

## ***Scattered and Respectful thoughts for another year...***

I remember once reading a birthday card addressed to a friend that said, "One year older and that much closer to dressing like dad." One could probably exchange the word dress with the words "acting like." Dress is an appropriate metaphor for acting like an adult, whatever that might look like. Maybe acting like an adult means that you are able to act within the bounds of civility; able to be respected while being respectful. Hmmm...

Perusing SSMS behavior data from the 2008-2009 school year, the majority of referrals (both male and female) reported that our major issue with student behavior dealt with disrespect. Is it me or have I heard this somewhere before?

Any guess as to might have uttered the famous quote about the youth of the day?

"The children now love luxury. They have bad manners, contempt for authority, they show disrespect to their elders.... They no longer rise when elders enter the room. They contradict their parents, chatter before company, gobble up dainties at the table, cross their legs, and are tyrants over their teachers."

Or this one?

"The young people of today think of nothing but themselves. They have no reverence for parents or old age. They are impatient of all restraint. They talk as if they alone knew everything and what passes for wisdom with us is foolishness with them. As for girls, they are forward, immodest and unwomanly in speech, behaviour and dress."

Both quotes are attributed Socrates in Book Four of Plato's *The Republic*. There is also this from Hesiod, considered one of the great Greek writers in the time of Homer (8th century, BC).

"I see no hope for the future of our people if they are dependent on frivolous youth of today, for certainly all youth are reckless beyond words... When I was young, we were taught to be discreet and respectful of elders, but the present youth are exceedingly wise [disrespectful] and impatient of restraint" (Hesiod, 8th century BC).

One would have thought we would have learned by now. It seems like this view of the youth

of the day has not changed over the years. Whether or not the quotes are accurate is not the issue, what is the issue is that adults have always been concerned about our youth and their perceived lack of respect to adults. In light of the recent outbursts from elected officials, music celebrities, and/or tennis players (doesn't that go with the sport?), the finger may be pointed in the wrong direction. Either way, I will choose to comment on how SSMS plans to do teach civility to our students.

The beauty of teaching respect or respectful behavior is that it is easy to model. "Please" and "thank you" should be a part of every day instruction. Incorporating respect and civility into daily lessons regardless of the subject matter may not be all that difficult. We can and will provide mini-units on respectful behavior.

The difficulty lies in defining what respect and disrespect looks like to each of us. "Eye-rolling" no doubt bothers many people, yet to me it might not be that big of a deal. Interrupting a President's speech can be considered rude and disrespectful, and might even call for some form of censoring in the United States Congress; while in Great Britain the Parliament is extremely vocal during addresses made by one another, including the Prime Minister. Tennis players feel empowered to be critical of referee decisions; yet baseball players are immediately ejected when they attempt to argue the call of an umpire. Do I even need to bring up the behavior of professional hockey players?

I don't know if I dress more and more like my dad—I hope not. I do know that he taught me what respect meant to him. I know he was both respected and respectful (unless you were that unfortunate referee).

Bottom line, we may never agree on all matters of civility and that is ok. What matters is that we realize that teaching manners belongs to all of us. If it means enough to us that we are willing call someone on their behavior, then we need to be willing enough to teach our expectations.

Sailors! Make it a respectful day!

*Jerry Buelter*

# Information!

## Counselor Corner

(For the "Middle School Years" News go to the Counselor Corner on our website.)

Dear Parents,

Welcome to autumn. Are you ready for the snow to start flying? I hope your son or daughter is having a rich experience so far. Please let Margi or I know if there is anything we can do to support them along the way. We have a thriving counseling department this year and are so lucky to do the work we do!

One of my favorite metaphors about family life is that we are like pilots landing a plane. Pilots must make multiple corrections and constantly check out whether the plane is on course. This is how it is with our families. Factors are constantly changing and so must we. It is not an indicator that something is wrong when we need to make a correction, it is simply necessary in order to land on the runway safely and not be blown off course by challenging weather or technical glitches. One of the best tools there is to improve family communication and solve family problems is the family meeting. Here is some information on how to hold family meetings. I hope you give it a try. The beginning of the school year always feels like a good time to try new things.

**Family Meetings:** can be used to discuss and deal with a variety of issues, solve family problems, discuss chores, rules, and expectations, plan activities and vacations, and acknowledge positive things that are happening.

**Agenda:** Have an agenda list on the refrigerator. People can write things that they wish to discuss or resolve at the next family meeting (this is great for sibling arguments and squabbles). Use the agenda list to guide the discussions. Start each meeting with positive things that have happened within the family then move to problem solving

and other items. Invite family members to compliment or thank others for positive behaviors.

**Ground Rules:** should be discussed at the first family meeting. Examples: only one topic at a time, not moving to another topic until everybody is ready to do so, taking turns speaking, no put downs or arguing. Parents may want to try not to dominate the conversation. Every family member should be given a chance to express his or her views.

**Chair Person, Secretary:** The chairpersons' job is to direct the meeting and decide whose turn it is to speak, when to move on to a new topic, and when to take votes. This job can be rotated so it's not always a parent (this is a great skill for middle schoolers to learn). The secretary keeps notes in a Family Meeting Notebook. This notebook is reserved for family meetings.

