

Camp Road Middle School January 17, 2022

Cougar News

Parler's Ponderings:

My random thoughts for the week:

- Due to the increase in student absences as a result of COVID, the district has extended its deadline for submission of Q2 report card grades. So there will be a delay in issuing reports cards until later next week, January 26-28. As soon as we confirm our date you will be informed.
- 2. Please remember that students who are absent due to COVID quarantine may zoom into their classes to listen to instruction.
- 3. All students will receive a new schedule on Wednesday which will reflect a change in many related arts classes as we begin a new nine-weeks and semester.
- 4. I kept the tennis article in this newsletter for another week to encourage others to sign up as we have fewer than 20 students who have signed up so far.
- 5. I am extremely proud of our band program and their success. See the results of the recent Region Honors Band auditions.
- 6. Check out the articles from the nurse on flu vaccines and the upcoming blood drive.
- 7. There is much going on with the PTO. Please check it all out in their section of this newsletter and grab some pizza this Thursday night at the new spot on James Island (Zeppelin's Pizza) for CRMS January Spirit Night.

Have a great week and stay healthy

NEWS FROM MRS. BOUTON IN THE MEDIA CENTER

Got Legos?

It's time for the library team to take advantage of the great makerspace area adjacent to the media center. We haven't tapped its potential due to COVID restrictions and precautions, but the dream is that this spring will give us opportunities to get creative together. As a first step, we hope to beef up our Lego collection through donations from CRMS families. If you can part with any Legos (I know, they are valuable and should be saved for your future grandchildren!), please send them to school with your name and your CRMS student's name. The debut will be Jan. 27 with Lego sessions as part of our Thrilling Thursday activities. Thank you in advance! Mrs. Bouton and Ms. Bailey

What Are These YA Stickers?

Beginning January 2022, the library staff is adding YA (young adult) stickers to the spines of specific books. This labeling is a district-wide effort in middle school libraries to help patrons and parents find

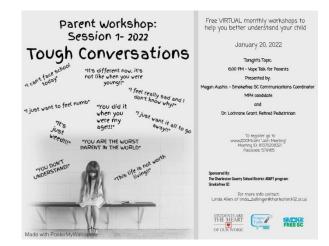
the right books for each reader. The YA "rating" is based on information provided in our main vendor's collection analysis breakdown. As we know, middle school students run the range from sixth-grade pre-teens to eighth-graders who are just months away from driving (and wrecking) their parents' cars. We want all of our students to have access to books that meet their unique interests and needs, which means we have titles that appeal to elementary, middle, and young-adult readers. We are not getting rid of any books, we are simply providing additional information to help readers select books. Please know that we are eager and available to work with students and parents to continue promoting reading and providing access to great books.

COVID-19 FREE TESTING

Charleston County School District, through a grant from the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control, continues to offer free COVID-19 testing for all staff and students *(including CCSD charter school students and staff)* every day of the school week at multiple locations, and Saturdays.

PCR and Rapid Antigen Tests will be available. The tests are for asymptomatic and symptomatic CCSD students and staff.

A third-party vendor assigned by DHEC will conduct the tests. A consent form will need to be completed in advance of testing. Directions to download the testing app to complete the consent form can be found <u>here</u> or at <u>https://rrtesting.app/SCSchools.</u>



GUIDANCE UPDATES

Parent Workshop: Session 1 Tough Conversations

Monthly parenting workshops on "Tough Conversations" that focus on teen substance use and overall wellness. Please share this information with your staff and parents.

• January 20: Vape Talk for Parents

Additional information is linked here.



Coaches for Character is proud to announce that it is expanding its "Unsung Hero" program to Charleston. Called The CHAMP Awards, it will be an annual event that honors 70 Charleston County students. Two students will be chosen from every eighth grade and twelfth grade. The award is designed to honor true "Unsung Heroes." The nomination process, managed by Charleston County school counselors, will focus on identifying and selecting students who often go unnoticed, even though they have accomplished wonderful things in their community, church, home, or school. Their selection is based on character, community service, academic effort, and overcoming odds. Please contact your counselor (Ciucci) for more information and click <u>here</u> to listen to the media promotion for this event

NEWS FROM THE NURSE

<u>Flu vaccines</u> for students are scheduled for January 27, 2022. If you would like your child to get a flu vaccine or flu nasal spray at school:

1. Go to <u>http://www.scdhec.gov/slvcconsent</u> using your smartphone, computer or tablet and enter "11001118" as your validation code.

2. Paper copies available: just ask your child to pick one up from the school clinic.

Upcoming Blood Drive

Camp Road Middle School is teaming up with "*The Blood Connection*" to sponsor a blood drive on Friday, February 18, 11:00 AM-3:00 PM. There is a hope that 22 units of blood will be donated.

Donors will receive \$10.00 and the school will receive \$10.00 for each unit of blood donated. See the information below:

Donor Link - https://donate.thebloodconnection.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/186020

Please share this link with any possible donor. This link allows them to schedule their donation and learn about The Blood Connection

Please feel free to share this information to your community as it will hopefully entice more donors to come out and save lives! Also, please encourage your community to make appointments.

Please contact me with any question or thoughts you may have. Thank you for helping us save lives!

