

FROM THE DESK OF

Carla Moyer

HEAD OF MIDDLE SCHOOL
CANNON SCHOOL

May 2025

Dear Current Middle School Families, Rising Fifth Graders, and New to Cannon Families,

Congratulations on surviving the wonderful whirlwind that is May in a school year (sometimes referred to as May-hem!) I don't have kids in my home anymore, but I've been told that parents are just as excited about the end of the school year as the kids are. However, you DO now have your kids all day, every day, so we wish you all the best--you've got this!

We are grateful for an enthusiastic student body who maintained their focus until the last week of school, and for our amazing faculty who crafted meaningful and interesting lessons for our students each day. You know we have a special school when on the last day, our students cheered for classmates winning core values awards as if the kids had won the Super Bowl. I'm not exaggerating- it was something to behold and almost brought tears to my proud eyes.

I hope you enjoy the downtime of summer! In addition to working in the office much of the summer, on my agenda I have a 16-mile "race" on the Virginia Creeper Trail, a trip to Phoenix to visit my daughter, a week at Kiawah (our happy place!) celebrating our 36th wedding anniversary and our son's 30th birthday, and a trip to Brooklyn to dogsit my grandpuppy while my son does a little traveling. In addition, I'll read lots of books, run lots of miles, and enjoy the relaxed pace of the school in the summer.

We wrapped up the year with a middle school assembly where we talked to the students about summer technology habits and a reminder to keep our core values in mind when interacting online. We urge kids to use their screens sparingly (click HERE for some tips that resulted from the Anxious Generation book study), as

we hope they are having fun with friends, connecting with family, playing club sports, riding their horses, attending camps, seeing the state, our country, or the world, and learning how to be a little bored at home!

As is our tradition in June, we are sending the summer "charges" for our students discussed in our assembly and summarized here with links and lists.

Required- All students should arrive on the first day of school having read their required summer reading for their rising grade level and having completed their mini-project assigned by grade level (linked below). These projects are a wonderful way for all students and their advisors to get to know one another more deeply, and the projects are meant to be easy to complete. If it is causing stress or feeling too complicated, it probably is--this should be enjoyable, simple, and fun! Any questions about this project or the summer reading can be directed to our English Department Chair, Lori Macdonald.

5th Grade Summer Reading & Grade Level Mini-Project
6th Grade Summer Reading & Grade Level Mini-Project
7th Grade Summer Reading & Grade Level Mini-Project
8th Grade Summer Reading & Grade Level Mini-Project

Optional- Each year, we issue a summer **"charge"** to students with a mini contest. Help us keep in touch over the summer by sharing photos on the topic for the timeframe. Click here to watch a brief video with instructions, topics, and timeframes, or click HERE for a list version. For example, one week we are asking for photos of your child making their favorite recipe. You can submit your entries HERE. Some of the photos will be used to keep our @cannonmiddle Instagram going all summer long!

Optional - **Mrs. Moyer's Summer Reading Challenge** Because I love to read, I am hoping to inspire our students to continue reading throughout the summer. We have a wonderful culture of reading in our middle school, and I encourage families to stay engaged throughout the summer months. Students can make a copy of this log to record their summer reading. (Remember to share your log with Mrs. Moyer

at cmoyer@cannonschool.org before the start of school.) In August, participating students will be entered into a drawing for prizes!

Optional- Athletics + Summer Strength & Conditioning Program
Fall sports for seventh and eighth graders begin on August 11th. Please consult the Athletic Department's Tryouts page for more information and the links to the required paperwork for participation. Cannon's Strength and Conditioning program is available for all rising seventh and eighth-grade middle school students.
This program plays a big part in the success of our athletic program and starts June 2nd. If you have questions specific to strength and conditioning, reach out to our Strength & Conditioning Coach Shawn Powell.

PE Uniforms- All 5th and 6th grade students are required to wear the school-issued PE uniform and tennis shoes (sneakers). 6th-grade students may wear their 5th-grade uniform if it still fits! Uniforms will be available to purchase starting Monday, August 11th, in person at the Cougar's Den or online. The Cougar's Den will be open Monday-Friday, 8 am-3 pm, for the remainder of the month of August. Rising 5th-grade families and new to Cannon families will be able to purchase uniforms in person on orientation day. If you are not able to purchase during this time frame, your student will have the opportunity to purchase during advisory or PE class once school starts, and their account will be charged.

Because they move in and out of PE depending on athletics participation, all 7th and 8th grade students have the following choices for PE and strength and conditioning classes:

- The school-issued uniform (can purchase starting August 12th or during PE class once school starts)
- Dark running shorts, long tights, or sweatpants (no bike or volleyball shorts)
- Cannon short-sleeved or long-sleeved t-shirt
- Sneakers, tennis shoes, etc.

All students must change into their clothing at the start of the PE class and change back into their regular dress for the remainder of the day.

If you have any questions regarding school supplies, please visit the Back-to-School Center. Pre-ordering supplies for 5th and 6th grade is available through June 15th. As always, we will update you throughout the summer with various "need to know" items. The next letter typically comes in mid-July, so I'll leave your inbox alone for a month or so! Included in the July letter will be faculty and teaching assignment updates, our revised dress code (don't go shopping just yet, as we always make changes), and information about the first few weeks of school.

The next letter you will receive from me will be in mid-July, so please enjoy an email-free few weeks.

Thank you on behalf of our entire team,

Sincerely,



Carla Moyer
Head of Middle School
CANNON SCHOOL
5801 Poplar Tent Road | Concord, NC 28027

Cannon School nurtures relationships at the heart of learning and engages the learner in a journey of growth.
Courage | Teamwork | Passion | Respect | Integrity | Kindness