April 4, 2019

Hello Faubion Family,

It is beyond believe that we are into the month of April already. Of course, we know what that means... time for the STAAR test for 7th and 8th graders. Next week, 7th grade students will take their STAAR Writing exam and 8th graders will take their STAAR Mathematics exam on Wednesday, April 9th. The 8th graders will take their STAAR Reading test on Thursday, April 10th. Here are a few important reminders regarding STAAR. We really need your help in these areas:

- All students testing may bring dry, non-messy snacks, water and a book to read after completing their STAAR exam. No messy or noisy snacks are permitted (e.g. Taki’s, Doritos, cans of soda, etc.). Please not that we are providing a few snacks for them as well. We have been playing these messages on the announcements for the last week, so students are well aware.

- **7th graders will eat lunch in their classrooms on April 9th.** We will provide snacks for them, however, all 7th graders must either bring a sack lunch that day or order one from the cafeteria. Unfortunately, we will not be able to deliver parent-brought lunches to the various classrooms, so please be sure they bring lunch to school with them or order one from the cafeteria.

- **8th graders will eat their regular lunch in the cafeteria on both testing days.** This is because their lunch is much later in the day and due to changes in the STAAR exam that shortened the exam a few years ago, this allows them to complete their test before going to lunch. Same snack rules apply to 8th graders as mentioned above.

- **All technology must be turned into the teacher or left at home on testing days.** This includes cell phones, smart watches or other electronic communication devices. The state requires every student to sign an honor statement that morning before the test declaring that they have turned over all electronic communication devices before starting the test.

- **Dress code applies on testing days as well.** This means no PJs, blankets, pillows etc.

Congratulations to the Symphonic 1 and 2 bands on their performance at the UIL Concert and Sight-Reading Evaluation on March 26th and 27th at Wylie East High School. Symphonic 1 received an Excellent Rating on their Stage Performance and Sight-Reading. Symphonic 2 received an Excellent Rating on Stage and a Superior Rating in Sight-Reading. Both groups were well-behaved, focused, and a great representation of McKinney ISD. Mr. Williams and Ms. Kazyaka are very proud of each musician’s accomplishments!

The Visual Arts will compete at the Jr. Visual Arts Scholastic Event (Jr. VASE) on April 6th at Lebanon Train HS in Frisco. Parents are welcome and strongly encouraged to attend these events. Please see your child’s Director/Teacher for specific performance dates/times.
Congratulations to the Faubion MS UIL Academic Team that brought home the 7th consecutive District championship, along with 1st place trophies for both 7th and 8th grades individually. We had a chance to have a small celebration yesterday marking the historic victory. Again, congratulations to our kids and coaches for their dedication to demonstrating our academic excellence!

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.

On April 6th, ATS HeartCheck will be at the McKinney Stadium Community Event Center providing comprehensive heart assessments. Through a special arrangement, McKinney ISD families are being offered the ATS HeartCheck for the low-priced offer is only $129, normally $1500). Click here to learn more or SCHEDULE NOW (Pre-registration is required)

If cost is an issue, CLICK HERE and complete the form to request a discount and see if you qualify (you will be notified by email of your final cost). You can also schedule your child’s appointment at www.ATSHeartCheck.com. Select "Make an Appointment" from the menu bar to access the list of events.
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

Well, that’s it for this week. All students who were nominated for The Lion’s Pride Award or earned the Merit Scholar Award for the 3rd quarter should have received their invitations already. The ceremony will be held tomorrow (Friday, April 5th) at 3pm in the FMS Auditorium. I will be at UNT for a previously scheduled commitment, so Mr. DeMakas will host the program. We look forward to celebrating the accomplishments of these students tomorrow. Have a great weekend!

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