
2ND QUARTER NEWSLETTER

Volume 8, Issue 2

November 2, 2018

From the Principal's Desk

By Judith A. Gephart

Shawnee Middle School

For the 2018-2019 school year, the English Language Arts (ELA), Math, and Science state tests will be given. At the middle school, all tests will be completed online. Tentatively, all testing will take place in the mornings, periods 1-3.

2019 Testing Schedule

Wednesday, March 27th : 5th & 6th- ELA, Pt. 1

Thursday, March 28th : 7th & 8th- ELA, Pt. 1

Tuesday, April 2nd : 5th & 6th- EL, Pt. 2

Wednesday, April 3rd : 7th & 8th- ELA, Pt. 2

Tuesday, April 9th : 5th & 8th- Science, Pt. 1

Wednesday, April 10th : 5th & 8th- Science, Pt. 2

Wednesday, April 24th : 5th & 6th- Math, Pt. 1

Thursday, April 25th : 7th & 8th- Math, Pt. 1

Monday, April 29th : 5th & 6th- Math, Pt. 2

Tuesday, April 30th : 7th & 8th- Math, Pt. 2

Parent-Teacher Conferences

Conferences in the Middle School are student-led conferences. These differ from traditional conferences because the student leads the conference and the teacher is more of a facilitator. We would like all students to bring their parent(s) in for conferences.

Dates for this year's conferences:

Fifth and Sixth Grade – Monday and Wednesday, November 5th and 7th from 4:30 – 8:30 PM

Seventh and Eighth Grade – Tuesday and Thursday, November 6th and 8th from 5:00 – 9:00 PM

**Friday, November 9th all grade conferences from 8:00 AM to 12:00 PM

Conference Meeting Locations:

**Please visit www.limashawnee.com for the link to sign up for 7th & 8th grade conferences online. Time slots are filling up quickly!*

Mon., Nov. 5th & Wed., Nov. 7th (evening)

- Azzarello Team – 5th/6th Gr. Gym
- Biss Team – 5th /6th Gr. Café.
- 6th Grade – 7th/8th Gr. Café.

Tues., Nov. 6th & Thurs., Nov. 8th (evening)

- All 7th & 8th Grade conferences are in the 7th/8th Gr. Café.

Friday, November 9th

- 5th Grade – 5th/6th Gr. Gym
- 6th Grade – 5th/6th Gr. Café.
- 7th & 8th Grade – 7th/8th Gr. Café.



Sixth Grade Heads to Camp Willson

Shawnee Middle School 6th Graders will once again have the opportunity to attend a 2 ½ day learning experience at Camp Willson in Bellefontaine, Ohio. Students will attend on the following dates:

November 12th – 14th, 2018: Howard, Ewing, O'Brien, Vonderwell, Adlesh

November 14th – 16th, 2018: Kieffer, Garman, Lundin, Quatman

Question about Conferences:

How many conferences go on at once?

Since we are trying to get every student to come in for a conference, multiple conferences will be held at once.

Will I still be able to see teachers if I have a question?

All of the teachers will be close at hand. The teacher will not direct the conference. However, if a question arises a sign will be placed at your table that will signal to the teacher that you have a question or would like to speak to them. The teacher can then come over and answer specific questions.

How will my student know what to talk about?

We are going to train students to hold a discussion about their education. Topics will include: progress, areas of strength, areas needed for improvement and performance on assessments. A structured schedule and checklists have been created by teachers to help your student hold this conference.

Does preparation take a lot of class time?

Preparation is the key to success. Students will spend class time writing about their performance and preparing what they will say during the conference. Both of these tasks align closely with the writing processes and oral communication standards in our curriculum.

Will this be confidential?

Enough space will exist for your conference to be confidential. We will have many small clusters placed throughout the cafeteria and only your small group should be able to hear your discussion.

What are the benefits to this type of conference?

- Format provides a forum and time for parents and students to speak about educational progress. With busy schedules and the reluctance of the student these opportunities are very rare.
- Students learn and are given the opportunity to evaluate their own progress. Students know where they stand and what they need to do to improve.
- This type of conference allows the student to share some positives with parents and reduces the
- opportunity for the conference to be just about the negatives.

Book Fair



WHEN: November 5th – 9th

WHERE: Shawnee Middle School IMC (Library)

TIMES: 7:30 A.M. – 2:45 P.M.

FAMILY EVENTS: November 5th – 9th during student conference times.

You can also shop on line at:

www.scholastic.com/bf/shawneemiddleschool3.com

Thank you for your support and hope to see you there!