**Problem Solving:** Family meetings should be used to teach problem solving skills. For each problem, first it is important to clearly define the problem. Then a list of possible solutions can be generated. Avoid blaming statements, stick to factual observations (this can be tricky!) Do not evaluate the solutions until all possibilities are thought of. When the list of solutions is complete, families can go through the list and evaluate the positive and negative aspects of each solution. Families can try to reach a consensus on the best solution for all involved. It is best for families to strive for consensus, however, there will be times when parents must use veto power.

***Good luck and enjoy your family!***

Alison Hobson, LCSW

SSMS School Counselor

# SSMS COUNSELING DEPARTMENT

Welcome back to Steamboat Springs Middle School. Our counseling department consists of Margi Briggs-Casson, who is full time, Alison Hobson, who is here on Mondays, Thursdays and half day on Tuesdays, Jody Ginger, our counseling intern working here Tuesdays and Thursdays, and our school-based mentors from Partners in Routt County. Our mentors are Lindsey Dietz, Kyle Banman, and Katie Neiert. We also house Dr. Bob Kirchner, school psychologist, who is in our building on Tuesdays and Thursdays and Donna Weinman, our Day Treatment teacher.

Together, our goal is to help meet individual needs of our students so that they may fully partake in the excellent education that is offered at SSMS. Please do not hesitate to call any one of us with any questions or information that would help your child at school.

## DIRECT LINES

Margi Briggs-Casson, 871-3587  
Alison Hobson, 871-3577  
Dr. Bob Kirchner, 871-3580  
School-Based Mentors,  
871-3551

# CALENDAR

## What's going on in October & November

### October

### November

1	EOS Mountain Bike Trip	1	Daylight Savings
3	FB & VB at Home 10:00	2	Parent-Teacher Conference Call-in
6	FB & VB at Hayden 4:30	3	BBB at Soroco 4:30
7	BLT Sexuality Education 7:00	6	BBB at Home 4:30
10	FB & VB at Craig 9:00	10	BBB at Home 4:30
12	Boys Basketball practice	11	Parent-Teacher Conference 4:00-8:00
14	BBB Parent meeting 7:00	12	Parent-Teacher Conference 8:00-8:00
13	Band Concert at HS 7:00		No School Students
15	NJHS Induction 5:30		No School Students & Staff
16	EOS Fly Fishing Trip	13	No School Students & Staff
17	VB Tournament	14	BBB at Home 10:00
18	EOS Rock Climbing	16	BBB at Home 4:30
20	BBB at Home 4:30	17	BBB at Hayden 4:30
	PIC Meeting 12:00		PIC Meeting 12:00
	Choir Concert	21	BBB at Home 10:00
22	BBB at Home 4:30	25	Thanksgiving Break – No School
23	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter	26	Thanksgiving Break – No School
27	BBB at Home 4:00	27	Thanksgiving Break – No School
29	BBB at Craig 4:30		
31	BBB at Rangely 10:00		



# In the know....

## Keeping you informed!

### School Numbers

#### Main Office

879-1058

#### School Fax

870-0368

#### Attendance

871-3597

#### Counseling

871-3587

#### Library

871-3590

#### Health Room

871-3594

#### Transportation

879-1057

#### District Office

879-1530

### Helpful Office Information

- Office Hours: 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Please call your student excused absent or tardy on the day of the absence/tardy to 871-3597.
- Emergency messages to student must be called in no later than 2:45 p.m.

#### Steamboat Springs Middle School

Address: .....39610 Amethyst Dr

Mailing address: .....PO Box 774368

.....Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

District web page: .....sssd.k12.co.us

SSMS web page: .....<http://teacherweb.com/CO/SSMS/>

### Parent Portal

Have you signed up for the Parent Portal yet?  
You can find information on your student's grades,  
assignments, attendance.  
Call the office at 879-1058 for more information.

### P.I.C. Meeting

at Noon,  
Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup>  
Meets in the Conference Room

#### FOR SECURITY PURPOSES

All visitors  
**must check-in**  
at the  
office as soon as they  
enter the school building.

### Yearbooks on Sale

this year they will cost \$30.

### Math & Writing Books on Sale for \$19

stop by the office to purchase

6 Welcome to sixth grade!

It has been a busy 1<sup>st</sup> month in the sixth grade wing. The first weeks focused on academic/social expectations, teambuilding, and finding compatibility within a new school. Highlights included a teambuilding field day where students learned what it was like to work in teams of up to 20 people. This was followed by an ice-cream social that found students reaching out to make new acquaintances. Sixth grade students also had opportunity to show off their new school during the sixth grade open house. Sixth graders escorted their parents around the school to meet their new teachers and get a glimpse of where their learning will occur this year.

Yampa Valley Science School  
was a huge success, with students

## 6th Grade News

learning about the 4 main ecosystems found throughout Colorado, including: aspens, meadows, conifers, and riparian areas. The learning blocks, combined with many teambuilding and recreational activities, made for an unforgettable week. The abundance of student smiles reminded many of us why this program has been so successful. Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (RMYC) and the sixth grade team would like to send out a huge thank you to all the awesome parents who volunteered time or donated money this year.

# 7

When did the first human beings inhabit the planet?

How did they live?

What were their challenges?

