

Dear Spartan Families,

I hope this letter finds you energized and ready for the end of the school year and Summer Break. As we are moving through the 4th quarter of the 22-23 school year, I encourage you to closely monitor ParentVUE to ensure that students are completing their assignments and retaking assessments as needed. We will begin taking the very important *Virginia Standards of Learning* tests this week. Please pay close attention to information regarding these tests as well as other important information listed below:

SOL Information

With SOL tests quickly approaching, we wanted to share some important information about testing:

Reminders

Students **must** arrive to school on time on scheduled testing days.

Students' laptops should be fully charged and they need to bring their charger with them to school.

Testing Dates

6th, 7th and 8th grade students will take the Reading and Math SOL tests on the following dates:

- *Reading SOL*- Thursday May 11th
- *Math SOL*- Thursday May 18th

8th Grade Testing

In addition to the Reading and Math SOL, 8th grade students will take the Civics and Science SOL tests on the following dates:

- *Civics SOL*- Tuesday May 9th
- *Science SOL*- Tuesday May 16th

Expedited Retakes

If a student scores between 375-399 on any SOL they are eligible for an expedited retake. In order to participate in retakes the attached form must be returned to your student's homeroom teacher by **Friday, May 19th**. Expedited retakes will take place on various dates between May 30th – June 8th.

Yearbook Sales

The Yearbook Club is close to selling out of yearbooks. Books are only being sold online

at: https://www.jostens.com/apps/store/productBrowse/1119168/Saunders-Middle-School/2023-Yearbook/2022072214154869373/CATALOG_SHOP/.

8th Grade Year-End Activities

In line with our traditions at Saunders, we have planned the following activities to celebrate our 8th grade students as they transition to their high school years:

- Award Ceremony (invitation only) - June 5 @ 6:00 pm - This is a recognition ceremony for students who have received special awards this year.
- 8th Grade Field Day - June 13 from 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm - There will be a field day for the 8th grade class to participate in field activities, enjoy good food, and spend time with friends. This will take place during the school day.
- 8th Grade Dance - June 9 from 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm - This is a special night for the 8th grade class to gather and spend the evening together.
- Photo Opportunity - There will be an opportunity for parents to come take pictures with your student in front of Saunders prior to the dance. Our lawn will be decorated in honor of 8th grade students. The decorations will remain set up from June 8th to June 13th.

Importance of Good Behavior

Instruction at Saunders will continue until the last day of school. Please remind your student that there are behavior requirements for eligibility to participate in all end of school activities. In order to participate, a student must not have referrals in the last quarter. Participation in these events is at the discretion of administration.

Events to celebrate

Technology Education Club Project: In an attempt to support our students' love of literature, this year the Tech. Ed. Club had the bright idea to make reading lamps! Each student selected their favorite classic novel and converted it into a unique lamp complete with an Edison bulb to highlight American inventors (Picture attached).

Congratulations to Our Math Quest Winners!: Five of our students participated in the PWCS Math Quest last Saturday. Participants from all middle schools were randomly split into teams of 3-4 students to solve math problems, and nearly all

of our students were given an award for their excellence! Students recognized were (picture attached):

- **6th Grade:** Alexis Breitmaier and Jotham Johnson
- **7th Grade:** Sahar (Bebi) Rahellah and Brandon Marcano
- **8th Grade:** Ryan McMichael

This Week

- **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)

Upcoming Events

- **5.15 @ 5:15 pm** - Softball, Soccer (home)
- **5.16** - Science SOL (8 grade)
- **5.16 @ 5:15 pm** - Baseball (home)
- **5.18** - Math SOL (6-8 grade)
- **5.18 @ 7:00 pm** - 6th Grade Orchestra & Band Spring Concert (Hylton HS)
- **5.19** - Kings Dominion Trip - 8th Grade Chorus, Band & Orchestra
- **5.22 @ 5:15 pm** - Softball, Soccer (home)
- **5.23 @ 5:15 pm** - Baseball (home)
- **5.23 @ 7:00 pm** - Choir Spring Concert (Hylton HS)
- **5.24 @ 5:15 pm** - Softball, Soccer (home)
- **5.24 @ 7:00 pm** - Band and Orchestra Spring Concert (Hylton HS)
- **5.25 @ 2:30 pm** - Regional Track Meet (Manassas Park)
- **5.25 @ 5:15 pm** - Baseball (home)
- **5.29** - No School - Memorial Day

Please reach out to us if there is a way we can help.

Mr. Jeremy Byrd

Principal

Saunders Middle School

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