Top AR Point Earners

August 21st - October 26th, 2018

Grade 5

Aryam Eyob*

TamDuc Tran

Lujane Taja

**Top 5th Grader earned 500.7 points*

Grade 6

Alexandria Karapondo*

Mackenzie Onan

Thomas Koh

**Top 6th Grader earned 122.1 points*

Grade 7

Daniel Koh*

Olivia C. Miller

Madison Extine

**Top 7th Grader earned 193.3 points*

Grade 8

Kayla Frost*

Olivia Sias

Orenayo Akomolafe

**Top 8th Grader earned 128 points*



REMINDER:

**Wednesday, November 21st – Friday, November 23rd:
NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Recess**

**Wednesday, December 5th:
2-Hour Delay Schedule -Teacher In-Service**



Election Day

Tuesday, November 6th

November PTC Meeting

The PTC meeting for November will be at 9:00AM on Tuesday, November 13th.

Quarter Wars

Quarter Wars to benefit Ch-Ki-Lo Food Pantry (Charity-Kindness-Love) in Cridersville. Ch-Ki-Lo Food Pantry is a choice food pantry in which the people are able to select their own food and have control over what they eat. They service thousands of families in the 45806 and part of the 45895 area. The Shawnee Middle School Quarter Wars will be November 26-30th and may be given to student's home room teacher. The homeroom that raises the most money will receive an ice cream party!



Toy Drive

What: Toy Drive for Cincinnati Children's Hospital

When: Week of Conferences (November 5th – 9th) through November 20th

Where: Shawnee Middle School ~ Please drop off toys to any of your teachers that are participating. They will let you know.

Both of my nephews were born with hearing impairments. Jack and Eddie have been treated at Cincinnati Children's Hospital. Eddie, age 2, had surgery for cochlear implants a year ago and Jack, age 5, had cochlear implant surgery earlier this year! We are thankful that they simply travel there for appointments. Many kids are not so fortunate. There are kids bravely fighting cancer and other diseases that keep them in the hospital for months at a time. It's difficult to keep children's spirits up during these stays, but it is even more difficult during the holiday season!

Shawnee Middle School is hosting a toy drive to pay it forward and donate toys to the patients at Cincinnati Children's Hospital to help make their holidays a bit brighter! A suggested list of toys can be found on the back of this letter, but any donation, big or small, is appreciated. Stuffed animals are to be avoided due to difficulty in sanitizing them for hospital purposes. We understand that many of you give in other ways and to other organizations, but wanted to offer this as an opportunity to spread holiday cheer beyond your own family!

Please see the attached toy wish list.

Your generosity and support are greatly appreciated! ~ Mrs. Jen Vonderwell

Winter Sports Pictures

Pictures for winter athletes will be taken throughout the day on **Thursday, December 6th**. If you would like to order team and individual pictures, the members of sports teams will receive order envelopes from their coaches. All photos must be paid for on picture day. This, of course, is purely optional; all athletes will be in the picture whether they choose to purchase photos or not.

“Rockin’ with Santa” Dance

The “Rockin’ with Santa” Dance will be held on **Wednesday, December 12th from 5:30pm – 7:30pm**. Drop off for the dance is at the back cafeteria entrance. All pick up will be at the main (front) entrance. 7th grade will be released at 7:20 for pick up and 8th grade will be released at 7:30 for pick up.

Shawnee Middle School

2018-2019 Yearbook on Sale Now!

There are two ways to buy your yearbook this year. Pick up an order form from the literature tray, attach your check and drop it off at the office or to Mrs. Heatwole's room. You may also order online at: www.yearbookforever.com. The price is \$29.00 without name stamp and \$36.00 with name stamp if purchased before **December 20th**. After this date, the price will be \$33.00 without name stamp and \$40.00 with name stamp. Either way.....Don't miss out on an early order price!!



Spring Picture Day

Spring Picture Day is **Tuesday, February 5th**. Once again the Middle School will be using Lifetouch for spring pictures. Lifetouch will be using a prepay program where you select your package and pay for pictures on picture day, just like in the fall.

DIGITS

Don't forget free DIGITS tutoring for grades 6-8 is offered Monday, Wednesday, and Friday in Mr. Favro's classroom after school until 3:10PM.

News from the Guidance Office

By: Mrs. Schmiedebusch

7th & 8th Grade Guidance Counselor



It's hard to believe, but I will start discussing 9th grade scheduling with the 8th grade students in mid-January. Further information about the scheduling process will be sent home at that time. There will be an 8th grade parent meeting at the high school in late January/early February.



We will be hosting a **STEM Day** for all 7th and 8th grade students on Thursday, February 21st, 2019. We are looking for parents/community members who work in STEM fields.

Participation in the event will involve the entire school day. The goal for the day is for students to have the opportunity to gain knowledge about STEM careers through related hands-on activities and/or experiments. If interested, please email Mrs. Schmiedebusch at ericas@limashawnee.com or call 419-998-8072 as soon as possible as the plans for the day are in the works!

Our **2019 Career Fair** for 6th-8th grade students will be Thursday, May 16th, 2019. If interested in participating, please email Mrs. Schmiedebusch at ericas@limashawnee.com or call 419-998-8072.



The Shawnee Middle School Spelling Bee will be held **Thursday, November 29th, at 3:00PM** in the Hugh Downs Auditorium at Shawnee HighSchool. Good luck to all students!



