



NEWBURGH ENLARGED CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

# South Middle School

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www.newburghschools.org



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# November Newsletter 2020



## Happy November

Dear SMS Families,

I am glad to welcome back our 7th grade cohort! Even though the weather is getting cold, and the leaves are changing on us, the academic process here at the SMS is staying constant. The teachers and scholars have established their routines and procedures for instruction.

November is an important time for us all to reflect on the many blessings and focus on family and gratitude. We hope you take the time to slow down and feel gratitude for all that is around you! I am certainly thankful for the many blessings in my life, including working with these amazing scholars, parents/caregivers, teachers, and support staff at South Middle School.

**Chante' Brooks**  
South Middle School Principal

## INFORMATION:

### REMINDER:

School starts at 7 AM - 6th & 7th grade arrival start at 6:50, dismissal for walkers and pick-ups at 2:15

November 3rd - FOLLOW your normal class Schedule  
November 17th - [Parent Teacher Group Meeting with BrainPower](#)

Look out for more information about Parent/ Teacher Conferences

[SMS Welcome Presentation and Video](#)

Technology assistance is available through the district help desk: [Use this link to get help!](#)

Add us on Social Media!

School Pictures will be modified for this year. Students have been sent an email to submit a [headshot](#) for the virtual yearbook

## Click the image to order your SMS Gear!

TEES	SWEATSHIRTS AND PANTS	ACCESSORIES



# Parent Teacher Conferences Questions

## Parent /Teacher Conference Night

Information from the district for Parent Teacher Conferences will be provided soon, be on the lookout! We look forward to seeing you and suggest a few questions you may want to consider to discuss with your scholar's teachers:

- How is my child doing socially?
- What are my child's strengths... challenges?
- What can I do at home to support what you're doing in the class?
- What are the best school or district resources that we should consider using as a family to support our child in the classroom?
- How do you measure academic progress?
- What can I do to support literacy in my home?
- What kinds of questions do you suggest that I ask my children on a daily basis about your class?

## November Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
November 2 - B	November 3 - C	November 4 - A	November 5 - B	November 6 - C
Blue Cohort	Remote Day	<b>Asynchronous Wednesday:</b> Be sure to complete your attendance and your Health Screening	Gold Cohort	Gold Cohort
November 9 - A	November 10 - B	November 11	November 12 - C	November 13 - A
Blue Cohort	Blue Cohort	No School	Gold Cohort	Gold Cohort BrainPower 8th Grade Class Visits
November 16 - B	November 17 - C	November 18 - A	November 19 - B	November 20 - C
Blue Cohort Grade House Assembly	Blue Cohort PTG @6:30	<b>Asynchronous Wednesday:</b> Be sure to complete your attendance and your Health Screening	Gold Cohort	Gold Cohort
November 23 - A	November 24 - B	November 25 - C	November 26	November 27
Blue Cohort	Blue Cohort	<b>Asynchronous Wednesday:</b> Be sure to complete your attendance and your Health Screening  Parent Teacher Conferences	No School	No School
November 30 - B	December 1 - C	December 2 - A	December 3 - B	December 4 - C
Blue Cohort	Blue Cohort	<b>Asynchronous Wednesday:</b> Be sure to complete your attendance and your Health Screening	Gold Cohort	Gold Cohort

# Attendance

Attendance is verified daily at South Middle School. Due to the blended learning groups and changes that need to occur will take two working days. If your child was not present in the virtual classroom, however, handed in an assignment for participation credit, please allow a day for this to be corrected.

For example, If your child did not participate in class on Monday but handed in an assignment on Monday evening the corrected attendance will appear in the portal on Wednesday. If you are still seeing an error please contact your child's teacher.

As a reminder, if your child is sick and unable to participate in person or online please call the school at (845) 563-7011

## South Middle School SCEP Goals



### Mission

Inspiring students to be tomorrow's leaders beyond Academy Field



### Vision

Through the Work of All, we will achieve inclusive excellence

### Core Values

**N** – Nurturing

**E** – Empowering

**C** – Collaborative

**S** – Student-Centered

**D** – Diverse



**Goal 1 - Tenet 1:**  
Effective schools establish school wide systems and structures that promote continuous improvement and success for all students.

By June 2021, South Middle School will have prioritized tones, empathy, and positive communication resulting in a reduced chronic absenteeism rate of 18% or less, as monitored through South Middle School attendance committee.

**Goal 2 - Tenet 4:**  
Using Assessment and Feedback in Instruction

By June 2021, 75% of SMS teachers will regularly provide students clear and concise feedback to improve tier work as evidenced by walkthrough data.

**Goal 3 - Tenet 5A:**  
Establishing school-wide practices that support SEL

By June 2021, SMS will have implemented ten units of ReThink Ed and consistently use Brain Power Wellness resulting in a reduction in referral rates by ten percent.

**Goal 4 - Tenet 6A:**  
Systems for communication

By June 2021, SMS will improve communications as evidenced by 75% of parents agreeing that "they are satisfied with how well the school communicated with them" on the parent survey.

**Goal 5 - Survey Goal**  
respect for diversity will be well developed and evident

By June 2021, 53.5% of students at SMS will agree or strongly agree to the survey question.

Next Meeting is November 17th at 6:15 - Use this Meet Link to Join us! We can't wait to see you there!

# Parent Advisory Group

Parents

Leaders



Stakeholders

Members

Together  
Everyone  
Achieves  
More

Decision  
Makers

Change  
Agents



## What is a Parent Advisory Group?

It is a committee made of of parents who offer suggestions for parental involvement activities and guide the school in important decision making.

