



Southeast Middle School

August 2021 Newsletter

SEMS Administration:
Stephanie Gentry, Principal
Aaron Bailey, AP
Alicia Cone, AP
Meghan Helms, Instructional AP

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 18

12:00 - 3:30 6th Grade Orientation
5:30 - 7:30 7th/8th Orientation

6th Grade Orientation Info

The **6th grade Orientation** will begin at **12:00pm** and end at 3:30pm. During this time, families will rotate through their student's schedule and will then be allowed to tour the school. After walking the schedule, families can visit the transportation, Child Nutrition, and Student Services stations. **Please arrive on time** to ensure that you can meet all of the teachers on the schedule.

7th/8th Orientation Info

The 7th/8th grade Orientation will begin at 5:30pm and end at 7:30pm. Due to the pandemic and since many students have not been in our school building, this event will be very similar to the 6th grade schedule. When families arrive, they will visit each teacher on their student's schedule for a brief presentation. Then they will rotate to the next teacher. **Please plan to arrive by 5:30pm** in order to meet all of the teachers. During the two-hour block, each grade level will still have time for parents to visit the transportation, Child Nutrition, and Student Services stations.

Mask Mandate

The updated Covid guidelines mandate that all individuals wear a mask when indoors on campus. This applies to all individuals regardless of their vaccination status.

First Day of School!

The first day of school is **Monday, August 23**. The doors will open to students at 7:00am and all students must be in their homebase class by 7:30am. Parents are reminded to follow all directives in the parking lot at all times. Students may not exit their vehicle until they are on the front sidewalk of the school. Please allow extra time for traffic during the first two weeks of school.

Chromebook Distribution

This year all WSFCS students will be issued a Chromebook for use daily at home and at school. The expectation is that students will bring it to school each day, as teachers will continue to utilize Canvas for assignments and instruction.

We will distribute these devices on the following days:

6th Grade - **Thursday, August 12** from 1:00-6:30

7th Grade - **Tuesday, August 17** from 1:00-6:30

8th Grade - **Thursday, August 19** from 1:00-6:30

During this time, families can pull up to our Media Center, sign the technology agreement, and then receive their student's Chromebook. Please note that we will not distribute devices on our Open House date (August 18). However, the technology agreement will be available for pick up.

Student Schedules

SEMS reserves the right to change student schedules at any time during the school year. If we have a change in our teacher allotment (lose or gain teachers) or if our schedules are changed due to Covid status, we will have to adjust students schedules in order to accommodate those changes.

SEMS does not honor parent/student requests for core teacher or teams. The primary reason for this is because of our size. We cannot accommodate all requests. So to be fair to all students, once core teams have been assigned, they will remain in place. **Any requests of this nature will not be considered.** However, if you would like to request a change in your child's encore classes (i.e. Art, Music, Foreign Language, etc), then you may fill out an online encore change request form. These forms will be available online on our school's website beginning August 18. We will honor changes that we can accommodate. Once a class is full, we will be unable to add more students.

School Breakfast/Lunch

The USDA is providing free school breakfast and lunch for all students for the duration of the 2021-22 school year. Students can pick up breakfast when they arrive on campus and all students will have an opportunity to get lunch in the cafeteria daily.

WSFCS Supply List

The following is the list of basic supplies for middle school students. This list is standard for all middle schools.

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|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Loose-leaf paper | Erasers |
| 1 Pack of #2 pencils | Index cards |
| Glue sticks | Ear buds |
| 1 Pack of highlighters | Pencil sharpener |
| 1 Pack of graph paper | 3-ring binder |
| 1 Pack colored pencils or markers | |
| 4 Pocket folders | |
| 4 Composition Notebooks | |



Students can access an online calculator and will be provided with a calculator to use during class. But if you wish to purchase a calculator, we recommend:

For 7th/8th Grade - TI-84+ Graphing Calc

For 6th grade - TI-34 Calc

8th grade students may rent a graphing calculator from the school for \$10. A rental agreement will be given to these students when school begins.

We need your updated information!

Have you moved over the summer? New phone number? Documentation must be provided in order to update your change of address. This can be a lease agreement, a utility bill, or a bank statement. This documentation can be uploaded and emailed to our Data Manager, Ms. Lester, or you can make an appointment to come in to the school.

Have you signed up for the Powerschool Parent Portal? The Parent Portal gives families instant access to your student's grades and attendance. Parents can now sign up online by going to the WSFCS website. Click on Powerschool Parent Portal under the Quick Links. You can upload a copy of your ID and submit, or you can make an appointment to come in to the school.

What is Canvas and how do I access?

Canvas is the learning system that teachers will use in their daily instruction and some assignments. Students will log on to Canvas each day to access their lessons and activities. To access, go to the WSFCS website and click the Students tab at the top. Click Canvas, and then students can log in using their student ID number and password. Once there, students can select Canvas and they will see their assigned classes.

PTSA

We are looking for PTSA board members this school year! Board members meet once per month and sponsor various school events throughout the year. If you are interested in joining us, please contact Mrs. Cone, SEMS AP, at the school.

What does my daily schedule look like?

All students will take Math, Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies classes daily. They will take Encore classes (Art, PE, Music, etc) on an A/B day rotation. So each student will take six classes each day.

On Tuesdays and Fridays, students will have shortened class periods and take a 7th period class. This class placement will depend upon each student's needs. They may be assigned to a Reading intervention class, a Math skills class, or an enrichment class. Students will have the opportunity to take several different 7th period classes throughout the school year. More information will be in the student handbook.

Athletics

Students at all grade levels are eligible to participate in athletics this year. The first sports seasons will be boys soccer, softball, baseball, and golf. The tryouts for boys soccer, softball, and baseball will take place during the week of August 30. The tryouts for golf will take place during the week of September 7.

Students interested in trying out for any sport are required to have a current physical signed by a doctor as well as current insurance information. All of the athletics information as well as online submission of required paperwork can be found on the SEMS website, then click on Athletics.

Transportation

There may be a bus transportation letter included in this mailing. If so, it indicates your student's current bus assignment. If it not included, it will be available at Open House on August 18. There will be a transportation station set up on that date to answer any questions you may have. Please note that if you have moved, then you will need to provide the updated proof of address in order to get a bus assignment for your child.

Resources/Schedules for Families & Students

As we finalize information, schedules, and events, we will continue to post them on our school website. In addition, we will post a link to a Google resource document with copies of newsletters, daily schedules, student handbook, and much more! Be sure to check it out to keep you informed.

Southeast Middle School
1200 Old Salem Road
Kernersville, NC 27284
336-703-4219

<https://www.wsfcs.k12.nc.us/sms>

