

Sawtooth Chronicle

Learning Today, Succeeding Tomorrow

Volume 4, Issue 4

July 2008

3730 N Linder Road
Meridian, Idaho 83646
208.855.4200 main office
208.855.4224 fax
208.855.4205 attendance

Administrators

David Moser
Kelly Davies
Kevin Leishman
Counselors
Ellen Estes
Deb McCain
Alyson Townsley

Important Dates

August

12—8th grade registration
13—7th grade registration
14—6th grade registration
20—Evening registration
25—First day of school
28—Picture Day
29—No School K-12
Teacher inservice

September

1—No School-Labor Day
9—Back to School Night

October

2 & 3—No School— State
Inservice Days
22—Picture Retakes
31—No School K-8
End of 1st Quarter

A message from the Principal

Dear Parents,

Greetings! I hope you are able to find time to relax and enjoy the presence of family and friends this summer.

As you browse this issue, please make note of the dates and times for registration. If you have multiple students attending Sawtooth Middle School and need to make arrangements to attend on only one day, it is asked that you come on the registration date for the youngest child. Schedules and pre-assigned lockers are prepared by grade level and will only be available on the specific grade level registration dates. All supplies and materials will be available on each day of registration. The school office will officially re-open on Wednesday, August 6th beginning at 8:00 a.m.

The students returning to Sawtooth Middle

School for the 2008-2009 school year can continue to look forward to a culture where learning is inevitable. We will also continue to build success through relationships, respect and positive attitudes. The staff will once again be collaborating in content areas to answer the following four corollary questions of a Professional Learning Community:

- What do teachers want students to learn?
- How are teachers going to know students have learned?
- What does a school do when students have not learned?
- What does a school do when students have learned?

We will encourage and welcome all parents to be active participants in the day-to-day life of their children. Sawtooth Middle School will offer



parents multiple options to track the progress of their child. Formal progress reports will be sent home quarterly and PowerSchool Parent offers the opportunity for parents to check grades and attendance on an on-going and regular basis.

The first day of the 2008-2009 school year is Monday, August 25th. Unlike previous years, the first day of school will be a full day. It will not be an early release day. The entire Sawtooth Middle School staff is looking forward to another successful school year in the classroom and beyond. Enjoy the remainder of the summer vacation and we look forward to visiting with you at registration in August!

Sincerely,

David Moser, Principal

PTSA Officers

Nicole Ross, President, 888-3571
 Murrena Edwards, Hospitality, 898-0833
 Bernadette Reisbeck, CoHospitality, 585-8252
 Amy Lasure, Membership, 846-9390
 Amy Wright, CoMembership, 898-9669
 Marcel Bujarski, Bylaws, 288-1324
 Tina Thomas, Legislation, 855-0690

Lorena Turner, Teacher Appreciation, 573-7297
 Bonnie Speas, Secretary, 895-6679
 Laurie Szobonya, Box Tops, 888-0301
 Lynnea Compton, Treasurer, 895-0665
 Jody Perry, Spirit Wear, 695-4464

Keep in touch with your PTSA. You can e-mail us any time at sawtoothptsa@gmail.com.

PTSA Membership

The 2008-2009 membership fee will be \$5.00 a person. With your membership you will receive exclusive e-mails keeping you and your student up to date on Sawtooth activities and events as well as different volunteer opportunities for

you to participate in during the school year. Please remember to sign up at your students registration. We look forward to a great year.



Box Tops for Education

Please save box tops from participating General Mills products. PTSA will begin collecting them when school starts for the 1st collection to be submitted in October. This is a great way to support your school.

PTSA Fundraiser Spirit Wear

Wouldn't you like 100% of your fundraising money to go directly to Sawtooth? We realize that we all have very busy schedules and the time we have with our family is important. So instead of selling a product we would like to ask for your support in giving a donation to the PTSA instead. This will allow 100% of the money to go directly to Sawtooth and it is also tax deductible. We will have more information for you on what we are raising the money for at student registration.

