

SMS NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2018

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 Corner

Thanks to all of you who were able to join us for our Student-Led Conferences this past week. We view these conferences as an important foundation for our students to reflect on their strengths and challenges at this point in the year and begin attending to meaningful goals in the coming months. We also recognize that the habits that lead to the attainment of the goals are key for their learning not only this year but on-going in their schooling and lives.

Two months into the school year has also provided time for you and students to experience the new standards-based learning format. As you are likely aware, we believe this format will reinforce student understanding of their current learning levels of the significant concepts and skills in each discipline. The students should have greater awareness of the next steps to mastery as well as opportunities to apply their understanding in unique, real-life, meaningful, and creative ways--the benchmarks of above proficiency levels.

The measurement of student progress is available through PowerSchool. Be sure to click on the "i" on your student's grade report to see the specific learning level for each standard being measured. Helpful guidance in fully using PowerSchool is available through these two short, but informative, videos (also found on the district's website)

- [How to View Proficiency Levels](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N-BoFxl8n8TU&feature=youtu.be>

- [How to View Assignments in PowerSchool](#)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iBeYa9VKxS4&feature=youtu.be>

Do not hesitate to contact Assistant Principal VanVelkinburgh or me if you have any questions regarding the standards-based grading or gradebook. We believe this system will further allow you to partner with your children and our teachers in their learning.

Gordon Grissom

PAC

Thanks to all the families that helped make this year's Cornerstone and Contribution drives a success. To date, we have raised almost 25,000!!!! Donations may still be made using the following link <https://squareup.com/market/sacajawea-middle-school-parent-advisory-council>

PARENT SPEAKER SERIES

Tuesday, November 13, 12:00-1:00 pm

Join us and meet our new counselors, **Jeanne Cooper** and **Nick Warren**. This month: S.O.S. Signs of Suicide. Jeanne will discuss this very serious topic, give us a glimpse into the teenage brain, and more. Please bring your questions.

Your PAC Team: Monica, Janet, Kristen, and Anna Marie

Main Office: 522-6400

Attendance: 522-6410

Core Value for November RESPONSIBILITY

Dates to Remember

NOVEMBER

1 **School Photo Re-takes**

8 SMS 8th gr Band/Choir/Orch,
7:30pm, Gym

9 Veterans Day Assembly,
8:30-9:30am, Gym

9 Hearing Screenings,
6th gr

13 PAC Speaker Series,
12:00-1:00pm, Rm E10

20 End of Trimester 1

21-23 Thanksgiving Break

26 PIR Day, No School K-12

29 SMS Jazz Band Concert,
6:00pm Café

DECEMBER

6 SMS 6th gr Band/Choir/Orch,
7:30pm, Gym

10 SMS Select Choir,
6:00pm, Café

**24-Jan 4 Winter Break,
No School**

29 SMS Jazz Band Concert,
6:00pm Café

JANUARY

**7 First day back to school
from Winter Break**

15 PAC Speaker Series
8:30-9:30 am

17 Geography Bee, Library 3:30

19 Trimester 2 Mid-Term

21 PIR Day- No School K-12

24 Team Boulder- Big Sky

25 Team Madison – Big Sky

29 SMS 8th/CJMS 8th/BHS
Choirs, Willson 7:30 pm

31 Team Bison – Bridger Bowl

Parent University

Social Media-What you want to know about **SnapChat** but were afraid to snap and find out...

When it comes to apps teens and millennials say Snapchat is “KING.” Snapchat has over 158 million people using it every day and, on an average, open the app 18 times a day. Chances are your teen has the app and you are left to wonder how safe the app really is. This presentation is a hands-on class in which we will show you how to screenshot, learn aboutognito mode, snap map and how you build your friend group all through snapchat. Prior to attending **please download the Snapchat app and create a profile; we will walk you through the rest.** If you are not quite sure how to download the app and set up a profile, arrive early (11:30) and we will be happy to help you. If you have questions about the class feel free to contact *Mary Ann Benz* at [522-6022](tel:522-6022). Recommended for parents/guardians for children in grades 4 – 12.