All the best,

Chasity Benjamin Account Manager



PTO UPDATES FOR THE WEEK

Spirit Wear Design Contest DEADLINE EXTENDED:

We are looking for a new design for our t-shirts, hoodies, beanies and other spirit wear! If you have an idea, submit your drawing on a regular sized sheet of paper to Mr. Brown by **FRIDAY, JANUARY 28.**

The image should be somewhat simple, not too detailed, and will be just one color once finalized and printed. Use our current designs as reference; those were designed by former Cougars too! Have an idea but need a little help? Ask our talented resident artist Mr. Brown for some guidance. Our Top 3 designers will receive a small prize and the overall winner will go down in history as a Cougar Super Fan! Good luck and have fun!

Spirit Nights Update:

Thanks for showing up to support our December Spirit Night at California Tortilla. The PTO earned \$150 for the evening. The next CRMS Spirit Night is at the new **Zeppelin's Pizza, Thursday, January 20, 4:00 – 9:00 PM.**



Upcoming Silent Auction:

Do you own a business or know someone who does? The PTO is hosting its 2nd Annual Online Auction March 28- April 4. Please contact Jennie Ridgeway (<u>jennieridgeway@gmail.com</u>) if you are able to donate items, services or a gift certificate. All donations are due by March 21st.

Amazon Smiles:

Amazon Smiles is an easy way to support your school and has already provided our budget with \$151 this year! Amazon Smiles donates .5% of your purchase to the designated non-profit and while it may not seem like much from one household, collectively our 500 families could really make a difference. Just go to <u>Smile.Amazon.com</u> to sign up and designate Camp Road Middle School PTO as your non-profit charity and shop away with Amazon Smiles.

If you've already designated us as your non-profit charity, **don't forget to shop and purchase** through Amazon Smiles for our school to benefit.

The PTO budget provides classroom allowances to all teachers and special areas, library books, honor roll treats, teacher appreciation events, 8th grade graduation ceremony and field day, playground equipment and much more!

We really appreciate your continued support!

MIDDLE SCHOOL TENNIS

Camp Road Middle School has had a successful tennis program in the past years with enough interest for three teams each season. We hope that this same interest continues this season. It is now time to sign up for tennis. If your child is interested, please complete the attached link. We are in desperate need for a parent to serve as the head "coach" or parent organizer as well as other parents who would be interested in serving as a team "coach." You don't really coach because the coaching will be done by the resident tennis pro at Maybank Tennis Center. However, parent volunteers are needed in order for the school to provide this opportunity to our students. If you are interested in helping serve as the tennis organizer and/or helping to "coach" a team, please include that information when completing the form.

Tennis Information Form



BAND UPDATE

Region Honor Band pictured above (Missing from photo Zavier Nutting & Kynisha Middleton)

Our Cougars stepped up and showed out on Saturday, January 8, at Region Band auditions. These students competed against students from Charleston, Dorchester, Calhoun, Colleton, Jasper, and Beaufort. Of the 11 students who auditioned, 9 earned spots in the Region Honor Band and 3 students scored so well that they have been invited to audition for the SC All State Honor Band. All State auditions will take place Saturday, January 22nd at Lexington High School.

This is the most placements in Region Band the school has had in a true audition process (last year was a modified and virtual audition).

We are so proud of all 11 students who worked so hard preparing for the audition.

Olivia Tebalt and Sam Johnson were only points away from earning spots.

Mikey Kardell, Zavier Nutting, and Daniel Carreira earned spots in Region Band and All State Call Backs

Noah Houfek, Emma Steinmeyer, Isaac Webb, Collin Hlavac, Leo Messina, and Kynisha Middleton earned spots in Region Band.

Daniel Carreira was our highest ranking student, earning 4th chair out of all Junior Percussionists.

This is Mikey Kardell, Zavier Nutting, Isaac Webb, Kynisha Middleton, and Daniel Carreira's second year earning spots in the Region Band and second year that Mikey and Daniel earned All State Call Backs

Calendar

<u>January</u>

- January 17 MLK Holiday, schools and offices closed
- January 18 Teacher workday, no students
- January 19 First day of Quarter 3, students return
- January 20 Winter math MAP testing
- January 20 CRMS Spirit Night, Zeppelin's Pizza
- January 26-28 Report cards will be issued, TBD
- January 27 Flu vaccines
- January 27 Thrilling Thursday
- January 28 Spirit wear deadline ends
- January 31 Tentative date for Q2 honor roll recognition

February

- February 4 eLearning day, students work from home
- February 18 Early release day at 1:30 PM
- February 18 School blood drive
- February 21 eLearning day, students work from home
- February 22 Q 3 progress reports sent home
- February 22 National School Bus Drivers' Appreciation Day

<u>March</u>	
March 11	eLearning day, students work from home
March 21	Auction items due for 2 nd Annual Online Auction
March 22	End of Quarter 3
March 23	Teacher workday
March 24	First day of Quarter 4, students return
March 28	Report cards will be issued this week, TBD
March 28-April 4	2 nd Annual PTO Online Auction

STUDENTS AT RECESS ENJOYING THEMSELVES AND GETTING SOME EXERCISE











