

# Sawtooth Chronicle

ACTA NON VERBA

Volume 3, Issue 2

October 2011

3730 N Linder Road  
Meridian, Idaho 83646  
208.855.4200 main office  
208.855.4224 fax  
208.855.4205 attendance

#### Administrators

Kevin Leishman  
Tracy Newell  
Rachel Edwards

#### Counselors

Ellen Estes  
Donna Hensley  
Tiffany Myers

### Important Dates

#### October:

21—Late & missing work due  
25—7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade choir fall folk concert, 7:00 pm @SMS  
27— 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade Band & Orch. Concerts 7:00pm @SMS  
28— Pep Assembly @1:50  
28— End of First Quarter

#### November:

11- Fall Dance: 3:00-4:00 PM  
18— No School In-service  
21—25 Thanksgiving break

#### December:

20— Full day  
21—31 Holiday break  
January 4<sup>th</sup> school resumes

## A message from the Principal



Parents,

The eighth year of Sawtooth Middle School's existence has begun in fantastic fashion. Many of you attended our inaugural Sabercat Celebration on September 30<sup>th</sup>. Thank you so much for attending. This has been a huge undertaking by our PTSO. Our desire in creating this event was to develop a relationship with the community and with parents. It was very well attended and was a success on all accounts. Money raised by the PTSO from the Sabercat Celebration will primarily be used for classroom supplies and for increasing technology in our classrooms. Our intent is to make this an annual event. Once again, we give a special thank you to our PTSO.

Students have been involved in MAP (Measure of Academic Progress) testing over the last few weeks. Students are tested in reading and math. Students will be involved in MAP testing again in the spring. We will use the data from these assessments to

determine growth for each student.

Our school website has a calendar that is fully loaded with important events. It also has the contact information for all staff members as well as PTSO officers. We encourage you to explore the website. In particular, we encourage you to contact the PTSO regarding membership if you are not already a member. Our website is found at [www.meridianschools.org/sms](http://www.meridianschools.org/sms).

The first quarter comes to an end on October 28<sup>th</sup>. Joint District #2 has instituted a credit system at the middle school level. The district policy applies to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders. At Sawtooth Middle School, we use the same criteria to monitor the progress of 6<sup>th</sup> graders. 8<sup>th</sup> graders are able to earn one credit per quarter in English, math, science, geography, PE, and health. 7<sup>th</sup> grade students are able to earn one credit per quarter in

Literature & Strategies, English, Math, Science, and World Civilizations. Students are required to earn a minimum of 80% of attempted credits. Credits are earned by receiving a passing grade and by not missing more than six days of school in each semester. Absences due to illness need to be excused through medical documentation. Sawtooth Middle School provides a variety of interventions to assist students who are struggling to meet credit system requirements. Please be sure to check your student's progress on Powerparent in order to assist us in adopting a proactive approach to dealing with concerns regarding grades. Don't hesitate to contact administration or teachers if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Kevin Leishman  
Principal

## Counselors' Corner



**Thoughts About Grades, Progress Reports, PowerParent Checks . . .**

Some parents believe they need to give rewards for good grades and consequences for bad grades.

Think about this . . .

- Your child *does* get a reward or consequence for learning and schoolwork — his/her grades.
- Your child will have an opportunity to keep or change his/her reward or consequence.

Questions to discuss with your child . . .

- Which grade do you like

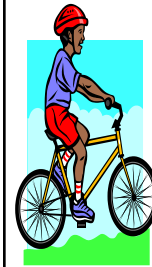
best? Acknowledge your child's response.

- Which grade did you work hardest to get? Acknowledge the response.
- Which grade would you like to improve during this nine weeks? How do you want to improve it?
  - by self
  - with a tutor
  - with parent help
- Which class/subject did you learn the most in?
- Does your grade reflect your learning?

**Thanks for sharing your grades with me.**

**Counselors,  
Ellen Estes  
Donna Hensley  
Tiffany Myers**

## Bike Safety



Parents please be proactive in speaking to your students about bike safety. The only special equipment required is that ***a rider must have a light visible at least 500 feet to the front and a reflector that is clearly visible from the rear of the bicycle.*** Although helmets are not required, they are highly recommended for safety. Bicycles may be operated on sidewalks, bike lanes, and roadways. Also when riding a bicycle on the sidewalk, **you should cross the road at a crosswalk and cross with the signal for safety.** *When operated on the road or in bike lanes, the rider is required to obey the rules of the road like any motor vehicle.* This includes stopping at stop signs and red lights, using turn or hand signals and riding with traffic.

