Welcome, Bobcats!

Monday, August 30, 2021

- Visit the stations below to make sure you are prepared for a great school year!
- Please follow our COVID protocols:
  - **Wear face coverings** while indoors at all times (unless having your school picture taken)
  - **Three feet social distancing** - please maintain 3-feet social distancing on campus
- Si necesita ayuda traduciendo a español busque al Sra. Argueta en el comedor.

Station	Where	More Information….	Visit this station?
SCHEDULES (START HERE!)	**Small Gym**	Pick-up your schedule. Our POUNCE leaders and counselors, Mrs. Donna Knutsen & Mrs. Shawna Eklund, will help you.😊	**YES**
SCHOOL PICTURE and ID	**Big Gym**	Students will have their picture taken for their school ID card and yearbook. Picture packages available to purchase online at www.oconnorphotographystudio.com Students will receive ID cards at this station. 📸	**YES**
MEET YOUR TEACHERS	**Refer to schedule for room numbers**	Tour the school as you visit your classrooms and meet your teachers 😊	**YES**
CHROMEBOOKS	**Library**	**ALL 6th graders and NEW 7th and 8th grade students** will be assigned a chromebook to take home 💻	**6th graders & NEW 7th/8th graders**
GUIDED TOUR	**Commons**	New to SMS? Our student POUNCE leaders will take you on a guided tour of the building.	**Optional**
SCHOOL INFO	**Commons**	• **Family Access: Don't have your password?** You need a password for Family Access. • **Free/Reduced lunch forms -** these forms can also be completed online • **Transportation/Bus Routes** • **Pay fees online** Websites with more information are in this packet	**Optional**
BACKPACKS	**Little Gym**	Backpacks with school supplies are available for families in need of assistance	**Optional**
PAY REQUIRED FEES	**Commons**	Don't want to wait in line? Pay online (see information in this packet)	**Optional**
ATHLETICS/CLUBS	**Commons**	Visit this table if you have questions about athletics/clubs	**Optional**
BOBCATS RISING	**Commons**	Visit this station for your rewards from our summer Bobcats Rising Program! 🌞	**As needed**
PARENT BOOSTERS	**Boosters Office near 6th grade hallway**	Receive information about our parent Booster organization, learn about volunteer opportunities and buy new Bobcat wear!	**Optional**
IMMUNIZATION MEDICATIONS	**Counseling Office**	Turn in immunization records or medication to our school nurse, Mrs.Tara Demma.	**As needed**
NEW STUDENT REGISTRATION	**Counseling Office**	Visit our registrar, Mrs. Cheryl Jessop.	**As needed**
****Food truck located next to Commons****			

Websites with School Start-Up Information

1. **Athletic Clearance**: Stop by the athletics table for information about our fall sports: baseball, fastpitch, and track. Learn about the clearance process, fees, practice times, etc. Visit the district website at https://www.sumnersd.org/Page/4029 for more information.

2. **Bus Schedules**: Visit www.sumnersd.org, select *Transportation* icon then *Bus Routes* link to learn your child's bus number and pick-up/drop-off time.

3. **Chromebooks:** See the chromebook section in this packet for more information.
   - **Bring CHARGED chromebooks to school starting September 8.**

4. **Family Access**: Learn how to look up your student's schedule, grades, account information, attendance, discipline, pay all fees (see below), and if applicable, free/reduced lunch form. Visit www.sumnersd.org and select *Family Access* icon. If you don't have your Family Access password, visit the Commons today. If you still need assistance, see Cheryl Jessop in the counseling office.

   To pay fees in Family Access, click on *District Links* in the top right-hand corner and select Online Payments. Certain fees will automatically be adjusted for families that qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch rates.
   - Athletic fees (see below)
   - ASB card, $20 * Fee Waiver Eligible
   - Yearbook, $20 before Dec 17; $25 after Dec 17
   - Art Fee, $5
   - Personal Choice, Teen Living, and Young Living classes, $5

Athletic Fees

The fee schedule is as follows:	Regular Fee	Notes
Athletic Participation Fee, per season	$70	***Fee Waiver Eligible**
Athletic Participation Fees, 4th Season Fee	$20	***Fee Waiver Eligible**
Athletic Participation Fee, tackle football grades 7-8	$95	***Fee Waiver Eligible**
Athletic Participation Fee, tackle football 4th Season Fee grades 7-8	$45	***Fee Waiver Eligible**

***Fee Waivers for Low-Income Families** – Students qualifying for free or reduced lunch who consent to share that information may receive fee waivers that apply to athletic activity fees, club dues, and ASB cards. Parents or students may also contact a school counselor if financial assistance is needed for curricular fees as InvestEd funds may be available.

Safety Practices for Students/Staff

Our paramount focus is to ensure a safe environment for everyone in our school. To help meet our safety goals, we ask that staff, students and families be active participants in these efforts.
Here is an outline of the actions necessary to help maintain health and safety in our school building:

For the health and safety of all, stay home when:

- symptoms of sickness or illness are present (fever, cough, loss of taste/smell, nausea, etc)
- close contact with anyone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19
- you have recently tested positive for COVID-19 and have been directed to self-isolate
- you have been directed to isolate or quarantine by public health or a medical professional

Call our main office at 253-891-5000 and ask to speak to Jenny Williams (principal), Shena Mouring (assistant principal) or Tara Demma (nurse) if any of these conditions apply. Our staff will work with you and the district office to identify next steps.

Masks required on buses and indoors

- Masks are required on buses and indoors at all times (unless eating or drinking).
- Students and staff who maintain 3-feet social distancing outside will not be required to wear a mask outside.
- SMS has masks available for students to wear; students are also encouraged to bring spare masks with them to school.

