

Dear Parents,

We welcome you and your child to the Seventh Grade.

As your child is growing and maturing, expectations and challenges are also growing. Seventh grade is the pivotal year in the transition between elementary and high school. We try to create an environment that supports this growth in your child as well as the increase in expectations.

Students will change classes and teachers every period. For this reason the students need to learn to manage their materials more efficiently. They cannot leave belongings in the desks in their homerooms. In the beginning of the year we typically allow students to return to their lockers for forgotten supplies. However, after a period of adjustment, students are expected to be prepared for class and will not be allowed back to their lockers. In some cases, this may mean a zero for homework left in the locker.

Some suggestions for how you can help your child in seventh grade:

- Provide a quiet work area; away from the television, computer or telephone and a consistent nightly homework period.
- Have a survival kit ready with supplies of pens, pencils, stapler, ruler, and plenty of paper.
- Understand that your child may want your help with test or quiz preparation, practice of math facts, vocabulary study, etc.
- Consider asking your child to explain a concept. His/her talking will cause him/her to work through understandings.
- Encourage your child to read essays or compositions to you. Feel free to comment on sections that sound unclear. Ask questions and give suggestions. **Please do NOT re-write a passage or introduce your words into a paragraph. If you are physically holding the pen and writing words on the rough draft, you are going too far, giving too much. If you are dictating to your child what to write, you are doing his/her work.** It is not a good learning experience for your child. It makes it difficult for the teacher to analyze the child's writing strengths and weaknesses and to help accordingly. We try to teach students to have integrity.
- Look through your child's notebooks. **Help him/her to keep them organized.**
- If your child is spending what you consider to be an inordinate amount of time studying, please drop us a note.
- Seventh graders are often more worried and insecure than they appear. They need encouragement and support. Continue to tell them how much you care about them and their happiness in Seventh Grade.
- **When absences are unavoidable, please make every effort to access work assignments through online postings and/or contacting a classmate.**

We feel strongly that parent-teacher communication can be the key to a successful seventh grade year. If you have concerns or questions, please don't hesitate to call us at 203-758-2496, or send us a direct email. We look forward to an exciting and rewarding school year. With caring collaboration between home and school we will be able to accomplish a great deal.

Sincerely,
The Seventh Grade Teachers

Materials List for Seventh Grade

To be provided by family -

- 4 -1.5” binders
- 1 - 2” binder (for math)
- 1- Durable Poly-cover 1 subject notebook (for science) **
- 5 sets of dividers
- 1 pencil pouch
- blue or black pens
- red pens
- pencils
- cap erasers
- notebook paper
- highlighters
- ruler (w/ metric and standard measures)
- index cards (3 x 5)
- quad-ruled 3 hole punched graph paper for math
- colored pencils
- 2 small basic function calculators with covers (1 for home, 1 for school)
- spiral bound sketch pad for art from 6th grade, or new
- box of tissues

** Suggestions for the Science notebook:

Staples® Accel Durable Poly Cover Notebooks

OfficeMax Poly 1 Subject Notebook, 11 x 9”, college ruled

Mead Five Star Wirebound Notebook, College Rule, 3-Hole Punch, Poly Cover, 1 Subject