This year we will be doing a cash and carry of spirit wear items for your student. We will be offering: hooded sweatshirts, sweat pants, cap sleeve t-shirts, regular t-shirts and knit beanies. Don't forget to bring your check book or cash to registration so you can



purchase these items to show your school spirit.

Albertson's Preferred Card

Last year, over \$7,000 was raised by parents who linked their **Albertson's Preferred Savings Card** to Sawtooth Middle School. All of this money was contributed to the Reader Board that will be installed this summer. Thank you for your contributions. If you haven't already linked your card, just bring it to Sawtooth during registration and PTSA will be able to set you up.

The entire Sawtooth Middle School Staff would like to thank the PTSA, parent volunteers, and all of the business' that made the 2007-2008 school year successful. We could not have done it without you!

August Registration

During August registration, your student will receive a class schedule and pay fees. *If your child has not completed Pre-Registration, please contact the school prior to your registration date.* The office opens August 6.

Each grade registers on their own day. If you have more than one grade level

student and only want to come on one day, please register with the youngest grade level to ensure that all schedules are ready for distribution. Lockers are preassigned by grade level.



Students need to be registered prior to attending classes, with official schedule and fees paid.

Registration is from 8:00-12:00
8th grade—Tuesday, Aug 12
7th grade—Wednesday, Aug 13
6th grade—Thursday, Aug 14
Evening—Wednesday, Aug 20 from 4:00-7:00

If registration has not occurred by Friday August 22 at 2:00, you may come on the first day between 9:30 and 11:30.

FEES

<u>General Fees</u>		<u>Elective Fees</u>		<u>Misc. Fees</u>	
Activity Card	\$14.15	Beginning Art (7th and 8th)	\$12.50	Cheer Spirit Pack	\$30.00
Agenda Book	\$6.13	Drawing/Painting	\$12.50	Football Spirit Pack	\$40.00
Yearbook	\$20.00	Pottery/Sculpture	\$12.50	Calculators	\$10.85
Yearbook w/o Activity Card	\$22.00	8th Technology	\$14.00	Orchestra 7/8	\$5.00
PE Uniform	\$18.00	Consumer Science	\$15.00	Band 7/8	\$5.00
PE Shirt	\$8.00	Drama	\$3.00	Choir 7/8	\$5.00
PE Shorts	\$12.00			Band Rental Fee	\$100.00/year
PE Lock	\$5.66			Orchestra Rental Fee	\$100.00/year

At registration, please be prepared to pay any fees that apply to your student. Checks can be made payable to SMS, and must be for the amount only with your student’s name printed clearly in the memo field. Please save your receipt as verification of payment. We cannot accept postdated checks, and there is a fee for any returned check. Prices listed do not include sales tax.

Football Spirit Pack includes Practice Jersey, Moisture Wick T-shirt, Dazzle Shorts, Mouthpiece, Decal, Playbook

Visit sms.meridianschools.org and follow the links to view the course description book online.

School Lunch Accounts

The Meridian School Nutrition office will carry both positive and negative meal balances forward to the 2008-2009 school year. District Food Service Policy does not allow charging of student lunches in Middle School. Keeping track of your students account on a weekly basis will help eliminate students from going without a lunch. Students will be told their account balance when the amount is below \$5. Please contact the School Nutrition Office at 855-4218 with any questions.

Update Information

Please make sure that the school has your updated phone numbers, address, and email address. It is important that we have the correct information to contact you in the event of an emergency. Please contact the front office with any new contact information.

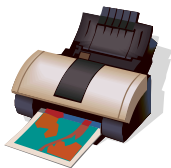


Operation School Bell

Operation School Supplies (OSS) is a philanthropic project of Assistance League of Boise. OSS has been providing school supplies to the children of Ada County since 1996. This year they were able to provide 85 elementary, middle, junior high and charter schools with approximately \$45,000 worth of school supplies. The 5,353 students selected by school counselors or teachers received supplies which include crayons, erasers, pencils, pens, glue, notebooks, paper, markers and backpacks. If you know someone in need, contact a school counselor.

