

Dear Saunders Families,

This week we welcomed students back from a restful Spring Break. We have just started the fourth and final quarter of the year. Below, please find several important events of which I would like our community to be aware.

### General Information

1. **SOL Focus:** We are in the final stage of student preparation for SOLs at Saunders. Please help us as we remind students of the importance of these state tests. These tests are minimal competency assessments, intended to measure student learning. Teachers of SOL courses will be in communication concerning a review schedule. They may also provide relevant vocabulary and on-line resources to help you review at home. **The SOL schedule** is below:
  - 5.9 - Civics (8 grade)
  - 5.10 - Civics make-up (8 grade)
  - 5.11 - Reading (6-8 grade)
  - 5.12 - Reading make-up (6-8 grade)
  - 5.16 - Science (8 grade)
  - 5.17 - Science make-up (8 grade)
  - 5.18 - Math (6-8 grade)
  - 5.19 - Math make-up (6-8 grade)
  - 5.23 - Reading make-up (6-8 grade)
  - 5.24 - Math make-up (6-8 grade)
  - 5.30 - 6.8 - Expedited Retakes
2. **Omegamen Assembly:** A team member from the *Omegamen* will be performing at a school assembly for all students Saunders this Wednesday. The Omegamen have performed in over 5000+ school assemblies and is ranked as one of the top school assemblies in the Nation ([www.omegamanschools.com](http://www.omegamanschools.com)). From elementary to high school, young people all over the world have been challenged and changed by their positive messages. They will cover key issues of bullying, making positive choices, peer pressure, respect for authority, self-esteem, drug and alcohol prevention, and academic excellence.
3. **Ramadan:** At this time, many of our students are observing Ramadan, which began at sundown on March 22 and ends at sundown on April 21. All Saunders staff are mindful that some students will require accommodations. Some of our students are going to the library for lunch and we have made arrangements for students who need a quiet space to pray.
4. **Sixth Grade Field Trip:** Our Sixth-grade students had a very successful field trip to the Civil War Battlefield in Bristow this past Wednesday. Students were complimented by the staff for their excellent behavior. They had a great day!
5. **Ms. McAuley's Trout Adventure:** Early this month, Ms. McAuley and six families from the Saunder's community released four trout tanks from our sixth-grade science classroom into their natural habitat at a nearby stream. Over 257 fingerlings were released. Ms. McAuley and students participated in this important environmental program. Picture attached.

6. **PTSO and SMAC Meeting:** This Wednesday evening in the Saunders cafeteria, there will be a Saunders Middle Advisory Council meeting (SMAC). Mr. Byrd will be available from 6:00-6:30 pm to speak about upcoming events and answer parent questions. The Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) will meet from 6:30 to 7:30 pm. The PTSO is currently collecting donations for teacher appreciation week, beginning (May 8 - May 12). For specifics, please go to the PTSO page on the Saunders website , or contact our PTSO president, Mrs. Trish Seamon.
  - o Mrs. Trish Seamon @ [trish.seaman3@gmail.com](mailto:trish.seaman3@gmail.com).
  - o Saunders website PTSO @ <https://saundersms.pwcs.edu/news/2022/09/post2>
7. **8<sup>th</sup> Grade End of Year Activities:** The end of year activities for the 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be sent out in the next Principal letter. We are planning several events to honor our students as they move to the high school level.

### Upcoming Events:

- 4.17 @4:45 - Brentsville Stables field trip (Equestrian Club)
- 4.18 @ 5:15 pm - Track Meet (home)
- 4.19 -
  - o Report Cards mailed to Students
  - o School Assembly (Omegamen)
  - o @ 6:00 and 6:30 pm - SMAC and PTSO (Saunders Cafeteria)
- 4.21 - No School - Eid Begins
- 4.24 @ 5:15 pm - Softball, Soccer (home)
- 4.25 @ 5:15 pm - Baseball (home)
- 5.3 @ 5:15 pm - Softball, Soccer (home)
- 5.4 @ 5:15 pm - Baseball (home)
- 5.5 @ 5:15 pm - Track Meet (home)
- 5.8 - 5.12 - Teacher Appreciation Week
- 5.9 - Civics SOL (8 grade)
- 5.10 - Nurse Appreciation Day
- 5.11 - Reading SOL (6-8 grade)
- 5.15 @ 5:15 pm - Softball, Soccer (home)
- 5.16 -
  - o Science SOL (8 grade)
  - o @ 5:15 pm - Baseball (home)
- 5.18 -
  - o Math SOL (6-8 grade)
  - o @ 7:00 pm - 6th Grade Orchestra & Band Spring Concert (Hylton HS)
- 5.22 @ 5:15 pm - Softball, Soccer (home)
- 5.23 -
  - o @5:15 pm - Baseball (home)
  - o @ 7:00 pm - Choir Spring Concert (Hylton HS)
- 5.24 -
  - o @ 5:15 pm - Softball, Soccer (home)
  - o @ 7:00 pm - Band and Orchestra Spring Concert (Hylton HS)

- 5.25 -
  - @ 2:30 pm - Regional Track Meet (Manassas Park)
  - @ 5:15 pm - Baseball (home)
- 5.29 - No School - Memorial Day

Thank you for the honor of partnering with you in the educational development of your child. If we can help you in any way, please don't hesitate to reach out.

**Mr. Jeremy Byrd**

*Principal*

*Saunders Middle School*

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