



Bobcat Bulletin

A newsletter for parents and students

August 2016

Welcome Back!

Main: (614) 801-8850
Attendance: (614) 801-8852

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Important Dates

- * Mon., Aug. 22
Open House
5:30pm - 5th grade
6:30pm - 6th grade
7:15pm - 6th grade BCO
- * Wed., Aug. 24
First day of school
- * Tues., Sept. 6 - 6pm
PTA Meeting

Dear Galloway Ridge Families,

It is really hard to believe that the school year is about ready to begin. It seems like only yesterday that we had our awards ceremony and were saying goodbye to our grade six students and preparing our fifth graders to be the new leaders of the building. As a building principal, every August is met with great anticipation and excitement. I look forward to welcoming in the fifth grade students who have just concluded their elementary education, and I look forward to seeing grade six students become the positive role models for all of our Galloway Ridge Bobcats. The new school year also provides me an opportunity to work with a few new and reassigned staff members, as well as curriculum adjustments designed to make our students more successful.

As the new year begins, please try to attend our open house/curriculum night on Monday, August 22, 2016. The fifth grade parents and students will begin at 5:30 and will finish at approximately 6:15. The grade six parents and student open house will begin at approximately 6:30, and the BCO (Band, Choir and Orchestra) meeting will be at 7:15. During the open house time, parents of both grade levels will be giving time to register on the parent portal. If you would like to register prior to this meeting please do so by following the instructions on page 4 of this newsletter. It is our hope that parents and teachers utilizing the parent portal will increase communication and parent involvement between home and school.

As part of the new year, I want to communicate to you the new staff members who will be joining our GRI family. Listed on page 6 are our new staff members. If you get a chance, please stop in at the school and welcome them to our community. As always, if I can ever be of service to you please do not hesitate to call or send me an email. (614-801-8850; timothy.barton@swcsd.us)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy F. Barton".

Timothy F. Barton, Principal
Galloway Ridge Intermediate School



Open House and PTA

Open house at Galloway Ridge will be on Monday, August 22. Fifth grade's open house will be from 5:30 PM to 6:15 PM and sixth grade's open house will be from 6:30 PM to 7:15 PM. The PTA will be available for those interested in membership. Please be sure to not only join the PTA, but also volunteer to be on a committee. We hope to see you at open house so that you may meet your child's teacher and start his/her year off right!



Student Fees

In an effort to cover the cost of basic consumable student supplies, the South-Western City School District collects an annual instructional fee of \$20 for each of its students. As a district, we are able to purchase certain supplies and materials at a significantly reduced bulk-rate prices, which we pass along to you and your student. This fee stays at our school and reduces the need for you to purchase many of the traditional school supplies your child may need though-out the year. There many be organizational materials you wish to purchase for your child, such as folders, notebooks/keepers, pencils, etc. Fees can be paid in cash or by check, made payable to Galloway Ridge Intermediate.



Title 1 School

Galloway Ridge is a School Wide Title 1 school. Title 1 is a federal program that provides money for enriched and accelerated learning experience for all children. At Galloway Ridge, Title 1 provides literacy and math coaches to work with teachers to improve classroom instruction focused on increasing student achievement.

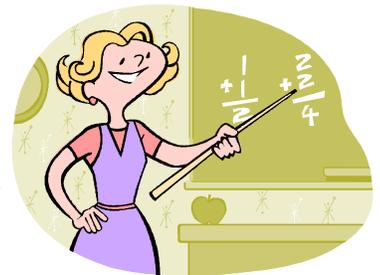
Your Right to View Teacher Qualifications

Under the No Child Left Behind Education Reform Act, parents have the right to request information regarding the qualifications of their student's classroom teacher including:

1. If the teacher has met state qualification and licensing criteria for the grade level taught;
2. If the teacher is teaching under emergency or provisional status;
3. The teacher's baccalaureate degree major, certification, and field of discipline;
4. Whether the student is provided services by a paraprofessional and if so, their qualifications.

