

MUSTANG MATTERS

The Official Newsletter of Spring Station Middle School

Dates to Remember . . .

September 2	Labor Day—No School
September 9	Power Monday
September 11	Fall Sports Pictures: Football, Cheerleading, Volleyball, Golf, Tennis & Cross Country
September 16	Power Monday
September 23	Power Monday
September 26	Fun Fair, 3:15–5 pm
September 30	Power Monday
October 10–11	Fall Break—No School
October 14	Power Monday
October 16	School Pictures
October 21	Power Monday
October 28	Power Monday
November 11	Power Monday
November 13	Late Fall Sports Pictures—Soccer, Wrestling, & Basketball
November 18	Power Monday
November 25–29	Thanksgiving Holiday

A Message from the Principal

It is hard to believe that we have started the 2019–20 school year! The staff and I are so happy to see all of our returning students, as well as meeting all of our many new ones. The start of the school year has been great and we are anticipating the remainder of it to be just as fantastic.

We have many new teachers joining our ranks and we want to welcome each one. In 6th grade, we have Jenni Halterman, Jessie Buck, Caroline Croteau, Kristi Peek and Janice Cihak. In 7th grade, Kathryn Voigt joined the ELA group and in 8th grade, Mason Buck joined the math team. Other new additions to our staff are Jesse Wick—Student Support, Laura Shaw—Strings, Andrew Hedges—PE/Wellness/AD and two new Teacher Assistants, Charles Carpenter and Khristina Dover. We are so glad to have each and every one of them on our Spring Station team!

Finally, I want to thank our families for the support you have always so willingly given SSMS. We would like to continue to grow this partnership. One of the many ways to do this is through joining the PTO. This organization's funds support programs and supply materials that are needed by our student body. You can also volunteer through our PTO to help with such things as PBIS, picture days, hospitality for our staff and our annual golf classic, to name just a few.

On behalf of our entire staff, thank you for allowing us to work with your student each and every day! GO MUSTANGS!

Sincerely,

Paula Pulliam

Paula Pulliam
Principal, Spring Station Middle School

Nurse's Notes

HEALTH NEWS

Now that we are back to school, students are already getting sick. We've seen vomiting, diarrhea and fevers. Please follow the WCS Illness Policy. We want to keep our students and staff as healthy as possible.

MEDICATION NEWS FROM THE CLINIC:

Parents please remember:

- ⇒ The school nurse must follow TN state law when giving medication to your child here on school grounds.
- ⇒ Your child is not allowed to have medicine (prescription or over-the-counter) with them at school without the proper forms being completed through the school nurse. (*This include cough drops in their pockets.*)
- ⇒ Forms have to be completed every school year.
- ⇒ Students are not allowed to bring in the medicine. Only parents.
- ⇒ Schools do not provide medicine, crackers, soda, etc. for students.
- ⇒ If you would like to bring medicine up to the school to leave at the school, it must be new, un-opened and in the box. We cannot administer medication from a "plastic baggy".

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nurse Joy at joye@wcs.edu or 615-472-5088.



Keep watching for new Spirit wear coming soon from PTO!

CONSIDER

JOINING OUR PTO

Student Membership is \$25 and this money helps out our school in so many ways!

FUN FAIR IS COMING!

September 26

3:15 to 5 pm

The cost is \$20 per person and that includes admission to the football game

immediately following

Fun Fair!



Do you know of a child who needs help?

Does this child have difficulty...

- * seeing the whiteboard clearly?
- * reading papers or books?
- * hearing or understanding what people say?
- * reading?
- * doing math?
- * understanding what the teacher tells him/her to do?
- * keeping his/her grades up?



Spring Station Middle School has many ways to help students who find it hard to see, hear or learn. Call Ms. Atkinson, Mrs. Barkley, Mr. Coleman, or Mrs. Rupp offices at 472-5080. The sooner we know about a child, the sooner we can help.

DON'T STOP COLLECTING BOX TOPS

Please don't stop collecting Box Tops just because your kids are in middle school! We need them just as much as elementary school, to help us purchase items that we need here at Spring Station. Please have your student drop your box tops off in the front office. We appreciate all the parents that contribute to this project.

Remember, General Mills "Box Tops for Education" can be found everywhere, on a wide variety of items, including Huggies products, Cottonelle products, many Betty Crocker products, numerous brands of cereal, Yoplait yogurt, Juicy Juice, and many more.

This is an easy thing to do to help out our school! Simply clip the Box Tops cleanly along the dotted lines, being careful not to cut off the expiration date, and turn them in to your child's teacher or to the office. We ask that you double check the expiration date on the box tops prior to sending them in. Unfortunately, they do not accept any that have expired.

GO TO WWW.BOXTOPS4EDUCATION.COM FOR A FULL LIST OF PARTICIPATING PRODUCTS.

DID YOU KNOW THAT 10 TOPS = \$1.00 FOR OUR SCHOOL?

Attend Today...Achieve Tomorrow



Welcome Back!

WCS team members are looking forward to partnering with you for a great 2019-20 school year! You'll notice an increased emphasis on student attendance in accordance with new state guidelines, so please reinforce from home the importance of your student being present and ready to learn each day. Encouraging regular **school attendance** is one of the most powerful ways you can prepare your child for success—both in school and in life. When you make school attendance a priority, you help your child get better grades, develop healthy life habits, avoid dangerous behaviors and have a better chance of graduating from high school.

Progressive Truancy Intervention Plan

“Check & Connect”

All students must follow the new state law, which requires school personnel to intervene with services for students who accrue 5 or more unexcused absences during the school year. A student's **first eight absences can be excused with a note from a parent**, but a **doctor's note must be submitted after eight absences**.

Tier One (5+ Unexcused Absences)

*Schools will **check** attendance and **connect** students and families with school team members to create and attendance contract and monitor progress.

Tier Two (Continued Accumulation of Unexcused Absences)

*A school-based Truancy Tam member will **check** student needs via an individualized assessment and will **connect** families with the district Truancy Interventionist, who will determine appropriate next steps and coordinate wraparound services to support attendance.

Tier Three (Con't Accumulation of Unexcused Absences/Non-compliance with Tier 2 Mandates)

*A school-based Truancy Team will **check** student progress and determine appropriate next steps, which could include filing a petition with juvenile court if previous **connections** have failed.

Every Minute Matters

- ❖ Research shows that POOR ATTENDANCE is directly linked to REDUCED ACADEMIC OUTCOMES for students.
- ❖ All types of absences – excused, unexcused and suspensions – mean time away from learning.
- ❖ Studies show that even just two to three nonconsecutive absences per month can lead to academic failure if they continue throughout the year.



If you would like additional information or support regarding any attendance matter, please contact Angie Prosis, WCS Truancy Interventionist, by phone at 615-472-2470 Ext. 12352 or via email at angiep@wcs.edu.



Williamson County Schools

COLLEGE *Night*

What: College Fair

Who: All students, 9–12

When: Tuesday, September 10
6:00–8:00 pm

Where: Williamson County Ag
Center, 4215 Long Lane