## Front Office Information



### Homework requests:

Homework requests can be made by calling in to the main office at 855-4200 on the **morning of the 3rd day of a student's absence before 10:00 am.** If you choose to get homework for your student before that, you may email the teachers individually.

### Attendance requirements:

When your student leaves school for a doctor

appointment etc., please be sure to bring back the doctor's excuse in order for the student to be excused for the time they were out of school. This will help with your students attendance records.

### Reporting an absence:

Parents it is very important to report your student's absence when



they will not be attending school in order to have their absence excused, otherwise it will go unexcused and it will affect the student's attendance record. Please call 855-4205 and leave a message with your student's name, parents name, phone number and reason for the absence. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

**Cathy Travis**

**SMS Head Secretary**

# Sabercat Athletics

Congratulations to our Sabercat Girls Cross Country team for being District Champs for the second year in a row! Beating Eagle MS by 2 points!



Our top runners were:

Loren Cantrill - 2nd place in district  
 Brittany Wilding - 3rd place  
 Lexi Hays - 9th place  
 Renee Ross - 11th place  
 Madeline Mitchell - 15th place  
 Serena Stranger - 17th place

Faced with difficult competition, our Boys Cross Country team came in at 5th place. Our top runners were:

Tanner Pollock - 11th place  
 Brady Yoneda - 16th place

**Thank you Coach Humphreys and Coach Bush for making cross country a great, fun and winning**

**season!**

A big HOORAY to SMS football for going undefeated for the second straight year and headed for the third straight year to the Championship playoff! The Championship game will be played on October 26th at 7:00 pm at the Rocky Mountain High School stadium. Come on out and support our SMS football team on the 26th!



## Football

**Scores:**

MMS - 0	SMS - 36,
LSMS - 6	SMS - 20,
HMS - 14	SMS - 26,
EMS - 6	SMS - 24,

**Thank you Coach Botkin, and assistant Coaches Kolar and Carlson for a great season!**

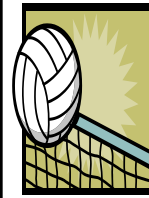


8th Grade girls basketball and boys basketball

tryouts begin on October 31st after school. We will only be picking 15 students for each team. Basketballs first game is with LSMS on 11/14 here at Sawtooth.



Wrestling will begin on October 31st for all students at Sawtooth. Wrestlers are at LSMS on 11/14 for their first match.



Girls volleyball have lost some close matches and are working hard to improve for the upcoming tournament. Tournament was at Sawtooth and our team played tough but lost two close matches and were eliminated.

**Thank you Coach Verity for a great volleyball season!**

## News from the Registrar



### ALERT NOW:

Parent's, with the *Alert Now* program Sawtooth is notifying parents

by telephone and e-mail with important information, such as parent conference times, special events, and in case of emergency closures.

**We need all phone numbers and e-mails to be correct** so parents will receive these notifications.

Call Mrs. Howell at 855-4200, ext. 1044, with any updated information.

### Moving

If you are planning on moving, your student's last day must be a full day of school. This is the correct process to withdraw your student from Sawtooth.

**If you do not check your student out, records requests from the new school will be held up until we receive any outstanding fees and/or books.** Contact Mrs. Howell, the registrar to start the process.

**Cindi Howell**  
**SMS Registrar**

## Math Department

### **OCTOBER IS METRIC MONTH !**

Why? Because the metric system is built around the number ten and October is the tenth month of the year.



Metric units are everywhere, even though we don't think we are a metric nation. In order to be competitive in the global market, more and more American products must be labeled in metric units for re-sale in metric nations (the rest of the world!).

Send your student on a search through the kitchen, pantry, bathroom or garage looking for products that are labeled with metric units. They are everywhere. Make a list of how many different kinds of metric units you find, for example: liters, milliliters, centiliters; kilometers, meters, centimeters, millimeters, Celsius, milligrams, grams, and milligrams.

