

STRICKLAND

Chester O. Strickland Middle School



Volume 1, Issue 1

NEWSLETTER

September, 2011

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE



Welcome Strickland Vikings and Viking Families!

The 2011-2012 school year is off to a great start! Our Strickland staff is happy to welcome close to 900 new and returning students. I know many students attended the Howdy Party and had some fun at the end of the first week.

Most families were in attendance at open house on August 30, met their student's teachers, and saw their classrooms.

If you were not able to attend, you should check out the team and teacher websites where you will find helpful information about courses and assignments. Our staff works together to help students to reach their maximum potential and to assist the students in achieving their academic and extra-curricular goals.

One way to stay informed about your student's progress in class is through Parent Connection. There is a link to Parent Connection on the left side of the Strickland Webpage. You will find a calendar on the right side of the Strickland

Webpage with important upcoming dates.

We also try to use the marquee out front and phone messages to help keep parents informed. At SMS, the level of communication between the staff, parents and administration helps insure that decisions are based on what is best for our students.

At Strickland, our students are involved in a tremendous variety of extra-curricular activities. Most of them (93%) are involved in fine arts. Many are involved in athletics. Others are in student council or other service oriented organizations. Encourage your student to join an organization or activity! Our games and performances are always very well-attended, fun and exciting. Involved students are happy students! I hope to see you soon!

Kathleen Carmona

SPECIAL DATES

Sept 13 – Picture Day
Sept 14 – Rachel's Challenge
Oct 10 – No School
Oct 20 – Fall Concert
Oct 14 - Viking Day
Nov. 23-26 Thanksgiving Holidays
Dec 19-Jan 3 Winter Break



Our campus is once again collecting Box Top For Education. Please help us by sending yours in!

Shop at Kroger and Raise Money for Strickland

Shop at Kroger? You can raise money for Strickland Middle School and PTA by using your Kroger Plus Card. It is easy! Just take this barcode with you on your next visit, scan your plus card, scan the barcode, and you are done. You must re-enroll each school year to be active. Thank you for your participation!

STRICKLAND PTA



Welcome to another exciting year at Strickland Middle School. A big THANK YOU to all the PTA volunteers who work hard and give generously of their resources of time and talent to SMS. We all do this for the most important people

at SMS - the students. If you are not involved in PTA, I encourage you to consider joining us. It is a wonderful way to meet other parents. There are many opportunities to get involved. If you want to be involved in the PTA activities at SMS, please let us know. We would love to meet you!

Thank you to Mrs. Carmona and the administration/faculty of SMS for supporting.

students and PTA. I particularly appreciate Mrs Carmona's advice and counsel. VIKING DAY is scheduled for October 14, and there will be S.T.A.R. stores scheduled throughout the year. Encourage your student to study hard and be a STAR (Students Toward Academic Recognition).

If you have questions about PTA, please contact me. If you e-mail me, please put SMS in the Subject line.

Patrice Frisby
President
Strickland Middle School PTA
musical79@hotmail.com



The SMS counselors will welcome new students with a monthly breakfast. This time will allow students new to SMS an opportunity to ask questions, meet other new students, and mingle with veteran Vikings and teachers. Welcome!

Parent Connection and GradeSpeed

Gradespeed, an online gradebook application used by DISD, gives parents access to their child's assignments, attendance and grades via the internet. You may register for this valuable service from the DISD website.
www.dentonisd.org

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

SMS Counselors Implement the Four Components of a Developmental School Guidance and Counseling Program as designated by the State of Texas.

Guidance Curriculum

*Classroom guidance in all grade levels to include positive school behaviors, course registration for the upcoming year, postsecondary education opportunities including financial aid, child abuse prevention, bully prevention, relationship violence, suicide prevention, and drug and alcohol prevention

*Friends of Rachel Program (planning and weekly meetings)

Responsive Services

*Counselors address student concerns discussed in team meetings.

*Counseling focus groups for each grade level.

*Untoward assessments as needed.

*Hall monitoring at end of day to prevent conflict.

* Group/individual counseling for students geared toward individual

*Visits to Davis school to meet with SMS students.

*Individual Planning

*Counselors meet with students and parents as needed to plan course selection and future goals.

*Counselors schedule new students and give an orientation to SMS.

System Support

*Regular meetings with administrators.

*Weekly team meetings.

*Regular SMS Counseling department meetings.

* SMS staff meetings.

*Teacher and principal consultation as needed.

*Periodic attendance at ARD meetings as needed.

*RTI/504 Committee members

SMS Counselors are: Dianne Baskin (6th and 7th A-K), Diane Smith (8th and 7th L-Z) and Heather Williams (Student Assistance Counselor)

VIKING DAY

VIKING DAY IS COMING ON OCT 14!



Join us for a fun-filled afternoon at SMS. There will be food and games fit for a VIKING! Avoid the long lines by purchasing your punch cards Wednesday or Thursday that week during lunch in the cafeteria. Punch cards will also be sold outside during Viking Day.

