



SMS NEWSLETTER

February 2017

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.

Principal’s Message

January 20 represented the midway point of the 2016-2017 school year. The year always seems to fly by, but we are excited about the progress of our students academically, socially and developmentally.

In January, your students were assessed in math and reading—the second round of STAR testing we use in the school district. This benchmark provides important information for each individual student as we track their progress in reading comprehension and math skills. While we work to have all students demonstrate proficiency in these areas, we are also mindful of their growth. Regardless of where they are on the continuum of learning, we want to see continued growth in their abilities.

In the next few days, you will receive the STAR scores for your student on a chart that also demonstrates their expected performance on the Smarter Balanced Assessment—the annual state summative test occurring in April. A cover letter will explain the scoring and the expected result.

It is important to recognize that these scores are only a snapshot of student learning; on-going classroom observations and assessments ensure a broader perspective of each student’s growth. However, these standardized assessments can provide valuable information on intervention supports.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or thoughts regarding our school’s assessments. Thank you, as always, for your partnership with us in your son’s or daughter’s growth.

≈Gordon Grissom≈

Main Office: 522-6400
Attendance: 522-6410

The SMS *core value* for the month of February is:
“Grit”

Dates To Remember

February

- 2....6A - Bridger Bowl
- 2....SMS 8th/CJMS 8th
BHS Bands,
Willson 7:30 pm
- 9....Spelling Bee, SMS
Cafeteria 3:30 pm
- 13...PAC Meeting,
12:00-1:00 pm
- 14...SMS/CJMS/BHS
Jazz Bands,
Willson, 7:30 pm
- 16...5th Grade Parent
Night 6:00-7:30 pm
- 24....Spirit Night
5:00pm – 7:30 pm

March

- 2-3...CRT Testing
8th Grade
- 3....7B - Bridger Bowl
- 3....End of Trimester 2
- 7....8A - Bridger Bowl
- 8....8B – Bridger Bowl
- 9...SMS Choirs,
SMS Gym
7:30 pm
- 10...7A – Bridger Bowl
- 13 – 17...Spring Break
No School
- 27...PAC Meeting,
12:00-1:00 pm
- 30...SMS Bands,
SMS Gym 7:30 pm

Pac News

Spirit Night

Spirit Night has been moved to February 24th and PAC is looking for volunteers. Please contact Julianne Williams at:
volunteers4sms@gmail.com if you are interested in helping.

Student Leadership Committee Presentation

The Student Leadership Committee asked The **PAC** to help support their **ISPY Rewards** with coupons and popcorn vouchers from the snack cart. The **ISPY** is a contest promoting peer awareness of good citizenship and kindness among students within the school. Ask you student for more information.

Pac Meeting Recap

BSD Superintendent, Rob Watson and **Deputy Superintendent of Operations, Steve Johnson** visited the January **PAC** meeting to give an update on the proposal for the new high school and an up date of the current high school. They also gave an overview of the anticipated need for schools as **Bozeman’s** population continues to grow. The proposal should be on the ballot for the **May 2017** bond election. Please join us at our next **PAC** meeting on Monday, February 13th at noon.

Friend us at “Sacajawea PAC Bozeman Montana”

Attention 6th Grade Parents

Incoming Seventh grade students **must** submit proof of a Tdap (Boostrix) shot **or** the required “Religious Exemption” notarized forms, **before** starting the 2017-2018 school year. **Call Sally Owen at 522-6422** if you have any questions

Parent University February Schedule

Consider attending informational sessions designed specifically for parents of **BSD** students. All classes are held at the **Willson School**, 404 W. Main Street and are **free** of charge. For more information and to register, go to:

http://www.bsd7.org/students_parents/parent_university

Thursday, February 2, 2017, 12-1

Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention: Power and Control Issues

Emily Kempe - Haven Outreach Coordinator

Tuesday, February 7, 2017, 12-1

What are your passions? Getting connected to your passion!!!

Karlina Popwell, Gifted Education Office Assistant

Thursday, February 16, 2017, 12-1

Recognizing and Overcoming Perfectionism

Wendy Morical, PEAKS Coordinator

Tuesday, February 21, 2017, 12-1

Life Stressors / Raising Resilience

Laura St. John, SAFE-TI (School & Family Engagement Trauma Informed)

New High School Information

For those who would like more information on the new high school please click [HERE](#) for the latest news, data, and the 4 cost options that are currently being discussed by our committee and Board.

Knitting Club

Knitting Club meets Thursday from 3:30-4:30 and Friday from 11:30-12:00. No experience necessary. All supplies provided.

Yearbook

Eighth Graders! If you would like to have your baby or toddler pictures included in the year book, please hand one in to Mr. Bies or email to kenny.bies@bsd7.org by **March 10th**. Photos will be returned. The sale of yearbooks will take place in May.

Box Tops to the SMS Library

Please remember to send your **Box Tops** to the **SMS library**. Each Box is worth **10 cents** and benefits the school library. Boxtop contributions to date are \$158.00, which will go directly to buying playaways and books for the students @ SMS! **Thank you** for supporting the library.

Construction Update

In January we were excited to have our students and teachers move into six new classroom spaces--all science classes are currently in new rooms in the sixth and seventh grade wings. The eighth grade science classes are temporarily located in the seventh grade wing and will return to their actual rooms in the summer. The commons area has also been expanded in the seventh grade wing with new carpet laid just this past week. The commons areas and classrooms in the sixth and eighth grade wing continue under construction. On the west side, interior and exterior walls are up on the electives wing with steelwork for the roof being added shortly. The exterior masonry walls are also being constructed--in spite of the weather--for the music and health enhancement additions. Much happening, much excitement!

SMS Geography Bee

Congratulations to **Sada Schumann** for winning the **SMS Geography Bee** and to **Miles Al-Chokhachy** for being our runner-up.

"Can Recycling"

Falcon it Right! Club is again collecting aluminum cans. Cans can be donated in designated "Can Recycling" Garbage cans, or can be brought directly to **Mrs. Hedglin's** room.

Cross-Country Loop

A huge shout-out to **BSF** and **Barnard Construction** for their continued support of our health enhancement program through the grooming of the cross-country ski loop on our west field! **BSF** has set and maintained our x-c loop allowing our HE classes to "embrace the winter" and develop their skiing skills. The loop is also available to the community outside of school hours.

Should I keep My Child Home

SMS tries to keep everyone healthy so that students can learn and staff can teach and work. We have some students in schools that have fragile immune systems that may get sick more easily, stay sick longer, or have more severe consequences when sick. To ensure that SMS stays healthy and to protect all students from getting sick, please follow the school recommendations below. **Keep your child home if they show these signs:**

- **Fever of >100 degrees**
- **Vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours**
- **Cough that s/he cannot control**
- **Body aches, headaches, earaches, severe sore throat, very tired or lack of appetite**

Students can **return to school usually 24 hours after the above symptoms have subsided**. All medications that are used during the school day, both prescription and over the counter, will need a health care provider signature or health care plan. Please notify the front desk of your school of all medications that are to be taken by your child during the day.