Remember: **Math is Everywhere.**



# SMS NURSE



They're back – those crummy viruses that make the noses run, throats sore and heads ache. It's the cold and flu season again, which generally lasts from mid – November through March. During these months, most people experience some of the discomforts associated with these illnesses. Unlike bacterial infections, virus infections do not respond to antibiotic treatment and therefore must run their course. Viruses are easily transmitted from person to person and are the cause of colds and influenza. It is difficult at times to differentiate between symptoms of the flu virus and

## COLD AND FLU SEASON

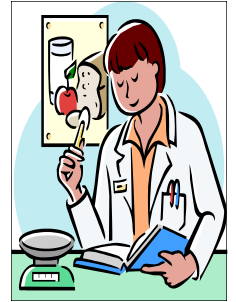
a cold; the following information may be helpful:

**PREVENTION:** Wash your hands frequently. Coughing and sneezing into your sleeve will help prevent spreading germs. Keep your immune system strong by eating a well-balanced diet, taking vitamin supplements with Vitamin C, and drinking plenty of fluids. Grape juice is good because it contains tannins that have been revered for the ability to kill off viruses. There are also herbal remedies that may help as well, provided you check with your healthcare provider first. And of course flu shots are highly recommended.

**TREATMENT:** Rest, drink a lot of fluids, take pain relievers as necessary, allow fresh air to circulate throughout your home, frequently launder bed linens and use disinfectant sprays/

cleaners on faucets, handles, doorknobs, etc. The goal is to kill remaining live viruses to prevent re-infection and transmitting disease to others.

**YOUR CHILD SHOULD STAY HOME FROM SCHOOL** when he/she has a fever >100 degrees that is accompanied by a sore throat, nausea, rash, or listlessness. Repeated episodes of vomiting and/or diarrhea may lead to dehydration and generalized weakness. This is a justifiable reason for a child to rest at home while recuperating.



Amy Nixon,  
School Nurse  
SMS

Signs/Symptoms	Flu	Cold
<b>Onset</b>	Sudden	Gradual
<b>Fever</b>	High > 101 Lasts 3-4 days	Rare
<b>Cough</b>	Nonproductive; May be severe	Dry, hacking
<b>Headache</b>	Prominent	Rare
<b>Muscle Aches</b>	Characteristic; May be severe	Slight
<b>Fatigue/Weakness</b>	Can last 2-3 weeks	Very mild
<b>Extreme Exhaustion</b>	Early and Prominent	Rarely
<b>Chest Discomfort</b>	Common	Mild to moderate
<b>Stuffy Nose</b>	Sometimes	Very common
<b>Sore Throat</b>	Sometimes	Very common

## PTSO INFORMATION



On behalf of the Sawtooth Middle School (SMS) PTSO and everyone that

enjoyed the Sawtooth Celebration Carnival on September 30, 2011 we would like to send a heartfelt THANK YOU to all our sponsors and supporters listed below. Without your generosity, support and involvement in our school the Carnival's success would not be possible. We appreciate you, ask our families to support you in return, and look forward to a strong relationship in the years to come as we continue together to build a stronger educational future for the next generation.

### Thank you sponsors:

Walmart  
Dental Care for Kids  
Aesthetic Smiles  
Studio 233 Salon & Spa, Eagle  
Nails by Terilyn at Studio 233  
Salon & Spa, Eagle  
Dutch Bros. Coffee  
JumpTime  
Blimpies

Fred Meyers  
Shake and Take  
Garbanzo's Pizza  
Dickey's BBQ  
Idaho Stampede  
Idaho Pizza Company  
Super Pollo  
Bach Portraits  
Qdoba  
Teachers and Staff at SMS  
Parents and Students of SMS

The PTSO organization consists of these great volunteers who help make Sawtooth the great school that it is!

### **President: Nasdina Heithoff**

jdnasdina@yahoo.com

Home number- 970-589-6433

Cell number- 208-908-7742

### **Treasurer: Camille Cooper**

camillecooper@msn.com

### **Box Tops: Diana Howard**

dhzookeeper@yahoo.com

### **Membership & Secretary:**

**Melissa Smith**

Melissa.a.smith@hotmail.com

### **Spirit Wear: Michelle Burke**

michelle30@q.com

### **Sabercat Celebration:**

**Ali Hinshaw**

Lovemyboys3@msn.com

### **Teacher Appreciation:**

**Blanca Hutson**

bhutson15@yahoo.com

Can't do it without all your help!  
Thank you for your support!



## Box Tops Contest

It's time for our FALL CONTEST! Which 9th period classroom can collect the most Box Tops?

The starting date is OCT 4th and it ends OCT 28th.

Please send in your collected Box Tops with your student to school. They should turn them in to their 9th period classroom. Teachers will keep a tally of all those collected and the students

have a chance to win prizes for bringing in Box Tops. Raffle winners will be announced on Friday Mornings.

The Grand Prize for the 9th period classroom that collects the MOST Box Tops, PIZZA FOR THE CLASS AND ROOT BEER FLOATS! (the day of consumption to be determined by the teacher)

