

Vol. 14
5.8.20

The Eagle Eye

**Teacher/Staff/
Volunteer
Appreciation
Edition!**

Sebastian Middle School

Build your Mind, Explore your World, Create your Future

Principal's Message

Dear Eagle Families,

As we wrap up Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week, I have certainly missed thanking and celebrating each member of our Eagle Family in person. However, thanks to our creative and generous SMS PTO, we have all felt the love from our parents and students. From yard signs to a take-out meal from The Press Restaurant to emails of thanks, we have been recognized and spoiled this week as much as ever. Teachers also received insulated lunchboxes to be used for grocery shopping or for when we return to school!

As we approach the end of the school year, I have two important announcements to share with you:

ASSIGNMENTS

Normally, our last seven days of school focus on testing. This year there are no tests, but we want to give students time to complete any make-up work, for our teachers to help any students who are struggling, and for grades to be finalized. Therefore, we will utilize the following schedule:

- **May 11-15 – Last week for new assignments to be given**
- **May 18-22 – Optional Digital Citizenship classes and make-up work**

MATERIALS RETURN

Families are asked to return all school property to SMS on their designated day, as noted in the column to the right. Families will stay in their cars in the front loop of the school to return materials and pick up yearbooks.

As always, stay home, stay safe, and stay well!

With much appreciation for your support,

Kirstie Gabaldon, Principal

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Kirstie Gabaldon, Principal
Angela Hensley, Asst. Principal

Matt Hodges, Instructional Literacy Coach
Kevin Hayes, Dean of Students

Darren Tagliarini, Guidance Grade 6 / 7 A-L
Leanne Fortune, Guidance Grade 8 / 7 M-Z

STUDENT MATERIALS RETURN AND YEARBOOK DISTRIBUTION

Families are asked to drop off materials including laptops, hotspots, textbooks, media center books, instruments, and any other school property in the front loop according to the schedule below. Students do not need to return consumables. Students who pre-ordered a yearbook will also be able to pick it up on their designated date below. Families may stop by the school anytime on their assigned day between **8:00am-2:00pm**. When you arrive at school, **PLEASE STAY IN YOUR CAR**.

- **Wednesday, May 20: 8th grade**
- **Thursday, May 21: 7th grade**
- **Friday, May 22: 6th grade**
- **Wednesday, May 27: Make up day!** Last chance for all students to return materials and pick up yearbooks!

If you have two children in different grades, you may return materials and pick up yearbooks for both of your students on the day of your choice. You do not need to come twice.

If your student did not pre-order a yearbook and would still like to purchase one, a limited number will be available for purchase at a cost of \$35, cash or checks payable to "SMS." Thank you!



ATTENTION EIGHTH GRADERS!

Your final weeks of being an Eagle at Sebastian Middle School are here! Although we will miss being together in person for a ceremony, stay tuned for a special celebration video featuring all our eighth graders, and a surprise when you return your materials to school!

Benjamin Arnow, 8th grade, and his mom Amy want to show our appreciation to all of his teachers for being helpful all of this school year and keeping in touch this last quarter. When asked, "What do you miss most about school, not being physically there?" Benjamin's reply, "My teachers teaching in front of me!" Have a great summer!

"Shout out to Ms. Bradshaw, Mr. Layman and Ms. Moody!! We miss you all so much!!! We are enjoying our weekly school video chats."
Kyle Mitrosky, 7th grade

"Ms. Harvey is the best teacher because she always makes sure I'm OK when I don't turn in my work, and she helps me with problems. She makes me feel very comfortable and I feel like I can talk to her about anything."

Janie Stevenson, 7th grade

To Mr. Dunn!!!
Anonymous

"Thank you to my Teachers and Para's! Big shout out to Mr. Barber! We're sad to see you go, and you will be missed, but rock on in your retirement!"
Alfie Rosario, 6th grade

"Big thank you to Mrs. Brewster, Mrs. Bradshaw and Mr. Barber! I'm off to high school next year, you all will be missed so much."

James Pack, 8th grade

"Virtual school is ok, but I really miss seeing my friends AND my favorite teachers...shout outs to Ms. Johns, Mr. Rogers, Ms. Reese, Ms. Hagy, Mr. Raimann, Ms. Dempsey, Coach Lightsey, and Ms. Lydigsen!"

Alex Johnson, 8th grade

"Special Thanks to Ms. Link for being an awesome teacher!!"

Mason Taylor, 7th Grade

"Cole and his friends miss Mr. Dunn's drawings and stories about world history. Shout out to Ms. Giacosa for inspiring creativity with enrichment poetry writing!"

Deanna Leschinski, Parent

"Big shout out to Mrs. Hartley for all her help! My son is super shy and she motivates him to do his work, helping a lot with his confidence. Also, Mrs. Fortune is the best counselor we've ever had!"
Maribell Salazar, Parent of Ian Hernandez, 8th grade

"My shout out to my favorite teacher goes to Mrs. DeCastro! She is an actual Spanish (speaking) teacher and has stayed with us to give us the best learning experience. She's funny, kind-hearted, and one of the best teachers at Sebastian Middle School!"
Kuturra Hayes, 6th grade

"Ms. Johnson has made history super interesting this year, even when we went to online school!"

Anonymous

"My Shout Outs Are..."

-To Mr. Gray for always being helpful and kind.

-To Coach Lightsey for being an amazing volleyball coach and PE teacher.

-To Mrs. King because she lets me stay after school and sew with her, and for being so patient with her big group of students.

-To Ms. Mathis for always staying positive and kind with her students and always helping her students with work.

-To Ms. Johns for being nice.

