



COLTS NEWS

SOUTHWEST MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

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ABOUT THIS NEWSLETTER

The purpose of the Colt’s Newsletter is to provide our students, parents, and community members with a snapshot of what’s going on at Southwest Middle School. One of our goals is to provide more opportunities to enhance our communication with all of the stakeholders in the Southwest community. This newsletter will be published by the school administrators every two weeks. You can find this newsletter on the school website; <http://southwest.nc.ocm.schoolinsites.com/>, and through the teachers’ Edmodo accounts.

Welcome Back From the Principal

Greetings!



My name is Jerome Gidrey and I have the honor of serving as the principal of Southwest Middle School. Our purpose is to prepare our students for success beyond their middle school years. I feel that we offer fair, consistent, and timely systems and processes which aid us in accomplishing our goals. This year our staff and students will focus our energy on the three following goals;

- ◆ Increase content support and specialized instruction for classroom teachers
- ◆ Include AVID strategies and procedures school-wide
- ◆ Increase communication with parents and community stakeholders

My overall goal is that this school year will be the most productive year of your child’s schooling, to date. Thank you for allowing us to educate your child.

POSITIVE QUOTE

“The successful person is the individual who forms the habit of doing what the failing person doesn’t like to do”

-Donald Riggs

Assistant Principal Introduction

My name is Jaime Smith. This will be my second year at Southwest Middle. I am excited to be a part of your child’s educational journey. I look forward to working with you and your child this year.

Your child’s safety is of the utmost importance to us at SWMS. We will be conducting several safety drills over the year. These drills will better prepare the students in the event of an emergency.

SWMS believes that high behavior expectations lead to high student achievement. Proper classroom behavior allows effective teaching and learning to occur. Clearly, managing and teaching correct behaviors leads to academic achievement. SWMS manages student behavior through a program called PBIS. PBIS stands for Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports.



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- ◆ **Enrichment Period**– All students will be assigned to an enrichment class from 7:50-8:40. During this time, students other than AVID Elective students, will practice basic calculator inactive mathematical drills and basic subject specific vocabulary. We believe that our enrichment period will strengthen those skills needed to be successful on the End of Grade testing.
- ◆ **Assembly**– There will be an assembly for all students on Monday morning, August 31st. This will be a high energy, motivational presentation which will also talk about relevant topics which middle age students come across daily. The presentation is hosted by The Seven Project.
- ◆ **Drop-off & Pick up Procedures**– Thank you for your patience when dropping off and picking up students. Our school is located in an awkward position so there are not many ways we can adjust our procedures. Please keep in mind that it is not polite to block the drive-ways along Furia Drive. I have received some complaints this week. Let's try to be courteous of others please.
- ◆ **School Fees**– Please take care of school fees as soon as possible. Lunch fees can be paid online and you may also put money on your child's account ahead of time. Students will not be permitted to participate in extracurricular activities until fees are brought up to date. (Football and Softball are exceptions because of the start of the year.)
- ◆ **Athletic Passes**– We will be selling athletic passes this year. These passes should save families money and allow for more fans to attend the sporting events. Cards can be bought in the office or at HOME sporting events. Prices are as follows;
 - ◆ \$40- Unlimited entry to all HOME sporting events (best option for students)
 - ◆ \$30- 20 passes to HOME events
 - ◆ \$20- 10 passes to HOME events
- ◆ **School Report Card**– Our school report card (North Carolina Assessment of SWMS) will be ready for release sometime in September. The school letter grade will be posted on the school's website in the near future.