Attestations and daily temperature checks are no longer required

3-feet social distancing

- Classroom desks have been arranged to accommodate a minimum of three feet social distancing. Class sizes will be kept to a minimum as much as possible, with an average class size between 27-29 students. Students are cohorted in all of their core classes.
- When possible, passing times will be staggered or alternative routes will be used to reduce the number of students in our hallways.

Lunches

- Students will be seated a minimum of 3-feet apart at lunch; there will not be more than 4 students to a table.
- On Monday, students will sit with their 3rd period classmates; on Tuesday-Friday, they will sit with their 4th period classmates.
- Students will not wear masks while eating at lunch; they can take off their masks when they go outside during lunch time.

Cleaning and disinfecting

- Just like last year, students will use soap and water to clean their desks before leaving class.
- Custodial staff will disinfect desks and other high touch points each night.
- Lunch tables will be disinfected between each lunch.

Handwashing

- Handwashing and use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged in our building; hand sanitizer stations can be found in every hallway.

Fitness classes and choir/band

- At this time, students enrolled in fitness classes will not use the locker room or change clothes for fitness.
- Special PPE will be used for band and choir classes- these will be provided to students.

Lockers

- Each student can choose to have a locker this year.
- Students will be directed by staff regarding when to use their locker in order to reduce congestion and ensure social distancing as much as possible near the lockers.

District safety plan

- Other safety measures and information can be found on the district website.

Other Important Information

First day of school: Tuesday, September 7

Sixth graders will be picked up according to regular weekday bus schedule for a full school day schedule. School lunch will be served to our sixth graders.

School start time for 6th graders is **7:25 am.**

Seventh and eighth graders will begin school at 12:25 pm. Bus transportation will be provided five hours later than the regular weekday bus schedule. For example, if your regular morning bus pick-up time is 7:10 am, please go to your stop at 12:10 pm. School lunch will **not** be served to students in grades 7 and 8.

Mondays are Late Starts this Year

The weekly schedule for students this year:

Monday: 9:05am to 2:20pm

Tuesday through Friday: 7:25am to 2:20pm

Stay connected with Sumner Middle School!

Call or visit: Our offices are open M-F, 6:30am to 3:30pm. Visit us or call 253-891-5000.

Email: A majority of our communication to families will be via electronic newsletters/emails. Please check Family Access to make sure we have a valid email address for you. Staff email addresses are on our website in the staff directory.

Social Media:

Twitter account: @SumnerMSBobcats
Instagram: sms_student_life

Stay connected with SMS's Booster Parent Group!

- **Email:** smsboosters@gmail.com
- **Booster Facebook :** https://www.facebook.com/Sumnermiddleschoolboosterclub/
- **Instagram:** @smsbobcatboosters
- Connect with SMS Boosters and learn how to support SMS students and staff

Parents/Guardians Dropping Off or Picking Up Student(s)

Drop off/Pick Up: When dropping off or picking up your student, there are designated areas in our front loop (right in front of our school) where vehicles are not allowed to stop. The expectation is to pull all the way through to the end of the loop. This helps reduce traffic issues on Willow Street which helps keep our students safe. Also, always watch for students as you turn into our parking lots and do not encourage your child to cross the street on Willow unless your child is in a crosswalk. Your support of these safety practices help keep all kids safe.

Other Important Events!

September 7: First day of practice for Track, Fastpitch and Baseball. Contact Shawna Eklund, at shawna_eklund@sumnersd.org for more information.

September 8: First full day of classes for all students. **Bring CHARGED chromebooks.**

September 30: Last day for 20% discount on digital device coverage

October 12: Picture Retake

CHROMEBOOK INFORMATION 2021-2022

6th graders and new 7th and 8th grader students will receive a chromebook with a protective case attached to it. Students who do not attend our back to school event on August 30th will receive their chromebook on their first day of school. Returning students should already have theirs but please check in with the library staff if there are any issues with your current device. *To best protect these devices, make sure your student keeps their chromebook safe, clean, dry and protected.*

Digital device agreement
Review the Secondary Handbook at www.sumnersd.org (under *Technology*) to understand rules, guidelines and parent/guardian responsibilities.

Securly- web filter
Securly Parent Portal, a web filtering tool offers parental controls and reports on district-issued chromebooks. Securly's Parent Portal gives parents the ability to view online activity outside of the classroom, such as sites browsed, social media use and activity, and items searched on the chromebook. Parents may create an account and will be able to receive access to their child's full online activity history and establish parental controls. The frequency of email reports may vary, as reports are based on outside classroom use. You may unsubscribe from Securly emails at any time. You may also find more information about this resource under *Technology*.

If you have questions, please contact help@securly.com as schools are not able to assist with Securly Parent Portal questions.

Digital device coverage
Give yourself peace of mind and limit your financial obligation by purchasing Digital Device Coverage. Act now to take advantage of a 20% early enrollment discount, good only until September 30th. This assurance will cover the device from the date it is purchased through the end of September 2022

- The normal early enrollment discount of 20% is available through the end of September 2021.
- The price is the same as the last four years.
- This is a yearly fee.
- Digital device coverage covers multiple devices (if you have them) to include Laptops, Chromebooks, Hotspots, or other mobile digital devices.

	Regular	Reduced Lunch	Free Lunch
Before September 30th	$20	$10	$5
After September 30th	$25	$12.50	$6.25

To purchase digital device coverage:

- Chromebooks issued to 6th graders or new 7th/8th grade students may pay in person at our Back to School event OR in our main office during regular school hours (M-F, 6:30am to 3:30pm).
- 7th and 8th graders who kept their chromebooks over the summer need to bring their chromebook to an office staff member for inspection before digital device coverage payment will be accepted.

Sumner Middle School

