



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

Principal's Corner

On April 20, we will be conducting spring conferences with families of our students. The conferences are a follow-up to the fall student-led conferences where we had a chance to review student learning and identify areas of continued growth. Rather than determining goals, we asked the students to identify commitments—on-going practices that will lead to success, this year and through life.

Now is a chance to review those commitments and to celebrate their successes. And for some, to reflect on challenges and determine alternative strategies that will lead to growth.

Unlike the fall, the conferences in the spring are optional. However, we encourage any families who would like to check in with teachers, review student growth, and reflect on progress to request a conference on the 20th. We are also scheduling a school-wide barbecue that evening for each grade level. In addition, at 6:30 that evening we will have a parent information meeting on technology and cyber safety for parents. Eric Vandersloot, our School Resource Officer, will be presenting important information for all parents dealing with issues arising from cell phones and other technology.

Additional information will be shared in the coming days, but we hope all families will be able to join us. Thanks for partnering with us in the support of your children.

≈Gordon Grissom≈

Smarter Balanced Assessments

Our students will be demonstrating their learning through the Smarter Balanced Assessments in April and early May. Each grade level will be taking reading and math tests. These tests are computer-based and responsive to each student, which should provide meaningful results for the students and families as well as for the school. This information will further guide our instructional program and assist us in meeting the specific needs of each individual.

The testing will occur on the following weeks:

- 6th grade—April 11-April 15;
- 7th grade—April 25-April 29;
- 8th grade—May 2-May 5.

Please ensure your student is fully prepared to demonstrate their learning – well-rested, well-nourished, and confident in their abilities. Snacks will not be provided this year. Keep in mind breakfast is available between 7:45am and 8:30am. The reduced price is \$0.30 for those that qualify and regular price is \$1.85.

PAC News

Co-Op Coffee For SMS Classrooms in April - As a community-owned business, giving back is vitally important to the Community Food Co-Op. It's something they've always done. This year, the Co-Op wants to spotlight supporting and investing in our amazing public schools and local students. Coffee for Classrooms will donate \$0.10 of every cup of coffee sold (drip, espresso, etc.) in April to Sacajawea Middle School. As you might imagine, they sell lots of coffee between their two locations!

Pizza Night at Mackenzie River – April 6th

Next PAC Meeting is noon, April 18, at SAC
PAC is looking for new officers for next year – If you would like to have a deeper involvement and make a significant impact towards supporting your child's school and education, the PAC would love to have you. We are looking for volunteers to fill officer positions and other key roles for the coming school year as several of our PAC families are moving on to high school. This spring is a great time to become involved and shadow an officer in preparation for the start of the school year. Please contact **Becky Ellig** at k12m09@msn.com for more details.

PAC Officers for 2015-2016

Co-Presidents: **Becky Ellig** k12m09@msn.com

Kristin Lauman kvlauman@gmail.com

Vice President: **Unfilled Position**. Please contact **Becky Ellig** at k12m09@msn.com.

Treasurer: **Gary Hellenga**
gary.hellenga@gmail.com

Secretary: **Tamara Knappenberger**
tkknappenberger@yahoo.com

Volunteer Coordinator: **Julianne Williams**
volunteers4sms@gmail.com

Donate iPods and Headphones

Bozeman HS students, **Olivia Atkins** and **Taylor Jones** are collecting used **iPods** and 'over-the-head' headphones to give to Alzheimer's patients at the memory loss center at **Spring Creek Inn**. A drop box is located in the SMS main office through April 15. Thank you for your support.

Spring Donut Rides

Donut Rides will begin immediately, weather dependent of course. An added feature this year will be email notification for parents and students alike. If you would like an email notification as to whether the ride is on or off please email kevin.guettler@bsd7.org. The email address you send will be added to the notification list. We will use the this list to announce all bike related opportunities. Bike On!!

Orchestra Students Performing

Orchestra Parents are invited to please come and listen to the orchestra students perform individual and small group musical pieces on these dates: **6th grade on Wednesday, April 6th and 7th & 8th grade on Friday, April 8th**. Students will be performing these pieces in the orchestra room during their orchestra class time.

Used Book Sale

The *SMS Library* will be hosting their annual **Used Book Sale** on **5/31 - 6/3**. The library is collecting gently used books for all ages. You may drop off your donations at SMS during regular school hours. The sale is open to the community so we take all levels of books, CDs, and DVDs. **NO textbooks or VHS tapes please.** Thank you for supporting your school library! The *SMS Library* collects *Box Tops for Education*. Please clip and support our collection development!

