April 15, 2019

Hello Faubion Family,

I hope you all had a great weekend. As you may remember, we administered this first round of the STAAR tests last week. Everything went extremely well. We want to thank you for making sure your children were here for testing. The law requires us to make sure that we test the vast majority of our kids and we certainly met that threshold. In fact, our attendance rate for those testing was above 98% both days! We appreciate you all scheduling appointments in a way that allowed us to meet and exceed the state testing requirements.

This past Saturday dozens of our Faubion Art students competed at the Regional Jr. VASE Juried Art Show at Lebanon Trail High School in Frisco. A total of 36 art students represented FMS with a total of 46 entries. Of the 46 entries, a whopping 39 works of art received a Superior Rating! Superior is the highest rank and only Superiors receive medals. Additionally, 3 of those Superiors went on to receive Platinum Medals which is the equivalent of a state-level medal. The three platinum medals were earned by Claire and Emily Stringfellow. Congratulations to these students and their Art teachers, Ms. Wright and Mr. Norman, for their hard work and dedication to the Visual Arts.

ADVANCED ART TRYOUTS FOR 2019-20 SCHOOL YEAR will be held on Tuesday, April 16 in Ms. Wright’s room - E126. Interested students may attend one of two times - 8:15 a.m. or 3:45 p.m. Eligibility requirements include a strong interest in pursuing Art in high school and having had at least one year of middle school art. Advanced Art is for 8th grade only. Please see Mr. Norman norman@mckinneyisd.net or Ms. Wright lwright@mckinneyisd.net for questions.
2019-20 Athletics Information
It is that time of year for athletics physicals, parent meetings, current 6th grade athletics orientations, etc. Below you will find several documents related to getting ready for 2019-20 Athletics. There are important dates and other information. So please visit our website at www.faubionmiddleschool.com to download and review the documents if you/your child will be participating in Athletics in the 2019-20 school year.

8th Grade Parents:
Request for Eighth Grade Baby Photos - We are looking forward to celebrating our 8th grade students during our graduation/farewell ceremony in May. Please email a baby picture (newborn to age 5) to tmarshell@mckinneyisd.net to add to our Farewell slideshow. Make sure to include your child’s name in the subject line of the email. You may also leave a picture at the front desk if you prefer for us to scan and return. Kindly put their name on the back and instructions on whether you would like us to return the picture to your child, or if you would prefer to pick it up with contact information.

Hawaiian Falls Trip – We held a grade level meeting with our 8th graders last week to kickoff the excitement for our annual Hawaiian Fall field trip. The cost for this year’s trip is $30 per student. Including the cost that PTO covers, this will help to cover the cost of a ticket for admission to the park, their t-shirt (personalized design for each 8th grade class every year), lunch and unlimited drinks in the park that day. Please know that our wonderful PTO organizes this trip every year and it has become a hallmark of the 8th grade Faubion MS experience. Your child should have come home with a Hawaiian Falls packet received from their social studies teacher. If you did not receive the packet, please feel free to let me know. I will post the packet to our website this week. The parent permission slip is REQUIRED to be signed by the parent and returned to the school. The permission slip and payment are due by April 22, 2019.

8th Grade Farewell Ceremony – Each year we end the middle school experience for our 8th graders with a Farewell Ceremony that includes the familiar symbolic entrance and exit of the students marching in to the Pomp and Circumstance song, entertainment by FMS Fine Arts, short speeches by myself and the principals from MHS (Mr. Arbabi) and MBHS (Dr. Peirson), and the highlight of the ceremony, the 8th Grade Farewell slideshow (includes baby pictures and other pictures from throughout their middle school experience). The ceremony will be held Wednesday, May 29th at the all new Sperry Fine Arts Center at McKinney High School at 6pm. Please note that seating is limited, so we can’t accommodate as many relatives and friends as in the past.

(8th grade parent information continued on next page)
1: The World Parent Meetings
Your freshman student will be issued a Macbook for use while in high school. The district is currently hosting meetings for parents to provide information and answer questions for parents. Please visit http://tinyurl.com/onetoworld2019 for more information.

Current 6th Grade Parents:
6th Graders need to update shots this school year to attend 7th grade next year. Spring break is a great time to go get those vaccines. 6th graders need to have a Tetanus Booster and a Meningococcal vaccine within the past 5 years to be compliant for 7th grade. Please email a copy of immunizations to mguinn@mckinneyisd.net or have your student bring directly to the clinic. Thank you!

Cheer & Drill Team Information:
McKinney ISD held the annual Cheer & Drill Team informational a few weeks ago at MBHS. If you were unable to attend the meeting, you can find some pertinent information at https://departments.mckinneyisd.net/finearts/secondary-cheerleading-drill-team/

• High School Drill Team tryouts for current 8th grade will be held April 15-18 at each high school campus (Be sure you know what high school your child is zoned for before going for tryouts.)

If you have any questions regarding Cheer, you can contact Coach Neal or Coach Winsor. If you have any questions regarding Drill Team, you can contact Coach Muniz or Coach Kiefer.

Our Counselors are in the process of finalizing the entries for next year courses. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to your child’s Counselor (Current 6th-8th graders).

House Counselors
Students with the last names A-G
Robin Phillips rphillips@mckinneyisd.net 469-302-6912

Students with the last names H-O
Christie Thompson cthompson@mckinneyisd.net 469-302-6913

Students with the last names P-Z
Christina Kiefer chkiefer@mckinneyisd.net 469-302-6906

Your Partner in Education,
Dr. Jimmy Bowser, Principal
Faubion Middle School