School Times

It is important for students to be at school on a daily basis, and to be on time to begin the day. Please note our start time is 9:10 AM and our dismissal time is



3:55 PM. The time we have with our students for instructional purposes is important. If possible, please schedule doctor visits and other appointments outside of school hours. Students who are **not** in their homeroom by **9:10 AM**, will be marked **tardy**.

Payment of School-Provided Meals

South-Western City School encourages our students to take advantage of our nutritious and tasty breakfast and lunch programs. Food service accounts are set up for all South-Western students each year, and Personal Identification Numbers (PIN) will be assigned. Meals may be purchased daily with cash or checks, which can be deposited into the student's account. Please include your child's PIN number on checks.



Parents are encouraged to deposit money for their child's meals into their child's school account to ensure their child has sufficient money to cover consumed meals. Meal "charges" will not be permitted. Should a child not have money in their account, and forget their lunch money, a nutritious alternative to the regular meal will be provided.

Lunch Price

\$2.70 per day (\$13.50 weekly)

40¢ per day for reduced price

50¢ for milk

Breakfast Prices

\$1.00 per day

30¢ per day for reduced price

Information on free and reduced lunches will be made available to all student households in the coming weeks and will also be available through our office. **Students are expected to pay for their meals until the application has been approved.**

PayPAMS

The South-Western City School District utilizes a system called PayPAMS, which allows parents a safe and convenient way to prepay for students meals online.

PayPAMS allows parents to

- **Pay for your child's meals via Internet or Telephone from the convenience of home or office 24/7**
- **View your child's meal account balance**
- **Schedule automatic payments based on account balance**
- **Receive low balance E-mail reminders**
- **View a report of daily spending and cafeteria purchases**

There is now a PayPAMS Mobile App available to parents for Android smart phones. (Soon there will also be an app available for iPhones.) This convenient app provides parents with the last three payment on account. Parents can also personalize the app by adding student pictures. The PayPAMS app is free for parents.

For more information on PayPAMS, please visit the following area of the District website and take a tour of the system and/or read the helpful tips and answers to frequently asked questions.

<http://www.swcsd.us/parent-resources/paypams>

An Note From the School Nurse

For school personnel to give medication at school (prescription and non-prescription), a Medication Permission and Instruction Form must be completed and on file in the clinic office BEFORE that medication can be given. This form must be signed by BOTH parent/guardian and doctor indicating the name of the medication, time to be taken, amount to be taken, route of administration and possible side effects. This also includes at home inhalers and Epi-Pens that students carry on their person.

All medication must be received in its original prescription container (envelopes and baggies, etc. are not acceptable) or original packaging, if over the counter. Your pharmacist will prepare another labeled bottle if you ask. Students are NOT PERMITTED to bring any medication to school. An adult must transport medication to school. Helpful Hint: Please, furnish one month's supply of medication at a time. If you have questions, contact the school nurse.

If your child has a serious health condition such as asthma, diabetes, seizure disorder, severe allergies requiring an Epi-Pen or any other serious medical condition, contact your school nurse to develop a school health plan.

24 Hour Attendance Line

If your child is going to be absent, please call the attendance line before school starts on the day of the absence at (614) 801-8852. Please leave a message stating your child's name, grade, homeroom number or teacher, and the reason for your child's absence.

Parent Portal - Infinite Campus

Through the Parent Portal, parents will be able to access their students' information, such as class schedules, coursework, attendance, and academic reports. Parents will also be able to update family and emergency contacts using the Parent Portal.

Parents will receive your Campus Portal Activation Key in the letter you receive regarding your student's transportation. If you used the Parent Portal last year, you may continue to log in using the same login and password that you created last year. However, you may be asked to update your password when you login for the first time each year. We hope you take advantage of this opportunity to access your student's information for academic and updating purposes.



Accessing the Campus Parent Portal

- Go to www.swcsd.us
- On the right hand side of the homepage, look for the Parent Tools and click on the link "Infinite Campus account: a Quick Start Guide"
- This link will give you step by step instructions on how to set up your account so that you can access your student's information.