How do we know? These were the guiding questions that seventh graders attempted to discover through research, reading and study during the first unit in their history classes. Over the next month, we'll be delving into the amazing civilizations of Ancient Mesopotamia and Ancient Egypt to discover how people lived 6,000 to 8,000 years ago, why the processes of herding animals and farming freed people up to become specialists in other fields and how new discoveries in materials from stone to ceramics and from copper and tin to bronze led to engineering feats and greater civilizations.

## 7th Grade News

In language arts, we'll be reading *The Pearl* by John Steinbeck. This is a classic novel in which we'll explore the tactics of good and corrupt leaders, of power that promotes the health and welfare of a population versus power that breaks down and corrupts. We'll also be continuing throughout the year the study and practice of language mechanics and conventions within student writing.

We look forward to working with your son or daughter this year.

# 8

**Math :** 8<sup>th</sup> Grade MathThematics: Module One deals with Amazing Facts and Feats. We are working with different data displays including box-and-whisker plots and scatterplots. We have also been working with unit rates, equations, perimeter, area and volume as we employ the problem solving method to open-ended problems. AlGeo has already completed their first module which deals with patterns and features of regular polygons. The Algeo I classes are currently working on understanding how to use slope to solve problems dealing with rates in the "Food" module. The food module looks at different rates of burning food energy in comparison to different physical activities. Students are learning how to solve equations for a given variable and graph equations in slope intercept form.

**Science:** This quarter science students will be expected to use the

## 8th Grade News

scientific method while being challenged with hands-on labs dealing with different forms of energy. Students recently looked at pendulums to study potential and kinetic energy. They were required to use formulas to calculate energy of objects at rest and in motion. Currently students are exploring static electricity and electrical energy. They will do many activities and labs that reinforce vocabulary and concepts dealing with the nature and laws of energy conservation. We hope to wrap up this unit with a field trip to the Hayden Power Plant and Trappers Mine to help students understand the process of generating electricity.

# Information!

## MAP Testing News & Community Service Update

Once again this year students are being given the MAPs Tests. These tests determine your child's instructional level and measure academic growth throughout the school year, and from year to year in the areas of Reading, Mathematics, and Language Usage.

MAP tests are unique in that they are adaptive tests your child took on a computer. That means that the test became more difficult the more questions your child answered correctly. When your child incorrectly answered a question, the test became easier. Therefore, your child took a test specifically created for his or her learning level. In addition, your child should have had the opportunity to learn the information presented on the test because the tests are aligned with the District Content Standards.

Your child's MAP results are reported in *RIT scores*. This is a different type of score than a typical test that provides a percentage correct. It is also different from many tests that provide results

based on your child's score compared to others in his or her grade. Instead, the RIT score is an equal-interval scale, like feet and inches, that is independent of grade level. As a result, we can easily measure growth in learning. This type of score increases the value of the tests as a tool to improve student learning because it enables teachers to recognize where to focus attention for your child's learning.

MAP testing is a powerful tool for monitoring student growth over time. All Students will be assessed again in May. Individual students may be tested in January for progress monitoring.

If you have questions, please contact Kandise Gilbertson, Instructional Support Specialist at 871-3591.

For more information on resources for parents, download the **Parent Toolkit** at [www.nwea.org](http://www.nwea.org) >> Member Support >> Downloads >> Manuals.

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## Community Service News

### Middle School Students Make a Positive Difference!

It was terrific to see all the community service forms that were turned in during the first few weeks of school. So many students volunteered for so many different organizations over the summer months. Just as a reminder, a yellow community service form must be filled out completely, signed and submitted timely into the school office. We appreciate having the form submitted in the month the volunteer work is completed.

We have two community service opportunities to highlight for the month of October.

The Tennis Center needs help with fall clean up. If you are interested in volunteering at the

Tennis Center, please contact Jim Swiggart at 879-8400.

The Optimist Club Pumpkin Festival is Oct. 24. This is a fun event helping young children decorate pumpkins. Sign up in the front office beginning Oct. 12.

Students who've made a difference by volunteering in our community may apply for a "Prudential Spirit of Community Award". Details will be coming soon. For more information about this award and other community service questions, please call Sandy Lettunich at 871-3597.

# Information!

## Student Council, Conferences & National Junior Honor Society

### *National Junior Honor Society Gears Up for the New School Year!*

Mrs. Howard and Miss Kerrigan are the sponsors for NJHS this year and are excited about working with this group of students. Currently, they are contacting 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who are members in good standing to help plan the induction of new 7<sup>th</sup> grade students. Following is the timeline of events for this fall.

Week of September 21 – Letters will be distributed to 8<sup>th</sup> grade NJHS students who are in good standing inviting them to continue as members of the organization. Each student needs to have maintained a 3.75 GPA during their entire 7<sup>th</sup> grade year in order to be in good standing. 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who maintained a 3.75 GPA or higher but did not meet the community service requirement last year must write a letter of intention to remain an active member.

Letters and applications will be distributed to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who earned a 3.75 GPA or higher as a 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> grader and maintained this at mid-quarter this first academic quarter. Any student who is invited to be a NJHS member must fill out an application. Completed applications must be returned to Mrs. Howard or Miss Kerrigan by Wednesday, September 30, 2009. If an application is not turned in by this deadline, it will be determined that those who didn't meet the deadline are not interested in membership.

**September 30:** 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade applicants will report to Mrs. Howard's room during intervention to write an essay based on the guiding principles of NJHS: scholarship, leadership, service, character and citizenship.

