
STRUTHERS MIDDLE SCHOOL

September 2021

PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

Welcome to Struthers Middle School. A special welcome to our fifth-grade students and any new students to our district. We hope you enjoy your experience at SMS and become actively involved in curricular and extra-curricular activities.

Please join us in welcoming the following new staff members to SMS for the 2021-2022 school year: Millie Manning (8th grade English), Arlene Petkus (Paraprofessional), Jonathan Barth (8th grade math), Jennifer Kuczek (Family Consumer Science), and Marissa Wiley (ESC of Eastern Ohio).

Thank You,

Mr. Vecchione, Principal

Mr. Gelonese, Assistant Principal

TEMPERATURE SCREENING

Please take your child's temperature before taking them to school or placing them on the bus. If your child has a temperature, please keep him or her home for the day. As a precaution, we will be screening every student's temperature as they enter the building.

DROP-OFF PROCEDURE

Students walking to school or arriving by car should plan to arrive at school by 7:50 AM. Parents who are driving students may enter the parking lot using the entrance on Wilson Street nearest 5th Street and drop off children as close to the end of the building (the band room) as possible. By doing this, we can get more cars into our lot and off the street. This will also help the line move faster. Thank you for your patience during drop-off. Students should not be dropped off prior to 7:30 AM. If your child is not eating breakfast, we encourage you to drop off closer to 7:50 AM.

LATE ARRIVAL/EARLY RELEASE

If a student arrives after 11 AM, he/she is to be marked absent for a half of day. Any time prior to 11 AM, he/she will be marked late/tardy. If a student leaves prior to 8:50 AM, he/she is marked absent for the entire day.

PROGRESS BOOK

Parents can access their child's grades on Progress Book Parent Access. Please contact the main office if you do not have an account.

IMPORTANT DATES

Wednesday, August 25 – 1st day of school for students

Thursday, September 2 – September 6 – No School

Tuesday, September 7 – Classes Resume

Wednesday, September 22 – Picture Day

ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

Monday, August 23 – Volleyball vs Hubbard

Wednesday, August 25 – Football @ West Branch

Wednesday, August 25 – Volleyball @ Jefferson

Monday, August 30 – Volleyball @ Lakeview

Wednesday, September 1 – Football vs Poland

Wednesday, September 1 – Volleyball @ Girard

Saturday, September 4 – Volleyball vs Austintown

Tuesday, September 7 – Volleyball vs Poland

Wednesday, September 8 – Volleyball @ South Range

Thursday, September 9 – Football @ South Range

Monday, September 13 – Volleyball vs Niles

Wednesday, September 15 – Volleyball @ Hubbard

Wednesday, September 15 – Football @ Hubbard

Thursday, September 16 – Volleyball vs Boardman

Monday, September 20 – Volleyball vs Jefferson

Wednesday, September 22 – Volleyball vs Lakeview

Wednesday, September 22 – Football vs Lakeview

Monday, September 27 – Volleyball vs Girard

Wednesday, September 29 – Volleyball @ Poland

AUTOMATED CALL SYSTEM

Throughout the year, we will use the automated call system to inform parents of upcoming activities. If your phone number changes, please contact the office so we can update the call system as well. In the event you know we had an automated call and you did not receive it, please contact the office.

8th GRADE HIGH SCHOOL CREDIT

For the third consecutive year, SMS offers high school credit to 8th grade students. Students scheduled in health, physical education, Algebra, and family & consumer science will earn credit towards graduation.

IMPORTANT – SECURITY

Just a reminder that when any adult is entering the building to pick-up a child for a doctor's appointment, scheduled appointment at school, or an early release, you must have a driver's license or picture ID.

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FREE/REDUCED LUNCH APPLICATIONS 2021-2022

In order to qualify for free and reduced lunch this year, you will need to complete and return your new application by September 30. If you received a Direct Certification letter (in the mail this summer from Mary Spatholt, Director of Food Services for Struthers City Schools) stating your child has already been approved for free lunch, DO NOT fill out a new application. You may just sign and return the Fee Waiver form.

If new forms are not completed and turned in by September 30, your child will have to pay REGULAR PRICE for breakfast and lunch. Breakfast is served from 7:30 AM – 7:50 AM.

Regular Price:

Breakfast-\$1.50 Lunch-\$2.50

Reduced Price:

Breakfast-\$.30 Lunch-\$.40

ONLINE LUNCH ACCOUNTS

Struthers City Schools has an online web-based payment system that allows parents to manage lunch accounts for their child/children. The link can be found on the district website (www.strutherscityschools.org), on the Lunch Menus page or under Parents (PaySchools link). If you have any questions, please contact the school.

The website can be found at <https://payschools.com/quikapps-2-0-toolkit/>. If you would like to receive a lunch, and are a remote learner, we will be serving breakfast/lunch from 10:30-11:00 at the main entrance at SMS. The student must be present, and must give the following information to the school worker: Student name and lunch number.

DISMISSAL

We will begin to dismiss students by 2:48 PM by releasing 5th and 6th grade students. By 2:53 most students will have been dismissed. We will not be using the main entrance after school to dismiss.

WATER BOTTLES

Bottles of water and water bottles with lids will be permitted throughout the school day. Water ONLY.

STRUTHERS FOOD PANTRY

The Struthers Middle School food pantry is open. Students can come down to the cafeteria every Friday for a bag of food, and personal hygiene products.

SMS COMMUNICATION

Struthers Middle School is looking for alternate ways to share information about the school and activities throughout the year. Please call 330-755-8201 and select the following prompts to access this information.

- Press 3 for Public Events and Building Announcements.
- Then press 2 for information for the Middle School.
 - Then press 1 for Sporting Events
 - Or press 2 for Club News
 - Or press 3 for Building Announcements
 - Or press 4 for the Lunch Menu.

INTERVENTION

During the school day, students may be pulled from a special class to receive intervention. Lists are created based on Ohio State Test (OST) scores, attendance, previous grades, and teacher recommendations. Intervention will begin the week of September 13. For questions regarding intervention, please contact Mr. Vecchione at 330-750-1064, ext. 41411.

2021-2022 Testing Dates

English language arts - March 23 to April 13, 2022
Mathematics and science – April 4 to April 29, 2022.
For more information, please visit the Ohio Department of Education website link below. If you plan a vacation during this period, please fill out the student vacation form in the main office.

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Testing/Test-Dates/2021-2022-Testing-Dates>

TDAP BOOSTER – 7th GRADE

Ohio Department of Health Rules dictate that all seventh-grade students must have a Tdap booster. This is because of the increase in pertussis cases (whooping cough). Please schedule an appointment with your doctor, Youngstown City Health Department (330-743-3333, ext. 259) or the District Board of Health (330-270-2855, ext. 121). Record of the shot needs to be returned to the school nurse as soon as possible.