

South Fayette Middle School

Parent Advisory Council Meeting

May 1, 2024



Mission Statement

In partnership with the community, the mission of the South Fayette Township School District, a leader in innovation, is to elevate academic, artistic, and athletic excellence of the whole learner by inspiring the strength to be dynamic, ethical, and empathetic citizens who flourish in a global society.



Schedules for 2024-25 School Year

- ★ Student schedules for the 2024-25 school year will be available no later than the first week in August.
- ★ A message from the Middle School Office will be sent when schedules are ready to be viewed in PowerSchool.
 - Until the email from the MS Office is received, schedules are NOT finalized
- ★ Due to the large number of students and the logistics of scheduling, we cannot honor specific teacher/team requests.



6th Grade Parent and Student Orientation

Save the Date!

**August 13, 2024
6:00 pm**

New format this Year

Promoting Happiness & Success in Middle School



Teaming

- ★ Creates an individualized academic environment for students
- ★ Enables teachers to share best practices for curriculum, instruction, assessment, and for individual students
- ★ Fosters collaboration and communication for students
- ★ Broadens friend groups and social interactions
- ★ Offers team meeting times for parents/families
- ★ Creates an identity for students and provides a sense of belonging



Lunch

- ★ During the first week of school, students will have the opportunity to choose their own table/seat--teachers will assist in the process
- ★ Seating charts are created based on the student table selection.
- ★ Student numbers transfer from IS to MS



Support Systems at School

School Counselors:

Justina Perrott–A-G

Taylor Hental–H-O

Mike Perrott–P-Z

Social Worker

Tanner Jones

School Nurse

Misty Menarcheck



Structure and Organization

- ★ Use a planner, agenda, or calendar to track assignments, projects, and assessments.
- ★ Plan ahead by balancing extracurricular participation with school work.
- ★ Use Powerschool to monitor your child's progress
 - Recommendation: review weekly, with your child present, as part of the homework routine
 - Reactive check of assignment completion



Structure and Organization

- ★ Develop a set time and place for homework and studying to keep your child prepared and organized
- ★ Homework can be written assignments, reviewing learned material, or independent reading
- ★ Check Canvas daily for assignments, videos, daily information, and class resources
 - Proactive approach to assignment completion



Friendships & School Connections

- ★ Friendships often change during the middle school years.
- ★ Help your child identify his or her passions and interests.
- ★ Encourage participation in various clubs, sports, arts, music, and activities.
- ★ Participation in school sponsored activities can be a great way to broaden peer relationships and provide support network through the middle school years.



Friendships & School Connections

- ★ **Research shows:**
 - **Students are more likely to succeed when they feel connected to school**
 - **Young people who feel connected to school are less likely to engage in risky behaviors**
 - **Increased connection to school promotes motivation, engagement, emotional well-being, and academic performance**



Extra-Curricular Clubs and Activities

- ★ Clubs and activities assembly at the start of the year
- ★ Activity bus available at 4:30PM Monday-Thursday



Responsibility

- ★ Students learn responsibility from their actions and consequences only when they take accountability.
- ★ It is best to avoid making excuses or trying to fix problems for our children.
- ★ Some of life's greatest lessons come from making mistakes and facing adversity.



Support Systems at School

AHN Chill Project:

Mike Ghilani–AHN Supervisor of Behavioral Health

Kristy Frohlinger–Chill Room Educator

Megan Tierney–School Based Mental Health Therapist

Two Components of the AHN Chill Project:

Therapy and Chill Room



What is the AHN Chill Project Chill Room?

Provides a mindfulness training to help students reduce anxiety, achieve greater academic success, and encourage better decision making.

GOALS:

Relax–unwind, calm down

Reset- by learning coping strategies

Return- back to the classroom in 15-20 minutes



Looking forward to a great year!



Thank you!

Questions??