Emergency Medical Cards

As an alternative to hand-written Emergency Medical green cards, parents may submit their student's emergency medical information online, using the Campus Parent Portal. It is extremely important that each student has up to date medical information on file. Please include parent's cell phone numbers, as well as home and work numbers. Also include the numbers of at least three relatives, neighbors or friends whom we may call if we cannot reach you. **It is crucial that we are able to reach someone in the event of an emergency with your child.**



Online Emergency Information Submission

(formerly hand-written Green Cards)

- Step 1. Log into your Infinite Campus Parent Portal Account.
- Step 2. On the left hand side of your screen, click on "Annual Update or New Students"
- Step 3. On the left hand side of the top of your screen, click on the "Click Here to Go to Existing Student Registration" button.
- Step 4. Click on the "Begin Registration" button.
- Step 5. Validate your account and click on the "Submit" button. This will load your previously entered Infinite Campus information.
- Step 6. Follow the next six steps in succession. Each new screen will have information in yellow that needs to be edited (verified or changed). You will need to click on the "edit" button to review the information. Click on the "next" button to move to the next screen. You will need to "save and confirm" the information throughout the process.
- Step 7. Submit the final information.
- Step 8. Log out of your Infinite Campus account.

Class Lists

Homeroom and School Bus information will be sent out the 2nd week of August. You may also view your student's homeroom assignment by logging into the Parent Portal. Please, do not call the school to request this information. On the first few days, our staff will greet our students at the busses and in the hallways to help them find their classroom.

Grade Cards

Galloway Ridge is on 9-week grading periods. The grading periods end on October 28, January 13, March 17, and June 1. We will be sending home a midterm report on October 3, December 12, February 21, and May 8, to let you know your child's progress up to that point in the grading period. Grade cards will be sent home with students on the following dates: November 10, January 26, April 5, and June 9.

New Staff



We are pleased to welcome the following new staff members:

Tiffany Andy - Special Education Aide

Kristina Campbell - 5th grade Language Arts / Reading / Social Studies

Olivia Evans - 5th grade Language Arts / Reading / Social Studies

Laura Fraley – Med Monitor

Scott Gregory - Special Education Teacher

Cindy Higgins - Secretary

Kathryn Jeter - 6th grade Language Arts / Reading / Social Studies

Michelle Joseph - Building Aide

Sarah Jewett - Lunch Monitor

Jaime Kramer - Secretary

Andrea Woerlein - Literacy Coach

Bus Information

- Pick-up / Drop-off Locations

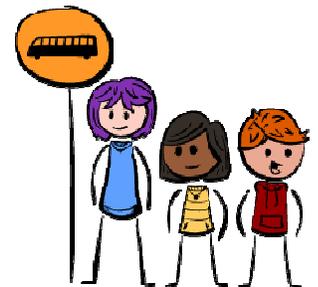
To provide the safest environment possible for our students, bus riders will have one assigned pick-up and drop-off location only.

- Guest Ride Passes

Students may ride only the bus to which they are assigned. An exception may be permitted in the event of an emergency and when the following criteria are met:

1. A signed note from a parent of each party involved is sent to school
 2. When there is sufficient space available on the bus.
- When a student will be riding a bus other than his/her own, or riding as a guest, the student is to bring his/her parental permission note to the office at the beginning of the day. The office staff will authorize a guest ride pass and notify the transportation department of the change in ride status.

Due to late enrollments and route changes, busses may run late at the start of the school year. Please be patient these first few days of school.



Galloway Ridge Mission Statement

Our main purpose is to maximize the educational achievement of all students. Engaging parents as partners, we will have high expectations for each child's education. We will create a safe, caring, and respectful school community that promotes life long learning for students and staff.

AUGUST 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22 Open House 5th: 5:30pm 6th: 6:30pm	23	24 School Begins	25	26	27
28 Back to School BBQ 6-8p JP's Bolton Field	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day: No Classes	6 PTA Meeting: 6pm	7 Fundraiser Kick-off	8	9	10
11	12 Board of Education Meeting 7pm	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Board of Education Meeting 7pm	27	28	29 School Pictures	30	