Nov 6, 2018- 12:00 to 1:00 - Willson Board Room #122, Willson School, 404 West Main Street

Arabic Culture/Language Class

Each Tuesday afternoon, *Sayed Keliey* will be teaching the Arabic culture and language to all interested students. Sayed is this year’s visiting instructor for the Irving Elementary Teacher of Critical Languages Program. Classes begin at 3:30 each Tuesday in Room A-24.

All are welcome – adults and elementary students too!

After School Clubs

Clubs Currently in Session: A variety of clubs are in session and open to students to participate. Clubs occur from 3:30-4:30 on the days listed below, are free, and are open to students on a drop-in basis. Encourage your students to participate in clubs of interest.

<u>Monday</u>	Computer – Gordon Chamberlain – Rm C8 Outdoor Club – Chris Ottey – Rm F22 Falcon It Right (Service Club)– Deb Tew – Rm F14
<u>Tuesday</u>	Robotics – Gordon Chamberlain – Rm C8 Arabic – Sayed Keliey – Rm A24
<u>Thursday</u>	Robotics– Gordon Chamberlain – Rm C8 Art Club – Tim Rooney – C-5 Knitting – George Scott – Rm D12

Coming later this year--Yearbook, Archery and Speech/Debate.

AMERICAN MATHEMATICS CONTEST 8

MSU’s Science Math Resource Center (SMRC) will host the **2018 American Mathematics Contest 8** (AMC 8) for all middle school students interested in mathematics on Tuesday, November 13th from 4:15-5:20pm.

SMRC will award top scorers the following:

- First Place - \$100
- Second Place - \$75
- Third Place - \$50

In addition: a ‘Youth Prize’ of \$25 will go to the top student in 6th grade or below.

Details and online registration can be found at <http://www.montana.edu/ehhd/smrc/index.html>.
Registration is open until all spots are filled.

Hearing Screenings for 6th Graders

Our Speech Therapist, *Theresa Pfaff*, will be conducting hearing screenings on Friday, November 9th during the student’s Science class. Please contact her at [522-6431](tel:522-6431) if you have questions.



Registration is now open for the **4th Annual Santa Run for Education 5k Run**. This year the run is the kick-off event for the 37th Annual Christmas Stroll in Downtown Bozeman – RUN... THEN STROLL!! With both the start and finish of the race at the Willson Gym, participants can warm up before and after the race while enjoying the race's famous hot chocolate bar from Town and Country, coffee from Café M and soups and cookies handcrafted by Starky's Authentic Americana.

In the Christmas spirit of giving, the three schools throughout the Gallatin Valley with the most runners registered (percentage of their populations) will earn \$1000 for their school's Parent Advisory Councils. We could not do this without the generous support of our main sponsors: Stockman Bank, The Rib & Chop House, Langlas & Associates and Ressler Motors.

This annual event is organized by the Bozeman Schools Foundation and is one of their major program funding events for the year. The Santa Run helps the Foundation fund Spark Classroom Grants, Worthy Student Scholarships, Links to Literacy and many other worthwhile initiatives that support our public schools, teachers and students.

Race sign ups at: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MT/Bozeman/SantaRunforEducation5K>

Health Tips

Be a role model. Children who regularly see their parents enjoying sports and physical activity are more likely to do so themselves.

Family meals prevent excessive weight gain: Eating 3 or more family meals (meaning at least one parent is present and the meal is prepared at home) results in a 12% lower likelihood of children being [overweight](#).

Family meals teach healthy food choices: The eating habits of childhood often last a lifetime. Families that ate at least three meals together each had a 20% decrease in unhealthy food choices. Teaching your children to enjoy [healthy foods](#) rather than junk foods is a gift that will stay with them through adulthood. (from: HealthyChildren.org)

FirstView® Parent App

FirstView® by First Student is the industry's most comprehensive and secure bus tracking and parent communication app. FirstView® is packed with helpful features including estimated bus arrival time, opt-in district messaging regarding delays or issues, customizable alerts for when the bus is a chosen distance or number of minutes away, secure password protection and built-in customer support.

To download, go to rstviewapp.com. You also can find FirstView® in the App Store or Google Play.

A desktop version of FirstView® is available at rstviewapp.com

FirstView® is based on the student ID number, the same number your student uses to access their lunch account.