Empty Cartridge Recycling Attendance

You can bring in your empty ink-jet or laser printer cartridges to our Bookkeeping office. We collect cartridges throughout the year to raise funds for classroom resources, and to keep our community a cleaner place to live through recycling. You can help by collecting cartridges from home, work, neighbors and friends. Each cartridge is worth cash to enhance your child's education.



When your child is absent...

Please be sure you call to verify your student's absence. Parents can call the attendance line 24 hours a day. Anytime a student goes to an appointment (doctor, dental, orthodontist, or court), please request a verification slip to bring into the office to excuse the absence.

For your convenience, if your

child needs to leave early, please call the front office so that we can have them waiting for your arrival. Students who leave early must check in or out in the main office with an adult.

The attendance number is 855-4205.

The main office number is 855-4200.

Electronic Devices

All electronic devices including but not limited to cell phones, ipods, portable cd players, cameras, etc., are examples of items inappropriate for school. They may be used before and after school outside of the building. During school hours, they should be turned off and stored in the

students' locker. If these items are not in the locker during the school day, they may be confiscated and parents may be asked to pick it up after school. Students who bring these items to school do so at their own risk. The school assumes no liability.



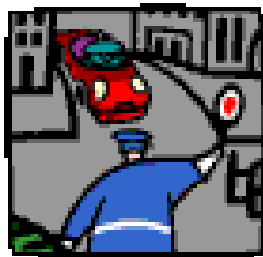
Supplies for SMS

Please give our school ID number (**70205506**) when you make your purchases at **OFFICE DEPOT**. Office Depot has a *5% Back to Schools Program* that provides Sawtooth Middle School with credits for free office supplies. Don't forget to use the school's ID number!

Safety

From the School Resource Officer

Safety is our number one priority at Sawtooth Middle School. That includes the safety of our students getting to and from school.



Attention to safe driving practices will help us to ensure our

student's safety. The two most common traffic violations in the past year were speeding in the school zone or the parking lot, and failure to yield when exiting parking lot or at crosswalk. These violations can incur a \$100 penalty.

Some reminders regarding the parking lot:

- All vehicles must exit the

north end of the parking lot between 7:25 and 7:55 and between 2:40 and 3:00 (or until the orange cones are removed).

- Monitor your speed in the parking lot and be aware that students are present.
- Yield the school crosswalk to ensure students safety.

From the Nurse

Please be aware of the policies that are in place to ensure student safety and wellness.

- Students may not carry medication with them at any time. Any medication that needs to be given at school must be turned in to the nurses office in the original package with a signed, dated note with instructions.

- Calls home related to students illness or injury must come from the nurses office. Students are not to use their cell phones or the front office to call home.
- Tylenol and Ibuprofen are not routinely dispensed.
- Parents are notified when there is a possible injury.

However, parents are not notified every time a student visits the nurses office.

- A medication consent form must be filled out if your student needs to carry medication, such as an inhaler, with them.



Energy Drinks

Energy Drinks are becoming more commonly used among teens. Drink formulations for energy drinks varies widely, so it is difficult to make general statements about the harm or benefits that may be attributed to these drinks. It is clear, however, that these drinks are loaded with caffeine. One cup of these drinks contains 80 mg of caffeine compared to 28mg in a

normal cola drink.

Adolescents who consume high levels of caffeine may experience negative effects such as



nervousness, jitteriness, stomach-aches and nausea. These drinks have been associated with wakefulness, including insomnia

and poor sleep. Data also suggests that regular consumption may be a red flag for parents that their children are more likely to take risks with their safety.

Please avoid supplying these drinks as part of your student's lunch and discourage consumption of these beverages before, during or after school.

Supply Lists

Listed below are the required general supplies. If any additional supplies are needed, the student will be notified by their individual teachers.

