



**SCHOOL STARTS AT 8:20  
STUDENTS SHOULD BE DROPPED OFF NO  
LATER THAN 8:15 TO BE IN CLASS ON TIME.**

## Principal's Corner

Another beautiful autumn has arrived in Bozeman and we are beginning to hit our stride at Sacajawea. The first few weeks are always filled with setting expectations, developing the foundations for relationships, and identifying the strengths and needs of our students. We feel we are building the foundation for success for the remainder of the year and anticipate another strong year of learning.

As many of you are aware, the district has agreed upon a revised school calendar this year. A significant part of that calendar is the six Pupil Instruction-Related Days (PIR Days) that are scheduled throughout the school year. These days replace the early release days of previous years and are intended to provide meaningful opportunities for our staff to learn together. The structure for most of these days is composed of whole staff learning sessions, collaboration time, and independent work time.

Our learning at SMS will be focused on the further development of meaningful and effective instructional practices—identifying and attending to the specific needs of each student, developing relevant and high-level learning activities, encouraging inquiry, and extending the creative minds of our kids. The recent September 30 PIR Day focused on using writing to develop critical thinking skills.

We are committed to taking each individual student at the place they are currently and pressing them forward in their learning. Thank you for your support and partnership with us in the continued development of your kids.

≈Gordon Grissom≈

## Mid-Terms

With the ability for parents and guardians to check on student progress through PowerSchool, we will no longer be sending home hard copies of mid-terms for all students at the six-week grading period. If you are unfamiliar or need assistance with accessing your student's grades, please contact Sally Owen, SMS registrar, at 522-6422. Mid-terms will still be printed and distributed to sixth grade students for their six-week elective classes.

## PAC News

### Fall Fundraising Campaigns

Sacajawea needs your support. We wrap up our fall campaigns this month, yet we remain less than halfway to our goals. *If you are able to contribute, this is the time.* You can do so online. Or make a check out to SMS PAC and send it to school with your child. Our annual **Contribution Drive** supports projects and ideas teachers would like to add to their curriculum: field trips, science equipment, special speakers, scholarships, art supplies, the science fair and much more. Last year we gave \$15,000 directly to teachers and the school – slightly below past levels. The need is closer to \$20,000. *Many thanks to those who have already given.* We've raised \$6,500 so far. Our **Cornerstone Campaign** brings technology into the school. We want our children ahead of the curve. Last year your support allowed us to purchase a cart of 30 iPads and 10 mini-iPads that teachers are using daily. This year teachers have identified Chromebooks and video production hardware as the greatest need. We've raised \$4,000 toward our \$20,000 goal. Our efforts in the next month will determine how many teacher and school projects PAC can support this year and next. Falling short means saying no to support for some amazing classroom activities. We hope to reach \$40,000 for the two campaigns. *Our goal is 100 percent participation, at any level.* Contributions are tax-deductible and matching corporate donations are gladly accepted. This is a great way to get grandparents, aunts, uncles and others involved in your child's school. Every dollar raised goes to Sacajawea. **Donate online:** <http://squareup.com/market/sacajawea-middle-school-parent-advisory-council>  
Questions? Call Douglas Fischer (219-3816) or Lori Faure (579-1499), fundraising co-chairs.

### Volunteers

We have a lot of fun volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Shadowing one of the volunteer positions is a great way to get involved and check out what a volunteer role entails. Interested? Email **Pam Westphal** at [volunteers4sms@gmail.com](mailto:volunteers4sms@gmail.com).

### Student Directory

Have a business with an advertising budget? There's no better platform than Sacajawea's student directory. It goes to every student and staff member at the school. The ad deadline is October 10. Contact **Beth Antonopulos** at [antonopulos@gmail.com](mailto:antonopulos@gmail.com) for more information.

### School Store and Snack Bar

The PAC-run school store and afterschool snack bar offer basic supplies or a quick breakfast snack (bagels, Pop Tarts, granola bars) from 8:10 and 8:20 a.m. and snacks after school.

### School Board Luncheon

A **BIG THANKS** to all who stepped up to support Tuesday's luncheon for the Bozeman School District Board of Trustees and SMS staff.