**Week of October 5:** Selection for membership is by a Faculty Council who will review the applications and essays to determine this year's NJHS inductees. All inductees and 8<sup>th</sup> grade members in good standing who wrote a letter of intention to remain a member will receive a letter of acceptance.

**Induction of new members:** Thursday, October 15, 5:30 – 6:30 Middle School Cafetorium. Inductees and families will be invited. 8<sup>th</sup> grade current NJHS members are required to attend. NJHS meeting calendar and activities will be posted after induction.

### Student Council

The sponsor teachers, Amy Bohmer and Heidi Chapman-Hoy will be starting Student Council the first week in October. An announcement will be made when the first meeting will be held.

### **Parent-Teacher Conferences**

November 11<sup>th</sup> 4:00-8:00  
November 12<sup>th</sup> 8:00-8:00.

We will begin to accept call-in conference scheduling on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00. Call the school office to schedule your conference at 879-1058.

Please be prepared with the following:

-Have an idea of the day and time for your requested conference.

-Know who your student's teachers are before you call.

-Write the appointments down for there will not be reminder calls made.

**No School for students on  
November 12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>!**

**Enjoy your time off!**

# Information!

## Fine Arts & Physical Education

**A Note from Fine Arts!** The school year has begun and so has our student artwork! Artwork can be seen in our main hallway, and as the year progresses SSMS artwork can be seen in our community. The Fine Arts' Room is in need of parent volunteers to remove the artwork from our hallways to allow for new displays. If you are interested please contact Mrs. Susanmarie Oddo at (970) 871-3565.

As artwork arrives home encourage your child (ren) to articulate their ideas and the creative process they experienced. Noticing details, patterns, and acknowledging the colors and designs in a piece is a great way for you to begin a conversation about your child's artwork. Here are some helpful comments:

What projects have you already created in art?

What materials did you use to create this piece of art?

I understand your grade is based on effort, attitude and your final project. What does this mean?

Students are NOT required to bring any materials to our art class – everything is supplied. However, we can always use tissues! If you'd like to donate a box of tissues the art room is now in need.

Thank you for your continued support and enthusiasm for our Fine Arts!

Artistically Yours,

Mrs. Susanmarie Oddo

**Physical Education News!** We are off to a great start to the school year in Physical Education classes. Many of our classes have been enjoying the almost perfect fall weather with outside physical activities such as flag football, soccer, softball, and Frisbee.

Each week students participate in two fitness days and three sports and sports skill days. Here are some fall activities that students can participate in outside of school:

**Top Ten Physical Education related things to do with your kids this FALL:**

Take a hike and enjoy the fall colors. Bike the core trail or a trail near your neighborhood. Mountain bike one of our communities many great trails. Play tennis or hit tennis balls at the tennis center. Hit golf balls at a driving range near you. Play Frisbee golf at the ski areas Frisbee golf course. Do some fall fishing at a pond, lake, or river near you. Spend a fall afternoon or evening

at the park playing catch. Take a soak and a swim at old town hot springs. Cheer on the Sailors middle school and high school football, volleyball, and soccer teams. GO SAILORS!

### **Boy's Basketball Information**

**Attention potential 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boy's Basketball Players and Parents:**

Practices for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Boy's Basketball season will begin on Monday October 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-6:45: 5:00-7:00 the 13<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup>; and 3:30-5:00 on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Practices will run daily from 3:30 - 5:30 beginning the week of October 19<sup>th</sup>.

If your boy is interested in playing for the Sailors Basketball team he must have a yearly sports physical completed by a physician and all paperwork turned into the main office.

For any other questions please contact Coach Chris Adams at 871-3533.

# Information!

Spain Trip, Mentors, &  
Middle School Sexuality Meeting

## Middle School Trip to Spain!

Attention all 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade student families. Señorita Ortiz is leading a trip to Spain, June 8<sup>th</sup> – June 18<sup>th</sup> 2010. We will be visiting places such as Madrid, Barcelona, Pamplona and many more. If interested, please pick up an application packet in room 131.

There will also be a student/parent information meeting, Wednesday, October 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm.

All trip applications will be due Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> by the end of the school day.

!Hasta pronto!

**!VIVA ESPAÑA!**

## **Middle School Sexuality Education Meeting**

Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> at 7pm  
in the BLT class room 186

This is an opportunity to go over the topics covered in Basic Life Training at each grade level, review curriculum and ask questions.

There will be an emphasis on how to talk to our children about sex and keep the lines of communication open. Ann Keating will be leading the discussion and all parents/guardians are welcome.

## Introducing our Mentors

**Lindsay Dietz...**grew up in the suburbs of Chicago and received a B.A. in Psychology from Michigan State University. Lindsay spent last year as an AmeriCorps VISTA in Montana where she worked with survivors of domestic violence and their children. In her free time Lindsay loves to read, run, and listen to music. Lindsay is very excited to get to know the students of Steamboat Springs Middle School.

**Katie Neiert...**was born and raised in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago. She attended the University of Illinois at Chicago and in 2007 earned her B.A. in Psychology. This is Katie's second year in Steamboat Springs, she was a 08-09 School-Based Mentor in Soroco Middle School. She is excited for this upcoming school year and hopes to use the knowledge she gains in her future as an educator. In her free time Katie enjoys reading and practicing yoga. She also loves to spend time snowboarding and snowshoeing once the winter weather hits. She wishes everyone the best of luck this year!