Parents: Please consider volunteering to make this event successful and enjoyable for your student. We are in need of volunteers to help with food stations and ticket sales. We are also in need of awnings and fathers to help with grilling. Please contact Joyce Renteria at 940.387.8075 or at ren6chr2@verizon.net to help.

YOUR STUDENT CAN BE A STAR!

Attention All Strickland Vikings: This year, YOU can be a STAR!

So, just what is a STAR?

STAR is a recognition program sponsored by the SMS PTA.

STAR stands for "Students Toward Academic Recognition".


By earning A's and B's and no behavior detentions, students will receive a STAR card shortly after the end of each six-weeks. With this card, students can visit the STAR Store at the end of each six-weeks, where they can spend their "money" on snacks and seasonal items!

The STAR Store may be during lunch this year or even after school, so be watching for the dates and times to be posted.

In addition to visiting the STAR Store, students earn a free homework pass, free admission to a SMS athletics event, and a chance to enter into a drawing for a free movie ticket at the end of the semester! Also, students earning a STAR card every six-weeks during the upcoming school year will be honored at the end of the year with a free picnic lunch. So start planning today to qualify for the STAR program-you too can be a STAR!

PTA REFLECTIONS:

Express



YOUR ARTISTIC TALENTS!

DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY

MUSICAL COMPOSITION

PHOTOGRAPHY

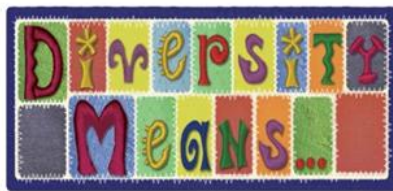
VISUAL ARTS

FILM PRODUCTION

LITERATURE

REFLECT ON THE THEME. CREATE AN ORIGINAL WORK. BE RECOGNIZED.

2011-2012 Theme:



This year's National PTA arts and education contest theme is Diversity Means..." and is open to ALL Strickland students!

- Awards will be presented in each category in every grade level
- Deadline is November 8
- Entry forms can be picked up at the office or online at: www.txpta.org/programs/reflections

If you have questions, please contact Cristy Lindsey at 940-387-7671 or cristylindsey@hotmail.com



YEARBOOK ORDER FORM - STRICKLAND MIDDLE SCHOOL - \$30

RETURN TO FRONT OFFICE OR ROOM 169 WITH YOUR PAYMENT!

You may also order your Yearbook online at:

<http://www.dentonisd.org/stricklandms/site/default.asp>

Student's Full Name: _____ Grade: _____

Order your YEARBOOK now and enjoy a lifetime of memories!

ITEM	QTY	PRICE	TOTAL
Yearbook		\$30.00 EACH	
1 Line of Personalization		\$6.00	
2 Lines of Personalization		\$8.00	
Icons (1-4) *1 line of personalization must be purchased		\$3.00 EACH	

You can personalize your yearbook with your name or a special phrase or saying, and up to four icons. These will be engraved on your yearbook!

Enter personalization below. (at least one line of personalization must be purchased to order an icon)

TOTAL DUE: \$.

TOTAL PAID: \$.

Line 1

Line 2

Icon Code

Personalization Icons

ICON CODE	ICON CODE	ICON CODE	ICON CODE	ICON CODE	ICON CODE	ICON CODE
5236 Graduation	5239 Choir	9004 Football	5979 Skate	5258 Swim	5247 Wolf	5257 Cross
5569 Senior	5019 Music	5005 Golf	5980 Color Guard	5241 Lacrosse	5248 Dolphin	5012 Peace
5670 Junior	9050 Guitar	9006 Soccer	5981 Motocross	5360 Field Hockey	9073 Ram	5366 Maple Ln
5771 Sophomore	5015 Drama	5008 Tennis	5983 Surf	5242 Equestrian	9074 Lion	5367 Flag
5872 Freshman	5240 Painter	5009 Track	9001 Weightlifter	5361 Skateboard	9078 Bull	5253 Butterfly
5973 8th Grade	5022 Journalism	5010 Volleyball	9007 Danceline	5246 Skateboard	9042 Dragon	5018 Hearts
5974 7th Grade	5982 Photography	5130 Wrestling	9025 Bowling	5362 Martial Arts	9051 Deer/Elk	5021 Smile
5975 6th Grade	5001 Baseball/Softball	5976 Crew	9006 Gymnast	5363 Bulldog	5023 Yin Yang	9028 Clover Ln
5011 Academics	5002 Basketball	5977 Dive	5013 Dance	5364 Pawprint	5255 Star & Crescent	9036 Rose
5238 Band	5003 Chess	5978 Fence	5014 Hockey	5365 Eagle	5256 Star of Life	9037 Palm Tree

CHOIR UPDATE

School has "officially" started and as usual, we are off with a sprint here in the Choir Department! Below are some upcoming dates to be aware of as you get back in the swing of things for the new school year.

September-

16th - All FEES for uniforms/t-shirts and Hand Book/Travel Forms are due today. Please read your handbooks or look online for uniform information.

23rd - 1st payment for 7th and 8th grade choir students who are going to San Antonio. \$50 is due this day.