-To Mr. Dunn for being kind and funny.

-And finally, a huge shout out to Mrs. Lavallee for always doing as much as she can to help her students like staying after school some days for FREE tutoring and doing learning lunch almost everyday. Thank you all!"

Sophia Tagliarini, 6th grade

Dear Ms. Ducote, I'm so glad to have you as a teacher. You are such an amazing person and seriously the best teacher in the whole universe. I'm glad you were there for me through the years. I don't know what I would do without you or your help! Thank you so much. I love you Ms Ducote and I appreciate how sweet and kind and calm you are. I don't know how to explain how much you mean to me or to thank you for helping me. I'm really gonna miss you next year!!

Grace Gardner, 8th grade~❤️👩🏫



The SMS PTO publicly shared their appreciation for our teachers and staff this week by placing new cup art in the fence along Lewis Speedway! In addition, they purchased yard signs to recognize teachers and staff in their homes, and treated everyone to a take-out meal with a \$20 gift certificate to The Press Restaurant. Thanks to the generosity of SMS parents, the PTO is thrilled to report they raised over \$1,000 to offset the costs of these efforts. We have such a wonderful Eagle Family!



Shout Outs from Cali Witt, 7th Grade, to...

- Mrs. DeCastro for making class fun by playing Bingo (in Spanish) on video conferences. My parents did not believe I was actually "in class."
- Ms. Harvey for spending lots of time trying to figure out why I could not open Microsoft Word. Who knew it was a Chrome thing?
- Ms. Lydigsen for continuously staying in touch and checking up on me.
- Mrs. Henry for helping me with math, explaining it out so well.
- Mr. Raimann for making STEAM so fun and my favorite class.
- Mr. Gray for being a fun teacher and helping me troubleshoot software issues for another class. It is a Chrome thing...
- Coach Whittaker for keeping us active in P.E. by asking us to count the number of steps it takes to walk around my house. I stepped on a snake!

Shout Out to Mrs. Hagy



I miss my Art Teacher!!
Abby
Akam,
8th gr.

"Thank you to everyone at SMS for being an amazing team of HUMANS. Your love for the children means the world. "

~Anonymous SMS Teacher

Click [HERE](#) for a Video Shout Out to Mrs. Hagy and Mr. Tagliarini from Mrs. King!

From the Desk of Ms. Ludwick...

I'd like to send a shout out to **Mr. Gray** and **Ms. Cullar**, who are the best 7th grade ELA team ever. Their emotional intelligence and genuine passion for the profession makes working with them almost too easy. We come together to support one another, in times of crisis as well as in times of calm. This year has been made exponentially better by the team I am so proud to call myself a part of. They are nothing short of fantastic, industrious, exceptional in their knowledge and application of it, and it is an honor to work alongside and collaborate with them.

I'd also be remiss to pass on taking the chance to praise **Ms. Manning**, a steadfast and overwhelmingly compassionate woman who has taught me more about teaching than some of my college classes. It has been a privilege to have her in my classroom. Her work with the kids who struggle the most is beyond compare; her warm loving heart is one that you just can't forget. She makes you family: she insists upon it in the most open-hearted way anyone ever could. Thank you for being my support this year.

To **Heather Dempsey**, the best Media Center para, for adapting to these times and continuing to nurture the love of reading through the online book club and our SSYRA program. Also, she has honed her technical skills to be an integral administrator of our Schoology group. She is amazing!

~Mrs. Barnard

NJHS Shout Outs to all who helped during the 2019-20 school year!

Thank you to **Mrs. Flaherty** for helping us with fundraisers and our Saturday beach cleanup. Thank you to **Mrs. Hoffman**, and **Ms. Harvey** for helping us with our Induction ceremony and Saturday beach cleanup. Thank you to **Mrs. Blanco** for helping us with Induction ceremonies and pizza parties, and other social events. Thank you to **Mrs. Gabaldon**, **Mrs. Hensley**, and **Mr. Hodges** for being guest speakers at the Induction ceremonies. Thank you to **Mrs. Gardner** for letting us come to her farm, groom and ride her horses as part of our community service. Thank you to **Ms. Ludwig** for helping Ms. Reese get photos into the yearbook. Thank you to **Ms. Connor** for getting information into the newsletter for us. Thank you to **all the parents** who helped with rides home after school, often for many NJHS members at once. Without the help of each and every one of you, this year would not have been as successful as it was. Have a great summer.

Debbie Hagenbuch-Reese, NJHS Advisor

Jr. Thespian Volunteers Rock!

JoEllen Parkey – There is no way I would have been able to do half of what I did for Drama Club without you! You were an idea person, sounding board, and encourager. Thank you!

Melissa Stokke – Agreeing to go on a weekend trip with middle school children is no small feat! Thank you!

~Mrs. Trosclair

To **Linda Marimpietri**, thank you for always being there for me and the students. You have made my transition into the school easy. The love and care you have for the kids and me, is greatly appreciated by all. ~Mrs. DeAcutis

I would like to thank **Christie Solana** for all the help submitting paperwork & ordering supplies. She is always calm, helpful and kind. She is a Super Woman!

~Mrs. Hagy

I would like to recognize **Ms. Paulette Brown**. While it's her job to come into my class, she has also become a friend and I love seeing her at the end of the school day. She is always smiling, and, invariably, I smile, too. We both have young boys in our lives and it is nice to talk about them and the prospect of getting them together. ~Mrs. DeCastro

To **Mrs. Barnard** and **Coach Razey** who made my year as Teacher of the Year special every day! Thank you! ~Mr. T (for Tagliarini)