



## SUNSET RIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT 29

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*Cultivating a learning community that engages the hearts and minds of students, one child at a time*

### FRIDAY NEWS September 21, 2018

#### **STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION ANNOUNCES END TO PARCC TESTS**

This week, the State Superintendent of Schools (Dr. Tony Smith) officially announced the end of the annual state mandated PARCC test as we know them. The State Board of Education has awarded a new contract to the Data Recognition Corporation (DRC) to develop a new computer based, adaptive state assessment of readiness in English/Language Arts and Mathematics. The new assessment is not expected until 2021. The state has not provided any insight or direction relative to the status of their mandated assessment between now and when the new DRC assessment is implemented.

#### **SAVE THE DATE**

The 2018 PTO Book Fair is scheduled for October 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:15 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. & October 17<sup>th</sup> from 8:15 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. On Wednesday October 17<sup>th</sup> the 1<sup>st</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade Middlefork students will be bussed over. You can send money with your children so they can purchase an item. Please sign up to volunteer at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4FA8AE2BA5FE3-sunset>. Please contact Megan Waite with any questions ([meganwaite@comcast.net](mailto:meganwaite@comcast.net))

#### **PTO BENEFIT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

The 2019 PTO Benefit is around the corner. The Benefit Committee is looking for volunteers from our talented community! Please take a look at the list of volunteer opportunities on the link below and select ALL positions that interest you. We will work with you individually to find the perfect fit! <http://district29pto.org/benefit-volunteers/>

#### **BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION**

This year we will again be collecting BOXTOPS for education! Thank you to all who contributed last year! After only four months, Middlefork & Sunset Ridge collected 1660 BOXTOPS! We will continue to collect throughout the year so please look for them on food and household products and remember that each one is worth 10¢ to the school that submits it. For program details, explore [www.boxtops4education.com](http://www.boxtops4education.com)

#### **NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL STRATEGIC PLANNING**

New Trier High School is requesting your input as they plan for the future of the district. Below is a link to a survey from their independent research firm, Hanover Research. This survey asks about your goals and priorities in areas such as curriculum, extracurriculars, climate and culture, and

facilities and operations. Please take a few minutes to share your opinions and give their planning committee feedback as they develop their new strategic plan.

[https://hanoverresearch.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bwQD8k0YEsF7oqN?District=4](https://hanoverresearch.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bwQD8k0YEsF7oqN?District=4)

### **PTO DUES, CLASSROOM PARTY FEES AND 8TH GRADE FEES**

PTO dues (per family), Classroom Party Fees (per student), and 8th Grade Fees (8th grade families only) are collected each year. PTO Dues help fund the academic and enrichment activities for our students provided by the PTO. Classroom Party Fees contribute to the student classroom parties hosted by Room Parents throughout the year. The 8th Grade Fee covers a portion of the many special 8th grade activities throughout the year. For your convenience, PTO Dues, Classroom Party Fees, and 8th Grade Fees can be paid together online via the MySchoolBucks link on the District 29 website or at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com).

Sincerely,  
Edward J. Stange, Ph.D.  
Superintendent of Schools

## **MIDDLEFORK HEADLINES**

**CODING KIDS** classes began this week. 40 first through third-grade students are registered across three separate classes and 10 kindergartners in their own class, beginning on 10/16. Upcoming differentiated coding activities include creating an interactive collage in Scratch Jr. and algorithms and sequencing with The Foos and Kodable. A second session (and new registration) will occur in the winter. If you have any questions about Middlefork's coding opportunities, contact Mrs. Johnson <[johnsonk@sunsetridge29.org](mailto:johnsonk@sunsetridge29.org)>.

**STORAGE WARS - MIDDLEFORK STYLE!** Thank you to all the Middlefork families who have already dropped off the following items to build our Loose Parts Playground inventory. We have buckets, paper tubes, bike wheels, drums, tent, tent material, pool noodles, 2 wagon wheels, random PVC, plywood and cardboard, mailing tubs, paint cans, a life preserver, and large blocks. It's not too late to "unload" in Joanna Brown or Dina Donaldson's garage! To DROP-OFF, contact Joanna Brown at [joanna@tjbrown.com](mailto:joanna@tjbrown.com) or 847.624.2015 for instructions. For PICK-UP, they will pick up items from homes on Tuesday, 9/25. Please text Dina Donaldson at 858.243.3110 with your address and leave the items on your front porch by 9am on Tuesday.

