

7.28.22 Borel Bobcat Blast Parent Newsletter #1

Jessica Notte • less than a minute ago • Thursday, Jul 28 at 4:35 PM • **Borel Middle School**



Bobcat Blast Newsletter #1 July 28th, 2022

Principal's Message

Dear Borel Families,

I am very excited to welcome you to the 2022 – 2023 school year! We hope that you and your loved ones have enjoyed a fun, safe and healthy summer. This is my 15th year with SMFCSD and 23rd year in public education. Together we learned so much last year about what students need as we returned to school. In the Spring and over the Summer we have used that information to make changes to support student success, safety and wellness. Crews also have been working on facility updates including AC in all the rooms and starting a shade structure installation in the lunch court!



Our students' health and safety are a priority. We need your help to continue to follow Covid Prevention strategies like **Watching for Covid 19 Symptoms** and if so, testing at home. Stay tuned for how to pick up a free test kit. Masks are strongly recommended indoors. You should have also received from our district our 2022-2023 Middle School Social-Emotional, Wellness and Safety Communication. It is also located on our new **website's Homepage under Featured News & Events**.

Last year we expanded equitable, inclusionary practices, elective offerings, created a special Homeroom Series to eliminate hate and trained over 50 students and staff to be Safety Ambassadors for our school. Together, we brought back Outdoor Education, Student Council Dances and Drives, the Cultural Fair, live music performances, our Spring Musical and sports!

This year we will continue our culture of collaboration so that students receive high level, engaging instruction from our knowledgeable, creative, talented,

Upcoming Events

8/9 Head Start Day, For 6th Grade Students & Families and New to Borel Families, see more information under PTA below

- 10:00AM-10:45 AM for students whose last names start with A-Li
- 11:15AM-12:00PM for students whose last names start with Lo-Z

8/11 First Day of School, 8:20AM

8/11 Parent Coffee, Borel Lunch Court 8:30-9:00AM

and hard working teaching staff. We are focused on academic achievement for all students and tiered supports so every child can thrive. One such support is our new Bobcat Wellness Center led by Counselor Jonathan Lopez, located by the library and our new additional Counselor, Barbara Quintero.

I know you want to know the details for getting your children back into the routine of school, getting them ready for middle school or getting them ready for a new school. The new block schedule is located under our **"For Parents page" on our website**. Plan to have your child arrive by 8:10AM to be prepared for their first class starting daily at 8:20AM. Under our "For Students" page is a list of **materials**.

The first day of school is Thursday, August 11. Students arrive by walking, biking (with a helmet and lock) and Sam Trans routes 58 & 53 (which we can help students get free passes). Allow for extra time so your child is on time to their class by 8:20AM. Our three gates will be open at 8:05AM to let students in near our front office, Barneson Gym and Borel Ave (where students cross at the stop sign, not across the street by the gate.)

Our student theme for this new year is, "How will you change the world?" At Borel we know the important role we have with these young people. In addition to being a public educator for over twenty years, I am also a parent to two children ages 9 and 12. As your principal and as a parent I want to provide a safe, structured environment where children can figure out who they are as individuals, community members and love learning. I want to provide experiences for children so they can learn what they like, how to take care of themselves, help others and have fun. I don't work alone and remain ever grateful for the collaborative, supportive community here at Borel. For more on back to school tips, see below.

Our friendly office staff happy to assist you. For questions about your child's academic program and well-being please contact their counselor.

- Cara Wharton-Student last names A-G, cwharton@smfcsd.net, 650-638-7036
- Barbara Quintero-Student last names H-O bquintero@smfcsd.net, 650-312-7006
- Christian Potter Student last names P-Z cpotter@smfcsd.net, 650-312-6835

Together we are Bobcat Strong. I can't wait to see you all soon!

Sincerely,
Jessica Notte

Back to School Tips!

1. Let your child know that we are all here to help make them have a positive and safe experience.
2. Take time to talk with your child about what they are looking forward to, any fears and what questions they have about school. Explore our website together. Encourage them to reach out and ask any questions when they come to Head Start Day.
3. If they are new to Borel's campus, come to Head Start Day so they get to know our campus. Practice how they will get to campus safely like crossing at crosswalks when needed and not looking at a phone when crossing. There will be a tour at Head Start and sixth graders will get their schedules so they can practice walking to each of their classes.
4. A consistent bedtime and wake up routine with limits on technology really helps. Also, it is important to have a place at home where they can finish up an assignment and charge their chromebook so it's ready to go the next day. I encourage all students to take a break from the screens and read something they like before bed.
5. Have conversations with your child about what they like for snacks and lunch. It will be important to stay hydrated, eat a snack and bring or eat a free lunch and breakfast too, if needed.



PTA & Head Start Day Volunteers Needed

Head Start Day for our new students will be Tuesday, August 9th in the AM. Head Start is an orientation day for sixth grade students and anyone new to our school. Students will participate in community building activities with Bobcat leaders and parents will get to know other parents, our great PTA and staff. We have an award winning music program. So this is a great time to let us know if your child wants to take band, orchestra or chorus. PTA is looking for Parent volunteers to make this day awesome. If interested here is their **Head Start Volunteer Sign-Up Aug 9 2022 document**. Special thanks to PTA VP of Community Jen Hwang for putting this together.

- 10:00AM-10:45 AM for students whose last names start with A-Li
- 11:15AM-12:00PM for students whose last names start with Lo-Z
- We'll all meet in the lunch court at your assigned time for Welcome Message from our administration and office team