**Kyle Banman...**was born and raised in Kansas, and attended college at Kansas State University. He received a bachelor's degree in history in May of 2005. After college he worked in aquatics for three years in his hometown of McPherson. He then discovered AmeriCorps, and in June of 2008 became a VISTA with a RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) in Manhattan, Kansas. He ran the youth programs and after his year of service, Kyle was ready for some direct work, and discovered Partners in Routt County and the School Based Mentoring program. Kyle has always dreamed of moving to Colorado and is very excited to be here, and to be serving, the Yampa Valley area.

# Information!

## Sports Schedule

### Football

Day/Date	Opponent	Venue	Time
Sat, Oct. 3	Rangely	Away	10:00AM
Tues, Oct. 6	Hayden	Away	4:30PM
Sat, Oct. 10	Craig	Away	9:00AM

### Volleyball

Sat, Oct. 3	Rangely	Away	10:00AM
Tues, Oct. 6	Hayden	Away	4:30AM
Sat, Oct. 10	Craig	Away	9:00AM
Sat, October 17	District Tournament-		
	Rangely	Away	TBA
Round Robin 8 <sup>th</sup>	Soroco	Away	TBA
Round Robin 7 <sup>th</sup>	Hayden	Away	TBA

### Boys Basketball

Mon, Oct. 12	Practice starts		
Tues, Oct. 20	East Grand	Home	4:30PM
Thurs, Oct. 22	West Grand	Home	4:30PM
Tues, Oct. 27	Summit	Home	4:00PM
Thurs, Oct. 29	Craig	Away	4:30PM
Sat, Oct. 31	Rangely	Away	10:00AM
Tues, Nov. 3	Soroco	Away	4:30PM
Fri, Nov. 6	Craig	Home	4:30PM
Tues, Nov. 10	Hayden	Home	4:30PM
Sat, Nov. 14	Rangely	Home	10:00AM
Mon, Nov. 16	Soroco	Home	4:30PM
Tues, Nov. 17	Hayden	Away	4:30PM
Sat, Nov. 21	Meeker	Home	10:00AM
Tues, Dec. 1	West Grand	Away	4:30PM
Thurs, Dec. 3	North Park	Home	4:30PM
Sat, Dec. 5	District tournament Craig		

### Girls Basketball

Mon, Dec. 7	Practice Starts		
Fri, Jan. 8	Craig	Home	4:30PM
Sat, Jan. 9	Rangely	Away	10:00AM

Tues, Jan. 12	Soroco	Home	4:30PM
Sat, Jan. 16	Meeker	Home	10:00AM
Tues, Jan. 19	West Grand	Home	4:30PM
Thurs, Jan. 21	Hayden	Away	4:30PM
Sat, Jan 23	Craig	Away	9:00AM
Sat, Jan. 30	Rangely	Home	10:00AM
Tues, Feb. 2	Soroco	Away	4:30PM
Thurs, Feb. 4	North Park	Home	4:30PM
Sat, Feb. 6	Meeker	Away	10:00AM
Tues, Feb. 9	East Grand	Home	4:30PM
Thurs, Feb. 11	Summit	Away	4:00PM
Sat, Feb. 13	District Tournament Meeker		
	Meeker		TBA

### Wrestling

Mon, Feb. 15	Practice Begins		
Sat, Feb. 27	Craig Tournament	Away	TBA
Thurs, Mar. 4	STBT/WG/Soroco/Hayden/ EG/WG North Park TBA		
Sat, Mar. 6H	Hayden Tournament Away TBA		
Tues, Mar. 9	Soroco/Hayden/EG/WG/ STBT West Grand TBA		
Sat, Mar. 13	Soroco Tournament Away TBA		
Tues, Mar. 16	STBT/Soroco/NP/Rangely/ EG Hayden TBA		
Sat, Mar. 20	East Grand/Meeker Tournament Away TBA		
Sat, Mar. 27	Steamboat Tournament Home TBA		

### Track

Mon, Mar. 29	Practice Begins		
Sat, April 17	Rangely Invite/West Grand Invite Away TBA		
Sat, April 24	Craig Invite Away TBA		
Sat, May 1	East Grand/Meeker Invite Away TBA		
Sat, May 8	Steamboat Invite Home TBA		

Please Note: Sports schedules are subject to change

# Information!

## EOS, Crow Canyon, Teen After School Club!

### EOS Schedule 2009-10

Everything Outdoors Steamboat

*Dedicated to teaching outdoor skills*

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Rock Climbing	October 18-19	Keller
	April 26-27	Weber
Mountain Bike	October 1	Barbier
	May 2-3	
Horse Packing	Fall TBA	Bye
Ice Climbing	January 28	Tredway
	February 18	Keller
Winter		
Mountaineering	March 14-15	Tredway
Kayaking	Fall TBA	Kerrigan
	June 3	
Fly fish	October 16	Ruff
Back Country Tele	January 13	Barbier
Climbing Wall	Wed. Nights	Staff
Tree Fundraiser	May 7	Staff

### CROW CANYON

Want your student to have the experience of a lifetime with a hands-on archeological dig? We hope they will consider applying for the Steamboat Springs Middle School Crow Canyon trip! The trip is a week long excursion in May, to Cortez, Colorado, where they will learn about the Anasazi and surrounding tribes. They will live in hogans, eat wonderful food, learn to throw spears with a special sling, and learn to start fire with a stick. Students get the chance to become actual archeologists and excavate untouched dwelling to unearth amazing finds from thousands of years ago created by early man. The week also includes travel to Mese Verde National Park and have the opportunity to see the cliff swellings and walk through the amazing Balcony House.