30th - Pansy sale starts!

October-

13 - Choir Pictures & Pansy pick-up day. We will need parent help with this, please let us know if you can assist

20th - Choir FALL CONCERT - 6th grade will start at 7pm and 7th/8th grade will start at 7:45.

LIBRARY NEWS

Hello! I am Rhonda Thomas, Librarian here at Strickland. I am excited to be back for my fourth year here at SMS. Mrs. Gloria Smith is our library paraprofessional. This is Mrs. Smith's 13th year at Strickland. The Strickland Middle School Library is up and running.

The art teachers, Mrs. Fitzsimmons and Mrs. Arzate and their 8th grade art students painted murals in the library the last weeks of school last year. Thank you Art Department. J. Thomas Custom Homes, (940) 383-0853, painted the brown walls last summer and the new teal accent walls this summer. Roy Greenhaw, owner of American Trim and Glass, (940)383-8872, reupholstered the old library furniture from before the renovation that we found in the old boiler room. Both companies did so free of charge as a service to Strickland. We appreciate their support and hope that you will patronize their businesses. We just completed our displays and have some new books in and ready for students to check out.

We started with library orientation the second week of school, Aug. 29 Sept. 2 and our reading classes and EXPO will be coming in every other week to check out books, have lessons covering the information literacy TEKS objectives and book talks. Other classes will be coming in for various projects and research.

Following, you will find some general news about the library. This information can also be found on the Library Website.

Hours: Open 7:45 AM

Welcome before school to read, study, research, do homework (with a library pass only) Talk with friends?? - Stay outside
Close 4:00 PM

Circulation:

4 books, 2 weeks
Renew one time
New magazines overnight only.

Fines: No Fines this year. Lost Items-the cost of the item

Resources:

Five New Online Public Access Catalogue computers.
Eight Internet access computers in the library proper.
Access to over 20 online databases, available on home access as well as at school.
Internet Research Lab that can be scheduled for classes.
Multimedia Equipment
18,000 + print materials
Over 20 different magazines for one day checkout
Large Reference Section
New E-Books in the Fiction section and for Reference all available online through the Library Website

Reminders:

Students need a pass in their agenda when coming to the library from class, and they have to have their ID to check out books or use the computers.

Go the following link to get to the Library Website for cool links and research tools:

<http://www.dentonisd.org/5124281193720/site/default.asp>

Click on Online Resources to get to the Online Magazines, Newspapers, Databases, Search Engines and Non-Fiction E-Books. Click on Reading Tools to get to the other cool Fiction E-Books. Click on Follet E-Books for the new ones.

If you would like to come visit our library, you are welcome any time. We also need volunteers all year long. If you would like to help, just give me a call at (940)369-4236 or e-mail me at rthomas3@dentonisd.org. Our first Scholastic Book Fair will be at the second week of December. We will need volunteers for that as well and will have more details later.

STRICKLAND PTA

JOIN TODAY AND MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

SMS PTA offers MANY volunteer opportunities to choose including:

- ✓ Viking Day
- ✓ Book Fair
- ✓ S.T.A.R Programs
- ✓ Registration
- ✓ Environment
- ✓ Parent Programs
- ✓ Arts in Education
- ✓ Memberships

If you are interested in joining the Strickland PTA, please contact Chandra Fuentes at chandrafue@verizon.net. The price is \$6.00. If you have questions or suggestions, please feel free to contact the PTA president, Patrice Frisby at musical79@hotmail.com

Congratulations to Margaret Hill for winning the PTA Membership prize of \$50 to the Movie Tavern!

**Strickland Middle School
Denton Area PTA Council
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Denton TX 76201-3037**

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ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE PAID
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Permit No.
00434

Current Resident or:

2011 FALL ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

FOOTBALL

BOYS 7TH GRADE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Sept 12	Harpool	CH Collins
Sept 19	Calhoun	CH Collins
Sept 26	McMath	DHS
Oct 3	Lake Dallas	CH Collins
Oct 11	Crownover	Guyer
Oct 17	Navo	CH Collins
Oct 24	Little Elm	Little Elm
Oct 31	TBD	TBD

BOYS 8TH GRADE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Sept 13	Harpool	CH Collins
Sept 20	Calhoun	CH Collins
Sept 27	McMath	DHS
Oct 4	Lake Dallas	CH Collins
Oct 12	Crownover	Guyer
Oct 18	Navo	CH Collins
Oct 25	Little Elm	Little Elm
Nov 1	TBD	TBD

VOLLEYBALL

GIRLS 7TH & 8th GRADE

DATE	OPPONENT	LOCATION
Sept 1	Harpool	SMS
Sept 8	McMath	McMath
Sept 15	Lake Dallas	SMS
Sept 22	Crownover	Crownover
Sept 24	TBD	DHS Tourn
Sept 29	Navo	Navo
Oct 6	Little Elm	SMS
Oct 13	Calhoun	Calhoun
Oct 19	TBD	TBD
Oct 27	TBD	TBD

