



SEVIER MIDDLE SCHOOL FALCONS

Volume 8, Issue 2 September 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

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| 9/14 | PTA Board Mtg. |
| 9/15 | Progress Reports Grade Level Dodgeball Competition 6:30pm PTA Parent Forum & Vol. Orientation 6:30pm |
| 9/20 | Box Tops Collection |
| 9/23 | Picture Orders due Chorus & Drama WalkAthon |
| 9/27 | Lunch & Learn |
| 9/28 | \$2 Kona Ice |
| 9/30 | Fuss Free Fundraiser Goal Deadline |
| 10/3 - 10/10 | Scholastic Book Fair |
| 10/5 | Fuss Free Celebration |
| 10/6 | School Counseling Advisory Council Mtg. 7:50am Band Cookie Dough begins |
| 10/7 | SIC Meeting 1pm 6th Grade Mixer 3:30 - 5:30 |
| 10/12 | MP3 Day PTA Reflections Due |
| 10/13 | Parent Teacher Conferences |
| 10/13-10/14 | Teacher Workdays |

VOLUNTEER REQUIREMENTS

Greenville County Schools, in an effort to ensure the safety of all of our students, is implementing additional security checks for school volunteers. All volunteers must submit an application to the school and receive clearance from the district before interacting with children in the school or chaperoning any school field trip. Volunteers are now identified by two different categories: Level I or Level II. Please review the details from the district website at <http://goo.gl/N5mJMv> and submit your volunteer applications to Sevier's front office.

Message from the Principal:

We are so pleased and proud of our Sevier Falcons as they begin school, engaged and focused on a successful year! Our enrollment is at 743 students and all are employing 1 to 1 devices in meaningful lessons across the curriculum. Our school is committed to the highest educational achievement for every student and continues to refine both rigorous instructional opportunities and targeted support to ensure that students exceed every expectation. Our priorities are:

- **Engaging Instruction & Assessment** -- lessons and school experiences that
- **incorporate project-based learning practices in the context of Science, Technology, Engineering, the Arts, and Math — STEAM!**
- **Culture for 21st Century Learning** -- where each student engages, will stretch without fear, and learns at the highest levels
- **Purposeful Use of Technology and Other Resources** – earning through technology and community partnerships

Our **Enrichment** program kicks off its first seminar on Friday, September 23 with 3 Friday morning sessions. Each of 6 seminar cycles across the year is designed to provide

- Skills preview and re-teaching
- Small group or extra time support
- Academic advancement
- Special interest or competition

Students will enter their preferences for seminar assignments for the year. Academic needs will always be first priority, and assignments will be determined by teachers before the start of each seminar. Please view the attached program description and sample sessions.

Thank you again for sending your children to learn with us at Sevier. With a Falcon's *Focus*, we Challenge and Prepare them for their greatest success. If there is ever anything that we can do to strengthen the experience for you or your child, please do not hesitate to call at 864.355.8210 or email me at kapp@greenville.k12.sc.us.

Respectfully,

Karen M Kapp

PTA Forum and Volunteer Orientation

We need to see you on **THURSDAY, September 15** our **PTA Parent Forum and Volunteer Orientation**.

Students will begin a **Dodgeball Tournament** while parents meet in the Amphitheatre to discuss

- *RAMP school counseling services*
- *Grading scale, grading floor, and communication about grades*
- *Supports for Improved Student Outcomes*
- *Re-take Policy for major assessments*

Our school logged more than 9,600 Volunteer Hours in 2015-16. We have many opportunities for your participation, no matter how much time or in what location you can share your commitment. **Find your fit** in a meaningful *volunteer opportunity*. Your children want you here for this event and engaged in our vibrant school programs. Both events begin at **6:30** and parents will meet until 7:10, joining students in the Gym for the final tournament games, all ending by 7:45. Park in the rear lot. Be an active part of our family-friendly school!

IMPORTANT UPDATE RE: ATTENDANCE AT SCHOOL

All students take 6 classes daily (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, & 2 Related Arts per semester). The school year contains 180 days. To earn credit, students must attend 85 days of each 90-day (semester) course and at least 170 days of each 180-day course. Any absence in excess of ten (10) days may cause the loss of credit for the year. The first ten (10) days absences may be lawful, unlawful, or a combination. All absences beginning with the eleventh (11) must be lawful and can be excused only if they fall within the guidelines outlined in the Student Handbook.

Perfect Attendance Criteria (Revised May 2016):

The definition of an absence at a Greenville County Middle School is missing more than one-half of any single class period for which a student is enrolled, or multiple class periods for which a student is enrolled, during a school day. Absence in any part of the school day for a minimum of more than one-half class period, even if the student was present for all other portions of that same school day, by definition excludes a student from being determined to have Perfect Attendance.