**OFFICER FRIENDLY:** The Northfield Police Department has been offering Middlefork students lessons on safety for more than 20 years. Officer Friendly visits with Middlefork students throughout the school year to speak on specific safety topics, from summer safety tips to learning about drugs and household poisons. This coming Monday the topic is "Stranger Danger," which focuses first on defining and classifying the concept of "stranger" and then emphasizes three important steps for students: 1) Say, No!"; 2) Run away; and 3) Tell a Safe Adult.

### **SAFETY NOTES:**

\*\*We will hold our third and final fire drill on Tuesday, September 25. This one will be announced, as we will assemble the children in the lunchroom to practice safe exits from the cafeteria.

\*\*3rd grade Safety Patrol begins this Monday. 30 third graders will don orange safety patrol vests and help maintain order and safety on the school sidewalk each day from 3-3:20 p.m. If you have a third grader participating in Safety Patrol, please note the finishing time!

**VISION & HEARING SCREENING:** Vision and Hearing screenings will be conducted for all students on Friday, 9/28, during PE classes. You will be contacted by Mrs. Mertes if it is recommended you take your child for more in depth testing.

**SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAY LUNCH** is Friday, 9/28, during lunchtime. We will meet in the Art Room to celebrate together and will include our August kindergarten birthdays, now that they are remaining at school for lunch.

**LEARNING CENTER:** Check out Mrs. Johnson's September [Book of the Month](#) on the LC website. Every month there's a new book, discussion questions, and related books to enjoy at home.

**MIDDLEFORK NEWS:**

[http://www.sunsetridge29.org/schools/middlefork\\_school\\_k-3](http://www.sunsetridge29.org/schools/middlefork_school_k-3)

## SUNSET RIDGE HEADLINES

**PERSONAL TECHNOLOGY**

There has been an increase in the use of student cell phones and smart watches during the school day. It has been interrupting instruction and distracting for students and staff. Unfortunately, the most significant increase has been parents texting their children during the day. Please remind your child, as per the AUP, and keep in mind that cell phones and smart watches should not be on during the day. If you need to get a hold of your child, please call the office.

**SERVICE LEAGUES:**

Today we had our kick-off assembly for Service Leagues. Students were introduced to the program, met with their Service League to learn about the amazing opportunities they will have throughout the year, and ended the day with icebreaker activities. Next month, we will dive right into field trips and service learning curriculum; some students will already be visiting organizations while others will be working at Sunset Ridge researching ways to make a difference! Don't forget we need volunteers. Please let Dr. Sukenik know if you want to be involved.

**ANGST**

Please join us on Tuesday, October 2nd at 7:00 pm as we welcome the community to a screening of *Angst*, a documentary about kids and anxiety. We will also have an expert panel available for Q&A following the film.

**COMING UP AT SRS:**

**9/24** Volleyball vs. Marie Murphy @ SRS - 4:00 pm

**9/25** Volleyball vs. Glencoe @ SRS - 4:00 pm

**9/26** Volleyball vs. Washburne @ SRS - 4:00 pm

Soccer vs. Baker @ SRS - 4:00 pm

**9/27** Volleyball @ Washburne - 4:00 pm

Field Hockey @ Deerpath - 4:00 pm

Soccer @ CHA - 4:00 pm

**10/2** Volleyball @ Glencoe - 4:00 pm

Field Hockey @ Sears - 4:00pm

Soccer vs. Baker @ SRS - 4:00 pm

*Angst* Documentary Screening and Expert Panel - 7:00 pm

**10/3** Volleyball @ Sears - 4:00 pm

Field Hockey @ WJHS - 4:00pm

**10/4** Parent Connections at Sunset Ridge - 8:45 am

Volleyball vs. CHA @ SRS - 4:00 pm

**10/8** Soccer vs. CHA @ SRS - 4:00 pm

**10/9** PTO Meeting at Northfield Park District - 9:00 am

Volleyball @ Marie Murphy - 4:00 pm

Field Hockey vs. Deerpath @ SRS - 4:00pm

Soccer @ Marie Murphy - 4:00 pm

6:00 Finance Committee Meeting - 6:00 pm

7:00 Board of Education Meeting - 7:00 pm

**10/10** Soccer vs. Glencoe @ SRS - 4:00 pm

**SUNSET RIDGE NEWS**