The Office Phone

Middle school is a very important step on the way of becoming an adult. It is a time of learning, growth, and becoming more responsible. With this in mind, don't be shocked or surprised if we do not allow your child to call home for forgotten homework, gym clothes, or other items. By dealing with the consequence of forgetting something, our hope is that they learn and become more responsible for the years ahead. The office phone will only be allowed to be used when the office deems something forgotten is an emergency. Examples of emergency situations are: a forgotten lunch or missing the bus. Any abuse of the phone will cause the office staff to take away this privilege

Drop-Off and Pick-Up Reminder

As winter arrives, the weather conditions in the morning are often poor so many drivers need extra time to get to work. Please drop your children off in front of the middle school in the morning. **Do not drop your children off on Beeler Road.** Many parents recently have been using Beeler Road as a drop-off point. Pull in the east entrance off Zurmehly Road, follow the car line along the sidewalk, and pull out of the west exit in the morning. In addition, please do not pick up your children in the back of the building. Pick-up at the end of the day should be in front of the middle school. Thank you for following this policy so that the morning drop-off and after school pick-up is safe and smooth for everyone.

From the Nurse:

Students that are carrying an epi-pen or inhaler with them or have them in their lockers **MUST** have a current order from a physician on file along with a parent's signature. These must be completed each school year. The permission forms can be obtained from the office or at www.limashawnee.com, select district and then Health and Wellness. Any questions you can contact the nurse Andrea Vogelgesang, at (419) 998-8065

Box Tops for Education



Our PTC is now collecting Box Tops for Education. Please have your student bring Box Tops into the main office of the Middle School.

Download the Box Top app. With it you can:

- Buy - find offers, buy products
- Scan - scan your receipt
- Earn - watch the earnings stack up

NOTES FROM FOOD SERVICE

The USDA has mandated that all schools have an unpaid meal policy. Below is the policy that Shawnee Food Service has written and put into practice.

SHAWNEE SCHOOLS CHARGE POLICY FOR UNPAID MEALS

- Students in elementary and middle school may charge up to \$10.00. There is NO CHARGING at the high school.
- Weekly unpaid balance letters will be sent home to parents of elementary students.
- When a student reaches the charge limit a phone call will be made to the parents by the food service staff.
- When the limit is reached a student may get a courtesy meal of a peanut butter sandwich and milk. If there is an allergy, a cheese sandwich will be substituted. A high school student may ask for the courtesy meal if they have no money.
- Food service staff will work diligently to enroll all eligible students in the free/reduced meal program.

If you have any questions please contact Sally Allen Nutrition Services supervisor. 419 998-8036

Nursing/Medication Update

Essential Oil/Homeopathic Applications and/or use in Schools: The School Nurse and/or school staff will not administer homeopathic remedies such as essential oils, or creams and lotions containing essential oils at school. These items are not approved by the FDA and studies have shown they can trigger allergic reactions and/or asthma attacks. Students are NOT permitted to carry/self apply essential oils at school. Essential oils and/or other homeopathic treatments must be administered at home. Parents may come to school and administer such remedies to their children, unless the scent from these remedies triggers an asthmatic or allergic reaction to other students or staff in the school.

Fundraiser Pick-up

Fundraiser orders will be available for pick-up during Parent Teacher Conferences. Orders must be signed out in the IMC with no exceptions.

A Glance Ahead

Monday & Wednesday, November 5th & 7th, 2018:
-Student Led Conferences Grades 5 & 6

Tuesday & Thursday, November 6th & 8th, 2018:
-Student Led Conferences Grades 7 & 8

Friday, November 9th, 2018:
-NO SCHOOL – Student-Led Conferences

Monday, November 5, 2018 – Friday, November 9, 2018:
-Book Fair

Monday, November 12th, 2018 – Wednesday, November 14th, 2018:
- Camp Willson Team 6B

Wednesday, November 14th, 2018–Friday, November 16th, 2018:
- Camp Willson Team 6A

Wednesday/Thursday/Friday, November 21st – 23rd, 2018
-NO SCHOOL – Happy Thanksgiving!

Thursday, November 29th, 2018:
-Spelling Bee

Wednesday, December 5th, 2018:
-2-Hour Delay – Teacher In-Service
-Middle School Choir Concert @ 7:00PM
at Hugh Downs Auditorium in the high school

Sunday, December 9th, 2018:
-Middle School Band Concert @ 3:00PM
at Lappin Gym in the high school

Wednesday, December 12th, 2018:
-School Dance for Grades 7 & 8

Thursday, December 20th, 2018 thru Thursday, January 3rd, 2019:
-NO SCHOOL – Winter Recess

Thursday, January 3rd, 2019:
-School Resumes

Friday, January 11th, 2019:
-End of First Semester

Monday, January 21st, 2019:
-NO SCHOOL – Martin Luther King Day

Wednesday, January 30th, 2019:
-2 Hour Delay – Teacher In-Service'