

Good Evening Southwest Middle School Families,

This is your proud principal Dr. Richmond with your weekly updates.

This Week at the Ranch

-Tomorrow is the first day of school. Our doors will open and first bell will ring at 8:00am. The car rider line is in the front of the school which is actually the second turn in to our campus off of SW School Rd. Please do not let your child out until the bell rings and staff are on duty. Dismissal will begin at 3:15pm, however we will begin dismissal a few minutes early during the first few days of school. All car riders and walkers should be off campus by 3:45pm. Please remember to refer to our dress code as students are getting ready for school. Please allow us grace as we work out any first days' hiccups.

-Please remember that all students and visitors will be required to enter through body scanners starting tomorrow. As students approach the building, they should put in their hands any Chromebooks, metal eyeglass cases, umbrellas, and three ring binders. There will be a place for students to get resettled after coming in.

Sports

We are excited to announce Southwest Middle School Athletics will host our Fall Sports tryouts starting tomorrow, Monday, August 28th.

For Football, GCS only allows 7th & 8th grade students to participate. The Football tryouts are Monday, August 28th through Wednesday, August 30th. The Boys Soccer tryouts are Monday, August 28th through Thursday, August 31st. Our Girls Volleyball tryouts are also Monday, August 28th through Thursday August 31st. Our Cheer tryouts are Monday, August 28th through Friday, September 1st.

Students will submit all paperwork to their respective head coach at the start of the tryouts. Students should also bring all tryout equipment to school each day.

All tryouts are from 4:00PM-6:00PM on the Southwest Middle School campus. GCS does not provide transportation after tryouts. Parents will pick up all students at the bus awning/ramp at 6:00PM. All of our coaches will use the Remind App to push information out to families. As our weather can be unpredictable, we will try to make cancellation calls by 2pm. Please keep a check on weather forecasts, our Facebook page, and email.

News from our PTSA

The Southwest Middle School Membership Drive is under way, we need your support, so please sign up to become a member today.

Reasons you belong in the SWMS PTSA

- Amplify your voice. PTSA trains parents to advocate for children and helps children to become their own advocate by taking actions and building coalitions that make positive change. Through PTSA, you are informed about what you can do to affect local, state and federal policies that most impact children, families and schools.
- Have fun and meet new people! Show your passion while making new lifelong friends from across your community, state and country that share your commitment to children!
- Create a village that helps to raise kids and strengthen schools and communities. PTSA believes we can make every child's potential a reality—but we need more believers. We need you.
- You can join by going to Givebacks (memberhub.com). Individual membership is only \$8 and Family membership (Includes two people) is only \$14. We also have sponsorship opportunities for your business or if you know of a business invite them to participate.

- Improvements. Access resources and grants for your family engagement efforts. Apply for funds or choose from an extensive collection of guides and digital tools for parents, including topics such as college and career preparation, child safety, navigating special needs and much more.
- Participate in PTA's nationally recognized student and family programs. Encourage students to explore the arts through Reflections, the nation's largest and longest running student arts program. Use PTA's program kits and apply for grants to engage families in health and safety, literacy, bullying prevention, digital safety and STEM.

Please check your email for the sign-up link. And don't forget to visit and Like SWMS PTSA Facebook page. Thank you in advance for your support!

Thank you to everyone who has already signed up and become a member of Southwest Middle School PTSA. The time is now, we are currently hosting our 2023-24 PTSA Membership and we need your help!

There is no wrong way to PTSA!

Thank you! Cheers to a great week! I look forward to seeing your child's smiling face on tomorrow.

Dr. Richmond