



SOUTH MILWAUKEE MIDDLE SCHOOL
BULLETIN

September 21, 2018

A Message from the Principal...

Good Afternoon Families,

Throughout the school year we utilize a number of different tools to gain information about student learning, which includes standardized assessments. We would like to provide you with some information with regards to the various assessments that will be administered this year. South Milwaukee Middle School will again be administering the Northwest Evaluation Association Measure of Academic Progress (NWEA MAP) for Reading and Math in grades 6 and 7. MAP is an adaptive computer based assessment. After each assessment, students receive a score called a RIT. South Milwaukee Middle School uses RIT scores to identify how much growth students have through an academic year. For more information about MAP, please follow this link: <https://www.nwea.org/parent-toolkit/>

Our 8th Grade students will be participating in the ACT Aspire Assessments for the first time this academic year. The ACT Aspire is a standardized test designed to evaluate and report on student learning and college and career readiness. The scores from this assessment predict how a student will perform on the ACT when they reach 11th grade. Students will be assessed in Reading, Math, Science and English.

Let us know if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you and have a wonderful weekend!

With Regards,

Jim Hendrickson, Principal

School News

Parent Group Fall Fundraiser: The South Milwaukee Middle School Parent Group is officially underway! The funds raised will help with the costs of our 7th Grade Youth Frontiers Courage Retreat, 8th grade Recognition Ceremony, W.E.B., field trips and other grade level activities! Turn in money and orders on Wednesday, October 3rd. Payment must be turned in with orders. Please Make Checks Payable To: South Milwaukee Middle School.

Yearbook Sales: The Yearbook Sale is currently running. Cost of books are \$22 through October. \$24 for November through December and \$26 for January through February. Order forms are available in the main office or you may order on-line at jostens.com. We do not guarantee extra yearbooks at the end of the year, so order yours early!

SMMS Spirit Week/Homecoming

- 9/25 Sport Day
- 9/26 Tropical Day
- 9/27 Class Color Day
 - 6th Grade -Blue
 - 7th Grade- Green
 - 8th Grade- Orange
 - Staff- Tie Dye
- 9/28 Rocket Spirit Day

Rawson After School: Middle school students are not allowed on Rawson property prior to 4:00 pm on normal school days. This includes the playground, basketball courts and parking lot. The only exception will be for families who have filled out the necessary paperwork to allow their middle school student to pick up a sibling after school. You may fill out the appropriate paperwork by [CLICKING HERE](#). Students who pick up their siblings must have their middle school ID available.

Annual Notices: Throughout the school year, we have a number of required annual notices. **Fall Notice.**

Upcoming Events

Date	Event	Time
9/24/2018	No School - Staff Inservice	No School
9/25/2018	Youth Frontiers - 7th Grade	All Day
9/26/2018	Youth Frontiers - 7th Grade	All Day
10/3/2018	Parent-Teacher Conferences	4:00-8:00pm
10/4/2018	Parent-Teacher Conferences	3:30-7:30pm
10/5/2018	No School	No School
10/17/2018	Take Your Parents to School	All Day

Youth Frontiers Courage Retreat:

SMMS is excited to announce that we are bringing back the Youth Frontiers Courage Retreat to our current 7th grade students and we would love for you to stop in and check it out! I've provided some information below.

Youth Frontiers (YF) is a non profit, non partisan organization based in Minneapolis that facilitates retreats designed to build positive school communities and help young people realize the importance of respecting themselves and others. Our goal for this powerful retreat is to build a SMMS community that will engage students in a variety of activities that enhance self-confidence, empathy and connectedness.

VOTE November 6!

Investing in our Future: Safe, Strong, Successful

The School District of South Milwaukee School Board has placed a referendum on the November 6 ballot to invest in three main goals:

1) Ensure students' safety and address emotional needs

- An annual budget item to specifically improve safety in all our schools.
- Identifying and assisting students with emotional needs, providing them with direct services.

2) Maintain our existing programs and facilities

- Ensure future students can benefit from the same outstanding programs and classes as our current students.
- Protect the investment taxpayers have made in the district's facilities through a yearly maintenance replacement budget.

3) Expand student learning opportunities and invest in the future

- Personalized and innovative learning opportunities that allow students to receive additional support and flexible learning opportunities.
- Additional staffing to increase virtual school options, add special education staff, provide academic support, expand 4K, reduce class sizes and more.

Election Day is November 6

The referendum question asks community members to increase the levy limit by \$3.8 million over a period of six years. That's an estimated tax impact of \$9 to \$12 per every \$100,000 of assessed property value in each of the first five years. The final tax impact at the end of six years is a **reduction of an estimated \$140.18** per every \$100,000 of assessed property value, due to other paid-off debt.

Find answers to frequently asked questions, including the estimated tax impact, at www.SoMilwReferendum.org.