

“Embracing Our Community”

Again, our theme this year is “Embracing Our Community.” As we embark upon this year, we accept the challenge in making this the best school year for our students as we adjust to the change in the school calendar.

Before the first progress report is issued, please help us to achieve our goal by scheduling an appointment to meet with your child’s teachers. Our “Vision” can be realized with your help! We welcome you to Stewart County High School and Stewart County Middle School!

Opening Ceremony (Open House)

Opening Ceremony is scheduled for Tuesday, July 31, 2012 at 6:30 P.M. in the Knights’ Cafetorium. General information will be given to parents during the class visitations.

School Improvement Grant (SIG)

We are in the final year of the School Improvement Grant for the high school. In year one, we were awarded \$688,641. During the 2011-2012 school year, we were awarded \$576,969, and we are tentatively scheduled to receive \$595,581 during 2012-2013. In an effort to improve our graduation rate, funds will be used to provide tutorials, technology in classes, training for teachers, and incentives for students, parents, and teachers. While this is a grant for our high school, both schools have had the opportunity to participate in PLU trainings in the areas of technology, formative assessment, and Thinking Maps. We are excited about the impact these funds have had on our community.

Important Dates

July 31, 2012 – Open House @ 6:30 P.M.
August 2, 2012 – First Day of School

Front Loading

Certain students will participate in Front Loading on July 23-26, 2012 from 8:00 A.M. until 1:00 P.M. Selected students will be contacted through mail and or phone call after the completion of summer school.

Attendance Camp

Parents, we need your help! Attendance and tardies continue to be serious problems in our schools. The unofficial attendance rate at the high school level, after attendance camp makeup hours for the 2011-2012 school year, was 91% and the middle school rate was 94%. The attendance protocol will be enforced this school year. Students who miss 15 days of school do not meet state or local standards for attendance and will be required to attend attendance camp. Students who miss three days will automatically be assigned to attendance camp. Appeals can be made to the Attendance Committee which is chaired by our school counselor. We ask that all parents pledge to have their child in school each day and on time. In reference to tardies, time missed from classes should be made-up within the same week in attendance camp.

Parents ‘Knight’ Conversations

We will continue our monthly Parent Conversations on the 4th Thursday of each month from 5:30 P.M. – 7:00 P.M. We ask that all parents pick up their child’s monthly progress report and have conversations with teachers about their child’s progress. Please support our effort to “Embrace Our Community.” Our goal is to meet with every parent this year.

Character Building

We will continue to instill lifelong habits for our students by moving to the next step with The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens.

We Value Your Time!

We value your time! To ensure that your needs are met, and we can be prepared, please call for an appointment or provide prior notice to the staff. To safeguard instructional time, please schedule appointments with teachers during their planning period by calling the main office.

Dress Code

Please review the enclosed Dress Code.

Schoolwide Expectations

1. Keep hands, feet, and objects to yourself.
2. Follow directions the first time.
3. Respect yourself and others.
4. Complete all assignments and tasks.
5. Be mindful of your business.
6. Adhere to the prescribed dress code.

Celebrations

Monthly celebrations will be held to recognize academics, attendance, and behavior!

Academic Intervention Meetings

Certain students will be required to meet with the Student Service Team prior to being admitted to class. The Team will review the child's grades, attendance, and behavior. Your child's action plan will be reviewed to help your child be successful during the 2012– 2013 school year.

Participation in Activities

In order to participate in activities, students must adhere to school-wide expectations in reference to behavior, attendance, and academics. Therefore, students cannot participate in activities, to include athletics, when they are suspended and assigned to ISS.

Electronic Devices

Due to the disruptions caused by cell phones and other electronic devices at school, students will not be permitted to have electronic devices at school. Cell phones that are used or visible at school will be confiscated. First offense will result in the cell phone being confiscated for a week and released to the student; second offense will result in the cell phone being confiscated for two weeks and released to the parent/guardian; third offense will result in the cell phone being confiscated for one month and released to the parent/guardian; and fourth offense will be handled at the discretion of the administration for failure to comply. If there is a need for the student to communicate with the parent/guardian, contact will be made by the school to relay a documented, clear, calm, and precise message. Thank-you parents for eliminating this major distraction to your child's education during the school day.

Locks

Locks will be sold at a cost of \$3.00 to high school students. Locks purchased last year may be used this year. All high school students are encouraged to purchase a lock to secure their possessions. Keep your combination confidential!

Book Bags

For the safety of our students and staff, only mesh or clear book bags will be allowed.

Supply List 2012-2013

Please review the enclosed Supply List.