Applications and details will be available this month from Mr. Barbier and Mrs. Lorenz, or your student can pick up the application in the office.

### TEEN AFTER SCHOOL CLUB PROGRAM

Another school year has started and so has your middle school student's favorite, FREE after school program—**Teen After School Club (T.A.S.C.)**, offered by the City of Steamboat Springs Parks, Open Space and Recreational Services Department's Teen Programs. Prior to participation in T.A.S.C. a parent or guardian must complete and sign the Release Form. (call for info).

We have an exciting program planned this year with endless recreation opportunities such as swimming, bowling, rock climbing, pottery, cooking, crafts, movies, and more. October activities are:

Oct. 1	Johnny B's and Little Toots Park
Oct. 8	Canoe at Fetcher Pond
Oct. 15	Volleyball at Howelsen Beach
Oct. 22	Swimming-Old Town Hot Springs
Oct. 29	Halloween Celebration

Teen Programs staff will meet participants at the SSMS flagpole every Thursday at 3:20 p.m. and transport them in a city vehicle to the scheduled activity. Parents/Guardians should pick up their child at 5:30 p.m. at the City of Steamboat Springs Igloo building, located at 279 Howelsen Parkway, next to the Howelsen Ice Arena.

We hope that your child will join us for another year of this one-of-kind after school program. If you have any questions about the program, please feel free to call, 879-4300 ext. 356.

Sincerely,  
Pete Kraska

Teen Recreation Specialist,  
Parks, Open Space and Recreational Services  
Department.

[www.pkraska@steamboatsprings.net](mailto:www.pkraska@steamboatsprings.net)

# Fundraisers! How you can help!

## SCRIP CARDS!!

Join in to help your school/ buy gift cards through your school. Shop over your spring break knowing you are helping your school. Buy Gift cards for hotel stays and know that 8 to 12% goes back to your school. It's easy to write a check to Steamboat Springs Middle School and place order for gift cards. Orders will be placed each Monday.

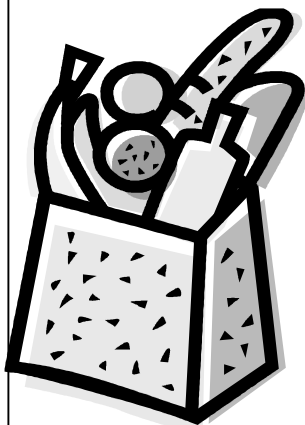
Your gift cards will be in your hands by Friday. There over 300 national stores to choose from. Here are stores in your community/Cold Stone Creamery, Subway, Qdoba, Pizza Hut, Starbucks, Wendy's, Sport's Authority, Staples, Rocky Mountain Chocolate Factory, Kmart, Blockbuster, Sears KFC, and Shell Gas.



## Have you been saving your Box Tops?

Clip Box Tops and bring them to the office and we will earn cash for our school! Each Box Top is worth 10¢ to our school—and that adds up fast! Turn in your Box Tops to the Middle

## Safeway Grocery Certificates



A painless and positive way to donate money to our school!  
It is as easy as buying groceries!

All you need to do is buy grocery certificates to purchase the same groceries you would be purchasing anyway. And 5% of every dollar from Safeway grocery certificates will go to help raise money for SSMS.

Contact the middle school office at 879-1058 to get information on buying your groceries certificates for each month and you can make a big difference in raising money for SSMS. And it is as easy as feeding your family.

# Information!

## PIC Minutes from 9/15 & S.A.C. committee

### PIC Meeting Minutes:

Attendees: Brad Piske, Jan DePuy, Bette Vandahl, Denise Connelly, Jay Bowman, Judi Williams, Heleen Adler, Connie Brown, Mitzi Franklin, Kristin Kidgell, Becky Schmidt, Michelle Caragol, Jessica Ludwick, Beth Wendler

Introductions were made and new and returning parents were welcomed!

Brad Piske chaired the meeting and offered to continue. He will also continue as PIC Treasurer. We are in need of a person to volunteer as PIC Secretary.

**Treasurer's Report:** Brad Piske reported the unencumbered cash and reviewed expense categories.

**Principal's Report:** Tim Bishop updated the following: Attendance from the "Back to School Night" events. Reviewed the 6<sup>th</sup> grade Science Camp program. SAC meetings to begin this month. Parents were encouraged to attend. The first school dance is schedule for September 25<sup>th</sup> and expectations were reviewed. Students are involved in football and volleyball and boy's bas-

ketball will begin October 12<sup>th</sup>. Thanked the parents who volunteer in the school and office.

**Fundraising Update:** Michelle Caragol will Chair this committee and proposed the following fundraisers for consideration: Gift Baskets, Flower Sale, On-line purchasing.

**School Store Update:** Jan Depuy and Beth Wendler reported they have opened the school store for students to purchase and redeem "Know the Code" cards for items. Store hours are Tuesdays and Fridays 11:00-1:00. Donations are always needed and welcomed. The goal is to become self sufficient.

