

Central Junior High School



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Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to the 2009-2010 school year and the family that is Central Junior High School. It is our goal at CJHS to ensure that your student has an academically intensive educational experience while having the opportunity to join sports teams, clubs, organizations, and volunteer to do community service work. We believe that the most important job we have is providing your student with an excellent education that will build on prior knowledge and lead them to advanced studies as they make their way to Central High School.

Back to School Night

Back to School Night is scheduled for August 18, 2008 beginning at 6:00p.m and ending at approximately 8:30p.m. We will have a very brief welcome ceremony in the auditorium before releasing you to your classes. You will be going through your child's schedule on this night and will have the opportunity to see the classrooms and meet the teachers. While this is not a time for parent/teacher conferences, we do encourage you to put a face with the names and get a feel for the classes your student will be attending.

Breakfast/Lunch

We will be offering breakfast to all of our students again this year. Every student will have the opportunity to receive a nutritious breakfast each morning. Students who qualify for Free or Reduced Lunches will eat at no charge. All other students will be charged \$.75 for breakfast. Lunch prices are .40 for reduced students and \$1.75 for students who pay full price.

Bus Information

First Student continues to serve the Cape Girardeau Public Schools as the contracted bus company. Please watch the local newspaper for bus routes and more information.

Character Counts at CJHS

This year we will continue our focus on the Change of Heart program. This program is a proactive approach to helping students overcome difficult situations including bullying. We are also pleased to report that all teaching staff will have participated in the first part of training for "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People". We hope to be fully trained in the 7 Habits by the end of September! It is our desire to use these habits in our teaching and to instill them by example into our students. We hope the valuable skills learned and demonstrated will be contagious and will spread to our students. Don't be surprised if your child talks about "win-win situations", "sharpening the saw", or "seeking first to understand".

Cell Phone and Electronic Devices (Technology)

In this mailing, you will receive a copy of our new Technology User Agreement Form. **Please make sure you read the agreement form, sign it and return it to the junior high school office.** We must have this form on file in our office before we can allow your student access to any district technology. **Central Junior High School will be implementing a new practice regarding the possession and use of cell phones at school.** This is a significant change from previous practice but we feel it is necessary to implement this change at this time. We will be implementing this procedure effective the first day of school.

Communication

Communication is the KEY to ensuring that your student's education is on track and progressing. Please make sure we have your current contact information. We need home, work and any cell phone numbers as well as current address information. If you have access to a computer, signing up for **ParentLink** is the best way to stay on top of your student's grades and attendance. You may sign up for ParentLink at orientation or after school begins by contacting Mrs. Barnes in the main office. ***If you are already signed up, there is no need to sign up again unless your information has changed.*** You may also reach us by phone, email, letter or in person.

Community Partners

Montgomery Bank and Bob Evans Restaurant are our Cape Area Chamber of Commerce Partners in Education. We are very excited about having them as our partners and we look forward to working with them to improve the quality of the education we provide.

Dress Code

As you are starting your back-to-school shopping please be aware of the following:

- Girls should wear tops that cover their stomachs entirely and that do not have spaghetti straps.
- Shirts must be longer than the waist of the pants and should tuck in upon request.
- Shirts and shorts must be of an appropriate length.
- Lace-up pants are not allowed.
- Boys should wear pants at their waists. Sagging will not be allowed.
- T-Shirts should be worn under any tank-type shirt that has low-cut arms.
- Only natural hair colors and weaves are allowed.
- Piercing of the ears is the only piercing allowed.
- A more detailed dress code is available in the student handbook.

Enrollment Data Verification Form

Enclosed you'll find an Enrollment Data Verification Form with your student's name on it. Please check over the information on this sheet and correct any errors on the form. You may return the form during Orientation, the first week of school or at Back-to-School night. This

information is extremely important as it gives us the ability to get in contact with you efficiently and effectively. As well, please notify us if you move, change phone numbers, change jobs, or change email addresses during the school year.

First Day of School

The first official day of school is August 13th. Our school day begins at 7:40a.m. and ends at 2:35p.m. Students will be allowed in the building at 7:00a.m. and will report to the old gymnasium if they are in the 7th grade and to the Tiger Field House if they are in 8th grade.

Orientation

Orientation is scheduled for August 6th for 7th grade students and August 7th for 8th grade students. Students should plan to spend 1 – 1 ½ hours at school that day. You are welcome to come any time between 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. Upon entering the building, please go directly to the cafeteria to receive your student's schedule, purchase a yearbook, speak with PTO representatives, check with the nurse on immunization requirements, have school pictures made, update contact information, and have a school ID made.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

This year we are holding our parent/teacher conferences on October 1 and 6 from 4:00p.m. to 7:30p.m.

Pictures

Student pictures will be taken this year by Cheekwood Studios at Orientation on August 6th and 7th. Prices for picture packages will begin at \$6.00. Please see the enclosed envelope/order form for more details. Please bring your completed order envelope and payment to orientation. Retakes will be taken on Thursday, September 24, 2009.

PTO

CJHS has a wonderful PTO program that supports the educational mission of the district and the building. PTO is a great opportunity for you to continue your involvement in your child's education. They will have a table set up at Orientation and at the Back-to-School night activities. Please consider participating in this fine organization.

Testing

As you know by now, we participate in the MAP test each spring. This school year, all 7th and 8th grade students will be tested in the areas of Communication Arts and Mathematics. Our 8th grade students will also participate in the Science test and any 8th grade student taking Academic Algebra will be required to take the state-mandated "End of Course Exam". Those tests will take place in March, April, and May of 2009.

Additional Materials In This Mailing

You will notice that there are additional pieces in this mailing. Please make sure that you review each piece and return any that you need to. In this mailing you should find:

- Student Insurance Letter and accompanying form (**please return form to office**)
- District Calendar
- Application for Kids, Pregnant Women, and Parents for MO HealthNet
- Free/Reduced Lunch Application Form (**please return form to office**)
- Cheekwood Studio Picture Day Envelope/Order Form (**bring to Orientation**)

Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to educate your child. Please do not hesitate to contact us with questions. We look forward to partnering with you in the education of your student.

Sincerely,

Roy Merideth, Principal

Alan Bruns, Assistant Principal