PAC Cont.

**PAC Officers for 2014-2015**

Co-Presidents: **Danielle Freeburg**

dfreeburg@montanadsl.net

**Kristin Lauman** kvlauman@gmail.com

Vice President: **Sarah McLain**

[sckenna@gmail.com](mailto:sckenna@gmail.com) Treasurer: **Gary**

**Hellenga** gary.hellenga@gmail.com

Secretary: **Douglas Fischer** fischwing@gmail.com

Volunteer coordinator: **Pam Westphal**

volunteers4sms@gmail.com

**Join Us!**

Our next *PAC meeting is Monday, Oct. 13 at noon.*

**Ashley Mares-Jones**, parent liaison from Thrive, will be our guest speaker. It's a great way for parents to be involved and tuned in to what's happening at SMS. Involved parents create successful students!

Friend us at

**"Sacajawea Pac Bozeman Montana"**

**Boarding School Information**

The SMS Counseling Office receives information from a variety of boarding schools on a regular basis. The fall of eighth grade is usually when students take the Secondary School Admission Test (SSAT) as a first step in the application process. If you would like information on boarding schools, please contact the Counseling Office.

**★ Check This Out ★**

Parents and students can check the **Daily Bulletin** for important **current information**. To access this great information go to Power School, click on Functions, then on Daily Bulletin.

**Hearing Concerns**

If you have any concerns regarding your child's hearing acuity, please feel free to call **Sue Hawkinson** Speech Therapist at 522-6456 or 522-6651. Sue will be happy to follow up with a screen.

**SMS Bike Club**

SMS Bike Club is sponsoring Wednesday rides to school until the weather conditions do not permit bike riding. Rides will leave at 7:30am from various points in town. *"Doughnut Rides"* leave at 7:45 and meet at Granny's Doughnuts for a free doughnut. The bike rides are a fun way to build community at SMS as well as a way for students to explore alternative methods of transportation for getting to school. Any questions contact **George Scott** @ george.scott@bsd7.org

**What is a Parent Liaison?**

Parent Liaisons serve as the link between home and school. Parent Liaisons support parents, help parents access community resources and can assist with those tough parenting questions. **Available to all families, the Parent Liaison can meet with parents at a time and place convenient to them.**

The Parent Liaison Program is collaboration between the Bozeman School District and Thrive. You can contact your SMS Parent Liaison, **Ashley Mares Jones**, at [ashley.maresjones@bsd7.org](mailto:ashley.maresjones@bsd7.org) or by phone at 922-4230.

**Thriving Kids Start with You!  
Be a CAP Mentor**

Help a child in the Bozeman community thrive by getting involved in our program! Do you know someone that would like to help a student in our local schools? CAP needs *motivated individuals* to serve as mentors to Bozeman students for the 2014-15 school year. Find out what an impact can be made in just an hour a week, and how much fun can be had! **Call 585-7929** or go to [www.allthrive.org](http://www.allthrive.org) for more info.

**Clubs**

There are many *activities at SMS* in which you can be involved. This is a great way to explore new interests and meet new people! Some examples are:  
Student Council/Science Club/Peer Mediation/Newspaper Club/Yearbook Chess Club/Math Counts/Speech & Debate/Lego Club/Computer Club/Science Olympiad/Book Club/Art Club/Outdoor Club

**Dates To Remember**

October	7	School Board Lunch
	10	Trimester Mid-Term
	<b>16-17</b>	<b>No School K-12</b>
	<b>20</b>	<b>PIR Day – No School K-12</b>
November	3	SMS 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr B/C/O Concert SMS Gym 7:30
	10	Veterans Day Assembly, Gym
	<b>11</b>	<b>PIR Day, No School K-12</b>
	11	SMS 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade B/C/O Concert SMS Gym 7:30
	17	PAC Meeting, 12:00 – 1:00pm Room #155
	25	End of First Trimester
	<b>26-28</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Holiday</b>
December	9	Student-Led Conferences 4:00-7:30
	9	SMS Jazz Band Concert 7:30 pm
	11	Student-Led Conferences 4:00-7:30
	<b>22-Jan. 2</b>	<b>Winter Break</b>