Counselor's Corner



Students and parents please sign up for Remind 101 to receive information and important messages from your grade level school counselors.



6th grade: Mrs. Long- Class of 2023 Smart phone/android or to sign up for email notifications from your desktop, open your web browser and go to the following

link: rmd.at/sms2023, follow the instructions to sign up. If you don't have a smartphone text the message @sms2023 to the number 81010 or @sms2023 to (864) 990-2522.

7th grade: Ms. J. Crisman- class of 2022 Smart phone/android or to sign up for email notifications from your desktop, open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/7sms2022, follow the instructions to sign up. If you don't have a smartphone text the message @7sms2022 to the number 81010 or @7sms2022 to (864) 642-4451.

8th grade: Mrs. Storm- Class of 2021 Smart phone/android or to sign up for email notifications, from your desktop open your web browser and go to the following link: rmd.at/sms2021, follow the instructions to sign up. If you don't have a smartphone text the message @sms2021 to the number 81010 or @sms2021 to (424)534-1827.



In September, we are honoring students who show Responsibility.

Showing responsibility means a student carefully and thoughtfully carries out a duty or task. They can be counted on and trusted.

Pictures of these students will be displayed in our hallway and students will be given the opportunity to choose a gift card from a variety of stores.

6th Grade: Anthony Bennett & Kendall Blakely
7th Grade: Alex Tsiatsios & Bayley Betsill
8th Grade: Emin Demirkilic & Kyleigh Kent



Parents/Community Members needed!! Our School Counseling Advisory Council will meet Thursday, October 6 from 7:50am-8:20am to discuss student needs and school counselor goals and activities. If you would like to be a part please email Mrs. Long tlong@greenville.k12.sc.us. We look forward to having you.



The month of September is a busy time for Career Development. Mrs. Crisman will be visiting all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders to work in Naviance, the career development online district program. In Naviance, students will be setting goals, exploring careers, completing interest surveys, and working on resumes. "Lunch and Learn" for the month of September will be on 27th. This

PSAT: Select 8th grade students will be taking the PSAT (Pre-SAT) as part of a program sponsored by the State Department of Education. Qualifying students were notified by letter September 7. Forms and fees are due no later than Friday, September 16th. The exam will be given at Sevier on October, 19th 2016. No make-up dates are available.



Tomiko Long, 6th grade School Counselor, 355-8377
Darcy Storm, 8th grade School Counselor, 355-8203

Jami Crisman, 7th grade School Counselor, 355-8485
Melinda Howard, School Counseling Clerk, 355-8204



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2016 Lady Falcons Volleyball Team

Hailey Bergenthal, Zoe Buddie, Leah Chappell, KaLisa Coles, Courtney Duckett, Kendall Foster, Hannah Hand, Lia Hege, Ashley Ho, Sydney Kender, Kenli Knox, Caroline Mathis, Shaler Reeves, Abigail Stake, Anna Stanton, Elizabeth Terry, Kennedy Tillery, Managers: Addy Nagy, Sydney Kaminsky, Lily Rhodes, Adaline McCormack, Reagan Glynn, and Kendra Wentzel.

Sept. 15 @ Lakeview
Sept. 19 @ SMS vs. Tanglewood
 Sept. 21 @ League
Sept. 22 @ SMS vs. Berea Breast Cancer Awareness Night
Sept. 26 @ SMS vs. Lakeview 8th Gr. Appreciation Night
 Sept. 28 @ Mauldin
 Sept. 29 @ Tanglewood
 Oct. 3 @ Berea

The Sevier Volleyball team will be hosting a Breast Cancer Awareness Game Night on September 22nd. We would love for you to come and bring other family and friends! Lets pack the gym.

We have an amazing group of 8th graders on the volleyball team, who will be moving on after this school year. During the game on September 26th, we want to recognize them and show them just how much we appreciate them and how proud of them we are. Please come out and help us show these girls what a strong impact they have on our school!

Student Data Verifications Forms



Student Data Verification forms will go home with 1st Quarter Progress Reports. Parents and guardians are to review the information thoroughly, mark through any incorrect information, and make any necessary changes. Please provide your signature at the bottom of the form and return these as soon as possible. This information will be used to update your student's contact information.



The Chess Club will run from October 20th through April and will meet on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the month from 3:45 – 4:45pm. Students interested in joining the Chess Club should complete a permission form, found on the website or in the front office, and return to

Mrs. Haack on or before the parent meeting on October 20th. Students who miss the informational meeting are still welcome to join. See Mrs. Haack in Room 210 for details. This club does not require a membership fee.



Walk-A-Thon Sponsorship Requests will begin on Tuesday, September 13th and run through Thursday, September 22. This Walk-a-thon is a fundraiser for the Sevier Middle School Chorus and 8th Grade Drama.

