



# COUGAR CONNECT

ENGAGE \* EMPOWER \* EXCEL

"The North Middle School community develops student leadership, scholarship, and citizenship"

North Middle School Community Newsletter

September, 2016

## Letter from the Principal

We have had a successful start to the 2016-17 school year. We are excited for students to engage in daily learning, as well as many additional activities that will begin this fall. Please reach out to any of your child's teachers at any time to discuss ways to support each other throughout your child's educational growth. Also, do not hesitate to contact NMS administration for additional questions or concerns. The phone number at NMS is (636) 379-2604; my direct email is [dburkhart@fz.k12.mo.us](mailto:dburkhart@fz.k12.mo.us). Please visit our website at [nms.fz.k12.mo.us](http://nms.fz.k12.mo.us), and follow us on twitter at [NMS@fznmscougars](https://twitter.com/NMS@fznmscougars).

Damon Burkhart, *Principal*

## Activity Bus/Daily Bulletin

We will have activity buses Monday-Thursday to assist in transporting students staying for after-school activities. Please note that activity bus routes are modified and do not serve all attendance areas of NMS. Contact your child's grade level office for questions regarding drop-off points, or questions regarding after-school activities. Students must sign up to ride the activity bus on a daily basis in their grade level office by 12:15 pm. To check the daily bulletin for activities [Click here](#), and look for the *Daily Bulletin* link on the left column.

## Peachjar

We will continue using Peachjar as a means of online communication. Forms, flyers, etc. will be placed on Peachjar for you to view and/or print. You should receive an email as new documents are uploaded. You can access the *Peachjar* link at the bottom, left corner our website at [http://nms.fz.k12.mo.us/pages/FZ\\_NMS](http://nms.fz.k12.mo.us/pages/FZ_NMS)

Please contact the main office if you experience any issues, or have questions about Peachjar.

## Welcome Back Party

Our 2016-17 Welcome Back Party will be held on September 2, from 2:30 - 4:30 pm. Information and permission forms were shared through Peachjar. Please contact the main office with any questions. Child pick-up for the party will be at the South (service road) entrance for 6th grade, and at the flagpole (Sonderen Rd.) entrance for 7th/8th grade.

## Building-Wide Fundraiser

When: September 13-September 28

What: Full line catalogue with additional sports and homemade gourmet options.

Why: Profits will assist in funding activities such as the 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Welcome BBQ, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Medieval Day, our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Field Day, student recognition, team celebrations, and activity buses. Your packet with details will be arriving soon - these only come around once a year, so don't miss out! Thank you for your support!

## Attendance

Our attendance goal is for all students to be at school 95% of the time. This averages out to be about ten absences per school year. It is imperative that we maintain consistent contact with students in the school setting. Please assist us in assuring that your child receives the most effective instruction as we kick-start the new school year.

NMS Weekly Attendance Totals:

Aug 16 - Aug 19: 98.34%

## NMS Parent Volunteers

A special thank you to our NMS parent volunteers for helping to kick-start the 2016-17 school year with a staff lunch. We will continue to have family events and other opportunities to become involved in NMS activities. Please contact Erica Meintz, Building Secretary, for volunteer information. As events approach, we will send out specific details for each opportunity.

## Upcoming Events

- 2 Welcome Back Party (2:35-4:30 pm)
- 5 **Labor Day - No School**
- 6-9 8th Grade Thrive
- 6 Thrive Parent Night (6:30-7:30 pm)
- 13 Fundraiser Kick-Off
- 14 Lockdown Drill (12:20 pm)
- 14 1st Quarter Midpoint
- 15 **Early Release Day (11:50 am)**
- 19 District Board Meeting (7-8 pm)
- 21 Midpoint Grades Emailed
- 23 Fire Drill (9:40 am)
- 28 Fundraiser Order Forms Due
- 29 Picture Retake Day

## Important Dates for the Fall

### **Building-Wide Fundraiser**

September 13 - September 28

### **Halloween Party**

October 13 (6-8 pm)

### **Parent/Teacher Conferences**

October 25-26

### **1st Quarter Team Celebrations**

8th Grade - October 20

7th Grade - October 21

6th Grade - October 24

## Parent Education

We will be hosting two informational events for upcoming student prevention/education activities. The first is a THRIVE parent night that will be held at NMS on September 6, at 6:30 pm. Our other informational meeting will be for KUTO (Kids Under Twenty One), and will be held at South Middle School on November 1, at 6:30 pm. Please join us to learn more about the outside programs we offer.

## NMS Spirit Days

Our Friday Spirit days continue to be a success. Please encourage your child to participate and follow dress code policy for our Spirit Fridays. Below are our upcoming spirit days:

September 2 - *Cougar Class Spirit*

September 9 - *Tutu's, Ties, & Tie Dye*

September 16 - *Sci-Fi*

September 23 - *North High Spirit*

September 30 - *College Spirit*