

SEVIER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
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 864-355-8200

# Sevier Middle School

## From the Falcon's Nest

### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER:

- 10/4: PTA Open House
- 10/13: PSAT (select 8th grade students)
- 10/14-15: No School (Teacher Workdays)
- 10/14: Student-Led Conferences
- 10/22: Fall Dance
- 10/25-29: Red Ribbon Week
- 10/25-28: Scholastic Book Fair
- 10/27: Report Cards

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## A Note from the Principal



### Student Led Conferences Set for October 14

On Thursday, October 14, all students at Sevier Middle School will participate in student led conferences. These conferences encourage student responsibility for their academic performance and require self-evaluation of skills and work habits. Students learn to organize and present their work, and gain confidence in communicating their own strengths and weaknesses. This process develops student confidence in a lifelong skill required for success. Students will conduct their own conferences, sharing their MAP scores and goals, explaining samples of their work and sharing strategies they use to make sure that they learn at the highest levels.

Twenty minutes will be scheduled for you and your child to conference together. The Sevier staff is particularly pleased with the progress your sons and daughters are making each day. Please read and respond to your conference invitation and join us to support your son or daughter as they develop deeper competence and self-reliance.

## Math Mania



Got a math test coming up? Have you tried cramming, just to find that it didn't work because you still forgot most of what you tried cramming into your head the night before? Maybe what you need is a better plan of action – try studying smarter! The question is, how do you really study for a math test? It is not like all you have to do is remember a bunch of facts; you really have to know and understand the processes involved. Here are some suggestions to help you study:

First, choose a place where there is a minimum of distractions. Trying to study in your bedroom with the door closed is not really the best location if you are prone to find reasons not to really study. If you want to study in the bedroom, leave the door open. It is not that mom or dad will check on you, but they might look in as they are passing by. This will keep you honest about spending your time wisely.

Second, if math is your hardest subject, don't put it off until the end of your study time. Psychologically, doing it last means that you are going to dread it, making it like you are working uphill. Do it first so that your mind is fresh; things can only get easier as you move from subject to subject (almost like you are running downhill!).

Third, after you have finished your assigned homework, don't put your math book up just yet. After all, you have not really studied yet. Go back to the beginning of the current chapter and select one or two problems from each lesson that you have covered and rework them, just like you were shown how to do in class. The solution is then simple – ask a question! Ask your teacher or friend to look at what you are doing and see if they can help you clear up your misunderstanding. (Help is also available in Room 401 in the morning before school starts.)

Fourth, after you have been studying for a while take a short break. Get up, move around, go to the refrigerator and get a snack and/or drink, get some blood circulating again. The key is that this is a short break, so once it is over, get back to studying. The longer you delay, the harder it will be to get going again.

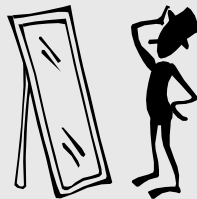
Lastly, all of these study habits have to be done on a regular basis. It will not be nearly as effective if you do it some nights and then skip other nights. Neither will it be effective if you wait until shortly before the test. If you will do a little each night, the task of overcoming your math anxiety about that upcoming test will not seem nearly as impossible as you originally thought! **Article submitted by: Tim Jones, 7th grade Math**

The National Junior Honor Society would like to encourage students to seek membership in this prestigious national organization. Membership is open to those students who meet the required criteria. Members of the NJHS follow the highest of standards in scholarship, leadership, service, citizenship and character through the donation of their time and talents to the Sevier community. If you are interested in applying to the National Junior Honor Society please contact Mrs. Nauss or Mrs. Hardy.



## Reflections Competition

It's time for REFLECTIONS 2010—*Reflections* is a National PTA recognition and achievement program where students create original works of art in literature, music, visual arts, photography, dance choreography or film production, based on a theme. The theme for Reflections this year is, "Together We Can..." Students may enter as many times as they wish in any or all categories. Specific rules and entry forms can be picked up in the front office or in the art room (room 404) from Mrs. Webster. Deadline for entries is Monday, October 18, 2010. Please encourage students to enter this contest—prizes will be awarded for winning entries!



## Breathe Better Campaign

Sevier Middle School's Breathe Better campaign would like to remind parents to please turn your engine off while waiting in the carline. Let's all work together to improve the air quality around our school and students as they walk to their cars. Thank you for helping us to reduce air pollution and maintain exemplary air quality!



**"The future belongs to those who believe in the beauty of their dreams."**

**-Eleanor Roosevelt**

## Beta Club

Beta! Beta! Beta!

It's that time to renew your Beta Club membership or become a new member! Students qualify if they have a 3.5 GPA as of June 2010. Dues for former members are \$5 and \$20 for new members. New members will be sent an invitation to join after first report cards are issued on October 27th.

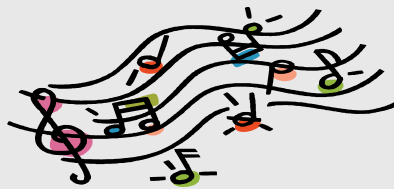
The first Beta Club meeting will be Monday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm in the media center. We have some very exciting activities planned for this year. Students will be required to do 10 volunteer hours of community service as specified in the national bylaws to remain an active member. Beta Club was formed in 1934 by Dr. John Harris, a Wofford College professor as a "service organization" for academically-gifted students. For questions, feel free to call Rena Howard, Counselor at 355-8485 ( Mon-Wed).

## Band & Strings

Please support your Band and Strings students!!! Cookie Dough Fundraiser will be kicking off Tuesday Oct 5th. For questions or orders contact Mrs. Marsh at :

[ckmarsh@greenville.k12.sc.us](mailto:ckmarsh@greenville.k12.sc.us)

Thank you for your support!



## Media Center News

The Fall Scholastic Book Fair is during the last week of October. Which books will you buy to expand your home library? There will be so many books to choose from!



## Counselor's Corner

Darcy Storm #355-8203- School Guidance Counselor

Rena Howard #355-8485- School Guidance Counselor (Part-time)

Melinda Howard #355-8204- Guidance Clerk

For your convenience, our guidance staff will be conducting Individual Graduation Plans (IGP) conferences with all 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and parents in conjunction with Student Led Conferences on October, 14<sup>th</sup>. We welcome you to meet with us in the guidance office either before or after your scheduled appointment. We encourage you to discuss career goals with your child prior to coming to the IGP conference. We look forward to this opportunity to meet with you and your child to discuss his or her career pathway and to encourage positive choices for the future.

We're on the web! Visit us at: <http://www.greenville.k12.sc.us/sevier/index.asp>