**Wish List Coordinator:** Brad Piske will chair this committee. He intends to have a Fall and Spring teacher Wish List program. Wish Lists forms will be distributed to staff soon.

**Parent-Teacher Conference Food Coordinator:** Becky Schmidt offered to head this committee. Conferences are scheduled for November 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>. She will coordinate volunteers through Judi Williams.

**Next Meeting:** Tues., Oct. 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm.

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## SAC— Attention Steamboat Springs Middle School Parents

You are invited to attend the next SSMS School Accountability Committee (SAC) meeting. This committee is made up of parent and community representatives, teachers and the principal. This state mandated committee is required to ensure each school is held accountable for our students education. The objective/focus for the committee is as follows:

Review and recommend educational goals

for all students and to track academic progress to monitor the goals.

Determine school budget and to prioritize expenditures to improve education and safety.

Review safety issues and safety plans. Report on the above to the district and public.

Please contact the principal, Tim Bishop, if you are interested in attending the SAC meeting or if you have questions, 879-1058.

# Information!

Volunteers, Homecoming Parade,  
School play, Lunch & Breakfast Info &  
October Lunch Menu

Volunteers. As always, we thank you all, the wonderful SSMS parent volunteers, who support and assist the middle school and office. You all make a positive difference! As special note of thanks goes to Kris Bensler who coordinated the SCRIPS Staples gift card fundraiser. It was a huge effort and we appreciate all the students and parents who sold the gift cards. Your effort made a considerable contribution to the middle school. Thank you very much

Homecoming Parade is a High School event. It is scheduled for Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>. If you choose to have your middle school student attend the parade, a permission slip must be sent to the office by Thursday, October 8<sup>th</sup>. If you will be driving other students, a permission note must be received from those students' parents as well.

School Play The large-scale middle school musical theatre production that was tentatively scheduled for this school year has been cancelled. With a project of this magnitude, the details have always been huge. This year's production encountered an abnormal amount of complications with the details that resulted in a decision to cancel this year.

### Fight the Flu.

Get Vaccinated.  
Cover your Cough or Sneeze  
Wash your hands  
Avoid touching your eyes, nose and mouth  
Stay home if you are sick!

## October Lunch Menu

- 1 Turkey and Mashed Potatoes
- 2 Pizza
- 5 Grilled Cheese and Tomato Soup
- 6 Asian Noodles
- 7 Chicken Nuggets and Fries
- 8 Salisbury Steak and Mashed Potatoes
- 9 Pizza
- 12 Gumbo and Rice
- 13 Lil' Smokies and Mac & Cheese
- 14 Tamales and Carnitas
- 15 Fish and Chips
- 16 Pizza
- 19 Corn Dog
- 20 Chicken Fried Rice and Egg Roll
- 21 Macaroni and Beef
- 22 Taco Bar
- 23 Pizza
- 26 Pretzel Bar
- 27 Ham and Potatoes
- 28 Pasta Bar
- 29 Beef Stew and Mashed Potatoes

## **BREAKFAST & LUNCH!**

Have breakfast at the Middle School. There are many items to choose from. Breakfast is served 7:40 to 8:15 a.m., Monday—Friday.

School Lunch Prices are \$3.00 for a full lunch. Many other ala carte items are available daily.

You can check out your students breakfast and lunch information and use your credit card to add monies to your student's account at [mynutrikids.com](http://mynutrikids.com).

# Information!

Booster Bits, Yearbook Information,  
Fun Things to do in Steamboat!

## YEARBOOK NEWS

### FOOTBALL AND VOLLEYBALL PARENTS!!!

Photos needed for our yearbook! Are you a parent of a 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade student participating in SSMS sports? Our yearbook needs your fantastic sideline photos!

To share your shots, please call Joanne Churchill at 871-3593.

### Cover Contest, September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 9<sup>th</sup>

Hey Sailors, get involved

All SSMS students are invited to participate in this year's contest to create the cover for our SSMS yearbook. Contest applications will be available in the office and the art room **beginning September 30<sup>th</sup>**. Final drawings will be due on **October 9<sup>th</sup> by 3:30**. The winner will of course have the honor of seeing their artwork featured as the cover of this years book AND also be given a FREE yearbook! All art work must be in keeping with this years theme which is "The World Is Ours" and we are encouraging students to "think Globally" when making their creation.

The winner will be picked by an anonymous committee of teachers and announced via the daily school announcements on Monday October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Please see Mrs. Churchill in the office if you have questions.

## BOOSTER BITS

Come One Come All to Booster Club!! Anyone is welcome and we would love your help with Sailor Spirit! Meeting the first Wed. of every month from 5:30-7:00 pm in the High School Commons.

Booster Club has 3 upcoming fund raisers. Please help us support our students and coaches!

1. Butter Braid Sale
2. Denver Broncos Exhibition Game
3. Sailor Pavers

Stay tuned and Thanks for all your support!

## Fun Things to do in Steamboat!

**Children's Theatre** – Acting classes for grades 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup>, scheduled for October 5<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>, 4:00-5:30 at the Depot. Contact Stuart Handloff for more information, call - 970-355-9403 or email [shandloff@hotmail.com](mailto:shandloff@hotmail.com).

