by Thrive in conjunction with Bozeman Public Schools on *Thursday, August 22nd, 10:00-12:00 am* in the *cafeteria*. The workshop is intended to support parents with students transitioning to middle school and will include tips for partnering with the schools, typical characteristics of the adolescent years, and ideas for establishing a positive learning environment at home. Childcare will be provided. **Call 587-3840 to register.**

Dates to Remember

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| August | 22 | 6 th gr schedule pick-up 7:30-11:30; gym 7 th & 8 th gr pick-up 12:30-3:30; gym |
| | 22 | Thriving MS Students 10-12:00; cafe |
| | 27 | 8 th gr Ftbll equip check-out 4:15 pm 7 th gr Ftbll equip check-out 4:45 pm |
| | 28 | First Day of School! |
| | 28 | First day of practice: football & volleyball 7 th & 8 th |
| September | 2 | Labor Day - No School |
| | 4 | 6 th - 8 th gr Tennis intramurals begins 6 th gr Volleyball intramurals begins |
| | 4 | Parent mtg for Ftbll/V'ball 7pm; cafe |
| | 16 | PAC meeting 12 pm; Rm 156 |
| | 19 | Picture Day |
| | 25 | PIR Day - No School |
| | 26 | Open House 6:00 - 9:00 pm |
| October | 9 | Early Release 1:45 dismissal |
| | 11 | Trimester Mid-Term |

August/September 2013

Mission Statement

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

Sacajawea Middle School

Sacajawea Middle School
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 (406) 522-6470
 Return Service Requested



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