

Napoleon Middle School

Parent Newsletter

January 2012

Dear Parents and/or Guardians,

We have now reached the half way point of the academic calendar year and hopefully your child has shown progress in his or her studies. It is very important for parent(s) to sit down with his or her child and review the Second Quarter grading period. If your child has performed admirably, parental acknowledgment of his or her performance will perpetuate success. If your child struggled in a particular academic course, parent(s) can offer support and guidance when your child needs it the most. All students benefit from regular discussions with parent(s) about school. Though grades are important, formal schooling is much more than just a letter grade in a particular subject defined in one grading period. Please take time to routinely have healthy, positive conversations surrounding school with your child.

As I mentioned in a prior newsletter, parents should stay in touch with teachers. Please remember that you can call the school anytime to set up a conference with your child's teacher(s). Unlike prior years teachers at a specific grade level do not have regular meeting times, which were commonly known as "Team Time". The best way to have a meeting with all the teachers would be after school. If you wish to meet with just one teacher, all staff has an individualized conference period. It is very important for school representatives and parents to communicate regularly. The middle school teachers are a very dedicated professional group of mentors that only have your child's best interest in mind. To get day-to-day information, keep an eye on your child's agenda book.

If you ever have any concerns or questions do not hesitate to get in touch with me at the Napoleon Middle School office (419) 592-6991. Mrs. Lynne Debbe, Dean of Students, and Mrs. Holli Horn, guidance counselor, are available to address any concerns you may have regarding your child's education.

Sincerely,

Ryan J. Wilde, Principal

Academic Calendar

The Third Quarter started on Tuesday, January 17, 2012 for all academic classes excluding one of your child's related arts class. The related arts classes are defined as health, physical education, art, band, and choir. Certain related arts classes run on a trimester schedule (Health, PE, & Art). The Second Trimester ends on Friday, February 24, 2012. The Third Quarter grading period will end on March 16, 2012.

Parental Contact Information

If your family has moved or if important phone numbers have been changed, please make sure you contact the middle school office to update the information. The person who you should contact is Mrs. Sheila Franz, Secretary/Office Manager.

NMS Suggestions Box

A suggestion box has been placed on the NMS website. It is located on the left hand side under the title "Quick Links". My intentions were to create a direct link to the principal without seeking my email address. Please consider this as a means to forward ideas, comments, suggestions or other forms of communication to the building leadership team or the principal. The suggestion box is for everyone – grandparents, parents, students, district personnel and all members of the community. The middle school web address is <http://www.napoleonareaschools.org/nms>.

Student Absences from School

Please remember to call in when your child is absent from school. A message can be left on the answering machine. If no one calls in for the student, the district's attendance officer, Mrs. Diana Vocke, is required to make an attempt to contact the parents and find out why the child is not in school. Please understand students with multiple unexcused absences and/or tardies can be disciplined. Equally important is your child's education. Frequent absences can disrupt the flow of information and dramatically impede the learning process. If your child will be absent, a parent can request the student's work be collected for pick up at the main office. Homework may be requested when the student is called-in absent before 9:00 a.m.

Yearbooks

Yearbook order forms will be distributed around February 10th. Sales will end on February 24th. These full color yearbooks will cost the students \$14.00. Checks should be made payable to *Napoleon Middle School* and sent in with order forms. Yearbooks will be distributed to students in May.

Spring Sports

Track is the only sport offered in the spring at Napoleon Middle School for seventh and eighth grades. Practice for the girl and boy's teams is scheduled to start in early March. If your child is interested in participating, he or she must have a sport's physical before being allowed to participate. If your child has participated in a fall or winter sport, a sports physical is already on file. You are not required to get an additional sport's physical for track.

Achievement Testing

Just a reminder that all three grades will be taking the Ohio Achievement tests May 2 – May 6, 2012. Please keep these dates in mind when scheduling appointments for your child. Testing is scheduled from 8:30 to 11:30.

Upcoming Dates for the School Calendar

February 1st – 2 hour Delayed Start up

February 20th – President's Day No School

February 24th End of the 2nd Twelve Week Course