6th GRADE SUPPLIES

- 3-Ring Binder – preferably with zipper or Velcro closing
- 5 Open faced plastic dividers for binder
- Pencil Pouch – with holes for binder
- Loose Leaf Paper – **(to have at all times)**
- #2 Pencils – **(to have at all times)**
- Blue or Black Pens – need 1 in pencil pouch in binder
- Red Correcting Pencil or Pen
- Eraser – Suggested: Pink Pearl
- Highlighter Markers – green, yellow, orange and pink
- Colored Pencils
- Glue Sticks
- Scissors
- Scientific Calculator – suggested: TI 30 XA
- Clear Plastic Ruler
- Protractor and Compass Set

Sawtooth Agenda Book – **Highly Recommended**

7th GRADE SUPPLIES

- 3-Ring Binder – with 5 dividers
- Loose Leaf Paper – college rule
- #2 Pencils
- Red Correcting Pen
- Scissors
- Glue Sticks
- Colored Pencils
- Ruler – with both metric and traditional measurements
- Protractor and Compass Set
- Scientific Calculator – suggested: TI 30 XA
- Highlighter Markers – green, yellow, orange and pink

Sawtooth Agenda Book – **Highly Recommended**



8th GRADE GENERAL SUPPLIES

- #2 Pencils
- Black Pens
- Red Pens
- Pencil Pouch – to go in binder
- 3-Ring Binders (at least 2 inch)
- Subject dividers for each binder
- Loose Leaf Paper – college rule
- Colored Pencils
- Ruler - with both metric and traditional requirements
- Colored Markers
- Highlighter Markers – pink, yellow, green and orange
- Scientific Calculator – suggested: TI 30 XA
- Protractor and Compass Set

Sawtooth Agenda Book – **Highly Recommended**

Football

As August approaches, we would like to remind all football players and parents about our upcoming schedule. Football players will sign up for football during their grade level registration. **Equipment will be handed out on Friday, August 15th. All players must meet in the main gym at 9:00 am sharp for a mandatory meeting prior to issuing equipment.** It is

important that all players are in attendance to get their equipment. The first practice will be held on Monday, August 18th from 3:00 to 5:15 pm. All players need to make sure they have shorts, T-shirt, practice jersey, mouthpiece, socks, football cleats and a water container. A spirit pack can be purchased at registration for \$40.00.



Volleyball

Volleyball for 7th and 8th grade girls will start on Monday, August 18th. Practice will go from 3:00 to 5:00 pm each day. Athletes need to bring completed consent forms and be ready to practice. Participants must attend 10 practices before playing in games.

Cross-Country

6th, 7th & 8th graders - Looking for an opportunity to keep in shape and get ready for winter sports? Cross-Country is a great sport where everyone gets to compete at all meets. Our meets are held at local



parks and schools across the district. We are looking for all grades and all skill levels.

This is a sport where each individual tries to improve his/her own time, which works to help the team.

Practices are Monday through Thursday from 3:00-4:30 pm and begin on Monday, August 18th. Our Cross-Country team is sure to represent Sawtooth Middle School with class!

Upcoming Athletic Opportunities

8th Grade Girls Basketball

Practice begins October 15th

6th, 7th and 8th Grade Wrestling

Practice begins October 15th

8th Grade Boys Basketball

Practice begins January 5th

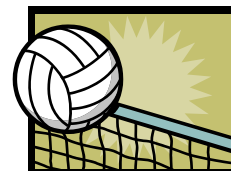
Tennis and Track

Practice begins March 30th

For more detailed information, go to sms.meridianschools.org and follow the links to School Activities. You will find the link to the Sawtooth Middle School Activities Schedule that is on the highschoolsports.net website.

6th Grade Intramurals

6th grade students can participate in intramural volleyball and basketball during the year. These opportunities are available during off-season times and will be announced in the school announcements.



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Sawtooth Middle School
3730 N. Linder Road
Meridian, Idaho 83646

Sawtooth Vision and Belief Statements

Vision

The Sawtooth Middle School community will foster a progressive and reflective culture that develops individual growth.

Beliefs

Sawtooth Middle School...

makes safety and learning fundamental responsibilities of students, parents and staff.

builds success through relationships, respect and positive attitudes.

provides for diverse learning styles and backgrounds.

uses a variety of assessments to measure student growth through achievement.

practices reflection, collaboration and shared leadership.

prepares students for a lifetime of successes and challenges

Send your input to
smsfeedback@meridianschools.org