Falcon it Right! Fundraiser

The *Falcon it Right!* club is still participating in their aluminum can fundraiser. SMS parents can support the fundraiser by sending aluminum cans with their students until April 20th to help with the Falcon It Right fundraiser. Thank you!

Student Council Movie Night

Eighth grade Student Council is sponsoring a **Movie Night** at the SMS cafeteria on **Friday, April 15th from 6 - 8pm**. *Inside Out* will be shown. Donations will be taken at the door, and concessions will be sold. All grades and their families are welcome. Students in fifth grade or younger must be accompanied by an adult. Proceeds benefit **Student Council** projects. Feel free to wear your school appropriate PJs, and bring a pillow or blanket. See you there!

Back-to-School Supply Kits

The Bozeman Schools Foundation and your PAC are offering the convenient services of SchoolKidz, Inc. and their Teacher Tailored[®] back-to-school supply kit program. Five dollars of every kit purchased is donated to the Bozeman Schools Foundation and your PAC! These donations benefit Spark Grants, Scholarships and so much more! We offer brand name items, such as Crayola[®], Elmer's[®] and Staples. Each item is chosen by the teachers and is exactly what is on your child's supply list. If you have any questions, please contact info@bozemanschoolsfoundation.org. **Online Ordering Begins: April 1st, 2016**
Online Ordering Ends: June 17th, 2016
Orders are ONLY accepted online. To order your kit(s) online, please follow these simple steps:

1. Go to www.shopltkits.com
2. Enter the account number: 10443
3. Choose the appropriate grade level kit – Remember to enter the grade your student will be in next year!
4. Enter your child's first and last name
5. Add to cart; confirm your order and

checkout. **IMPORTANT NOTE: YOU DO NOT NEED TO SIGN IN OR CREATE AN ACCOUNT WHEN CHECKING OUT. YOU MAY CHECKOUT WITHOUT AN ACCOUNT BY ENTERING YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS ONLY.**

Parent Liaison Corner: How to Put an End to Arguing

Arguing with your middle school student can be exhausting! Here are a few *Love and Logic* tips that will keep you from getting 'hooked' into an argument:

1. Go Brain Dead. Harness your inner power to disengage with your child when things are heating up. Say something like "This is important. Let's talk about this when we are both calm." Repeat this phrase as needed especially if the child is persistent. Another great follow-up question could be "Now, what did I say?"

2. Remain Calm. Imagine all of your child's angry words washing over you, not penetrating your protective armor. You are calm and in control. Your tone is low and slow (like a broken record). Your body language is neutral. Avert your eyes from your child if possible. Take a few deep breaths.

3. Reconnect. Circle back to the original issue when everyone has settled down. You may say something like "I'd love to talk with you about your weekend plans now that we are both calm." Are things still heated? Repeat steps as needed.

Contact your *SMS Thrive Parent Liaisons*, *Libby Hansen* and *Ashley Mares Jones* at 522-6469.

Summer Fun

Summer is coming up quickly! Plan your child's summer fun at the Montana Parent [Summer Activity and Camp RoundUp](#). The event will be held April 7th from 4:00pm-7:00pm at the Gallatin Valley Mall. Or you can check out the online *Montana Parent [Summer guide](#)*.

Dates To Remember

April	18	PAC Meeting 12:00 – 1:00 pm
	21	Student-Led Conferences 11:00-6:30 pm 6:30-7:00 pm CyberSafety info. meeting
	21-22	PIR Day – No School K-12
	22	Trimester 3 Mid-Term
	27	5 th Grade B/O Festival at SMS
May	9	SMS 7 th and 8 th Choirs, Gym 7:30 pm
	10	SMS Dinner Jazz, Cafeteria 6:00 pm
	16	PAC Meeting, 12:00-1:00 pm
	16	8 th Grade Jump Up Day at BHS
	17	SMS 6 th Grade B/C/O, Gym 7:30 pm
	23	SMS Select Choir, Cafeteria 6:00 pm
	24	SMS Dinner Orchestra SMS Cafeteria 6:00 pm
	26	5 th Grade Shadow Day
	27	PIR Day – No School K-12
	30	Memorial Day – No School K-12
	31	Ice Cream Social for 5 th grade parents 4:00-5:00 pm
June	2	8 th Grade Celebration 6:30-7:30 pm
	6	SMS Band Concert, Cafeteria 6:00 pm
	10	Last Day of School 12:35 Dismissal
	10	End of Final Grading Period
	17	Final Report Cards Mailed Home