The Walk-a-thon will take place on Friday, September 23 from 3:30-5:00 on the SMS track. Students are asking for \$1.00 per lap sponsorships and/or donations toward funding their programs.

JOIN SIC

The Sevier School Improvement Council is seeking new members. SIC meets on the 2nd Friday of each month from 1pm - 2pm.

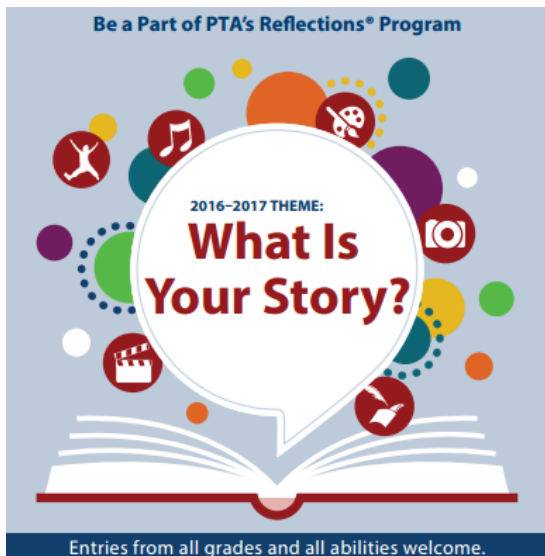
Participation on SIC is a great way to stay informed about school programs and to support the effectiveness of our school. Please consider serving. All interested in supporting a strong Sevier are encouraged to attend. Our meetings are always open. We will elect new official members soon. Go to <http://goo.gl/54K0Rm> to view our tentative SIC program calendar.

Sevier parents and community members may submit nominations of interest in formally serving on the SIC at this link: <https://goo.gl/forms/gybur7uQMIQJnsXF2> or come to the office to complete a paper form by September 23.

Contact Tomiko Long at tlong@greenville.k12.sc.us.



Support our PTA's **Fuss Free Fundraiser** held through September 30th. The entire school will have an Ice Cream Celebration if we meet our \$5000 Fuss Free September 30 benchmark. **Thank you** to the following businesses for their Sponsorship: Vision Screenprinting & Graphics, Sharp Business Systems, Sliced Tomato Productions, Hunt Orthodontics, Pro Pitch Hit Run, Mathnasium of Greenville-Tailors, Craft Stove Store, Beauty for Ashes, Atticus Creative, ProCore Pest Control, Summers Orthodontics, and Professional Engineering Associates.



DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: October 12th

ART CATEGORIES:



Students are encouraged to participate in the PTA Reflections contest. Students may submit as many entries as they like through October 12th. Students will be awarded a full fly card for every entry. This year's theme is "What is your Story?" Categories are photography, music composition, literature, visual arts, film production, and dance choreography.



Congratulations to our Falcon Anglers, Matthew Giordano and Kaleb DeHart, for placing 1st in Middle Schools, and 4th overall against 210 Middle and High School teams this past Saturday at Lake Keowee in their first fishing tournament of year!

2016-2017 Robotics Team Members

Cade Greeley, Andy Collins, Jose Hernandez-Ignacio, Paxton Keskitalo, Adrian Alamilla-Vega, Hunter Dill, Elijah Childers, Taylor Smith, Liam McHaffie, Boston Carswell, Neleah Clough, Kathleen Callicutt, Caise Lavalley, Gavin Coleman, Mark Juarez, Caroline Mathis, Kayly Tran, Olivia Pechin, Gabriel Cleveland, Thomas Fuentes, Chandler Nix, Zachary Harrington, Emin Demirkilic, and Jack Pelletier.



Congratulations to Marina Nardulli & Colbie Ray for Auditioning and being accepted into Prelude Strings!!! Marina and Colbie play the Cello.



School Portrait orders and payments are due by September 23rd. Make checks payable to *Images*. Make-up pictures will be taken on October 19th for students who missed Open House or were unhappy with their first portrait.

8th Grade Smart Arts

Jennie Wakefield was our special guest from Smart Arts. She helped to enrich the 8th grade science curriculum with activities that allowed students to explore their kinesthetic sense and how it related to Newton's Laws of Motion. Students had opportunities to create visual art, written poetry and moving sculptures.



Morgan Thoennes, 8th Grade Mixer VIP drawing winner!



During the 8th Grade Mixer, Rock and JQ battled it out for the number one spot in the Free Throw Contest, advancing to 3 point shots for the win. Rock won 1st place and received a pair of Skull Candy earbuds.

Students in Mrs. Plumier's GTT classes designed a Ankle Foot Orthosis for children suffering from Cerebral Palsy. Through this process, students develop team norms for future projects and discover the importance of the design process.

