

January 8, 2019

PFA Meeting Minutes:

Bridgette Nolan – Student Representative Mrs. Fallon - Teacher Representative:

- Scheduling for the 2019/2020 school year is underway
- Winter sports are in full swing basketball, wrestling, track and swim
- Registration is opening for Advance Placement
- Middletown South Key Club raised \$1000 with their pie sale which was donated
- Girls Swim team won the Monmouth County Title

Mrs. Fallon – Teacher Representative

- Second market period quarterly's will be starting two weeks from today
- Math will be cumulative
- The format this year will be different then in previous years there will be longer period for exams

Mr. Kirkpatrick - Principal

- Teacher of the year this year is Joanne Dagn.
- Education service professional award was won this year by South Stacey White or athletic trainer who has been at South for 27 years.
- Support staff of the year nomination form are due February 8. Directions and form are online.
- Staffing changes – Mrs. Shih our math teacher went out earlier than anticipated on maternity leave. Her replacement is Margaret O'Connor. Mrs Padula retired she was an English teacher came from North and her replacement is Ashley Giane? Mrs. Smith another math teacher is out on maternity leave on bed rest. Her replacement is Christina Batella.
- District is having a meeting in regard to advanced placement at High School North at 6:30 pm on 1/14
- Mid-South skyped with the woman who started the kindness rocks. The program will start at south and there will be school wide inspirational initiative.

Parc & Sat Scores – Mr. Kirkpatrick & Mrs. Fallon

- New Jersey expectations are higher at meeting the mark.
- Children should have a 4 or 5 to meeting or exceeding expectations.
- Reading for 9th grade was slightly down from the previous year, 10th & 11 grades were slightly higher.
- Math for Algebra 1 & Geometry grades were slightly higher from the previous year, & Algebra 2 grades were slightly lower.
- December 31, 2018 it was decided that parcc testing will not be needed. However, there is little information that has been decided on the NJ learning assessment.

- Scheduling has started, we are getting bigger there will be about 50-60 students more students in the incoming year. It is very important that student choose electives and know what they want so guidance can help create their schedules. Some classes will not run if there is too small of interest in a class. They are brainstorming on different ways to possibly combine classes with lesser interest with North.
- If you would like to have input in your child's schedule you can reach out to their guidance counselor and meeting with or without your child.

SAT vs ACT – Mr. Kerrigan

- A comparison was given between the two exams
- Each test is three hours
- Common question asked is what test my child should take. Best way to decide this is to take each one under test like settings and see which test is better suited.
- There is a SAT prep course offered at MHSS. It is a half year elective course and good idea for end of junior year fall of senior year.
- Children should take the test twice
- There is an app available for the students that can get a "Question of the Day"
- Kahn Academy offers prep for student with 8 free downloads of practice SATS test.
- Middletown Public Library offers practice ACT & SAT free of charge

Sexting and Social Media - Detective Kelly Godly

- Detective Godley gave a powerful presentation on the ramifications of sexting and social media.
- Please explain to your children that sending photos is a crime along with forwarding them along.
- If something is received that is inappropriate have them delete immediately.
- Children should be wary of friend requests from people they don't directly know. Just because their friends are friends with them doesn't mean that this isn't a predator.
- Parents should be diligent about checking their child's phones
- Beware of the "secret calculator" app this is designed to secretly store photos and apps
- Other apps to be wary of are House Party, Keep Safe, Visco, TikTok & What App/Kik
- Texting, Snapchat, teens are now using dating sites such as Tinder,
- There is a website KnowNudes.org created to educate adults on social media and sexting
- Kelly Godley can be reached at kgodley@middletownk12.org

Important Dates to Remember:

- 1/21/19 – MLK – School Closed
- 1/22/19 – 1/25/19 - Quarterly Assessments
- 11/21/18 – Early Dismissal
- 11/22/18 – 11/23/18 – Thanksgiving – School Closed
- 2/18/19 – Presidents Day - School Closed

Congratulations to our door prize winner!!!