### Old Town Hot Springs—Flick and Float Nights.

Young Frankenstein, Saturday, Oct. 17

Ice Age, Friday, Nov. 13

Cost: \$10/Members; \$12/Non-Members. The slide is open from 6:00-7:00. The movie starts at 7:00 and runs until it is over. Bring your own tube or raft to float on, while watching the movie.

### Middle School Swim Fitness.

The objective of this class is to refine students' strokes to achieve efficiency, power, and smoothness over greater distances. Cost: Members: \$40. Non-members: \$60  
Tues. & Thurs. 4:00— 5:00 p.m.

Sept 29<sup>th</sup>– Oct. 22<sup>nd</sup>

# Information!

From The Nurse's Office!

Please help us minimize **illnesses** in our school setting. **These guidelines should be used to help you decide whether or not your child should come to school.**

We also ask that you:

**Keep the school office updated** with current phone number and contact information

**Make arrangements** in advance for home care of your child if he becomes ill at school

## Illness Guidelines:

### **When to Keep Your Child Home**

Children with **severe cold symptoms** should not attend school.

Cold symptoms may include: a constant runny nose, especially with abnormal color or consistency (this is especially important if your child is unable to use a Kleenex by him(her)self, nasal or lung/chest congestion, coughing that is constant or persistent, recurrent sneezing that is not allergy related.

**Do not send a child to school with an abnormal temperature- any temperature over 100 degrees F.**

Symptoms to watch for might be a flushed face, chills, paleness or skin abnormally warm to the touch.

One or all of these symptoms might be present. If in doubt at all, please take your child's

temperature. Please keep an obviously sick child at home.

**A child with a temperature needs to stay home for at least 24 hours. Remember, if you reduce your child's fever with medication like Tylenol, your child is STILL ill. Please do not medicate your child and send them to school. Children spread their illness most during the time they have a fever.**

Do not send a child to school that has been **vomiting** within the last 24 hours.

Do not send a child to school that has had **diarrhea** in the last 24 hours.

Flu symptoms: fever over 100 degrees (usually high) **and** one or more of the following body aches, sore throat, cough, headache.

Do not send your child back to school until he has had no symptoms for at least 24 hours.

## Guidelines on keeping your child healthy

**Wash hands** using soap and warm water for 15-20 seconds (sing the ABC song once).

Wash before eating, after using the bathroom, after playing outside, after using a tissue.

**Cover cough/sneeze** into your sleeve. If a tissue is used, throw away tissue and wash hands.

**Sleep 8+ hours** per night

**Healthy eating** habits

# Steamboat Springs School District Board of Education



The Board of Education members would like to remind everyone of the opportunities for their voice to be heard. Board members may be contacted by phone or e-mail (see below), or you may attend their regular meetings. The Board will entertain public comment at 7:00 pm. If you would like more specific information prior to attending the meeting, please contact the District Office at 879-1530. All meetings are held at Centennial Hall/Citizens meeting room at 124 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Upcoming meeting dates are: October 5<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> & November 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>

## Board members are:

Dr. Shalee Cunningham, Superintendent

Robin Crossan, President	871-1284	crossanrobin@yahoo.com
Denise Connelly, Vice President	879-1910	dbconnelly@msn.com
Laura Anderson, Secretary	871-4873	lauraanderson@springsips.com
Lisa Brown, Treasurer	879-5969	Lisabrown@zirkel.us
John DeVincentis	879-8726	johndpuzzles@hotmail.com

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## Discrimination Policy

Steamboat Springs School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age in its programs or activities.

Please direct inquires to:

Ann Muhme,  
Assistant to the Superintendent,  
(970) 879-1530  
P.O. Box 774368,  
Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

# Steamboat Springs School District RE-2 2009-10 Middle School Calendar

October 23	End of 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter
November 11	Parent -Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 pm
November 12	Parent -Teacher Conferences, 8:00 am-8:00 pm, <b>(no school)</b>
November 13	<b>No school</b>
November 25-27	Thanksgiving Break <b>(no school)</b>
December 21-Jan. 1	Winter Break <b>(no school)</b>
January 4	First day back from Winter Break
January 14	End of 2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter
January 15	<b>No school</b> (Staff work day)
January 18	<b>No school</b>
February 5	<b>No school</b> (Staff work day)
February 15-19	Mid-Winter Break <b>(no school)</b>
March 10	Parent -Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 pm
March 11	Parent - Teacher Conferences, 8:00 am-8:00 pm, <b>(no school)</b>
March 12	<b>No school</b>
March 26	End of 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter
April 19-23	Spring Break <b>(no school)</b>
May 31	Memorial Day <b>(no school)</b>
June 4	Last day of school for students - End of 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter
June 7	Last day for staff

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## **Steamboat Springs Middle School Vision Statement**

SSMS will become the Premier Middle School in the state of Colorado.

### **Mission Statement**

Steamboat Springs Middle School will ensure that each student will achieve their maximum potential by:

~Providing a learning environment for our students that are appropriate for their stage of cognitive, emotional, physical and social development.

~Providing a diverse, integrated curriculum that ensures the students meet or exceed district content standards and recognize the exploratory

nature of middle school students.

~Creating a sense of community where students, staff and parents believe they belong and are able to contribute.

~Providing an opportunity for all students to experience success.

~Encouraging an atmosphere of respect and appreciation for diversity and individuality.

~Helping create a climate that fosters interaction and involvement with our community.