

October 10, 2017

Swanson Middle School PTA Meeting

Teacher lunch coming

Principal's report

Staff transitions – week of 10/23/2017

Shannon Ellis – countywide math instruction

Antonio Hall will be the new assistant principal; coming from W-L. Previously taught at Gunston and will be supporting the 6th grade and the math department

ATSS targeted intervention rotations began in English – through 10/27. Math will be next.

Interim marks finalized 10/4 and reports go out 10/16; working with Secondary education division in reviewing methods to communicate grade information in a more timely manner (the information is already out of date by the time the reports go home).

Library author visits in September: Alan Gratz and 10/19 Nancy Castaldo – the story of seeds

Student Forums

8th and 7th grades – good feedback:

- Update student dress code
- Backpack access during mods 7/8 for 7th grade
- Smoother integration of Canvas LMS
- Lunch meal improvements/selections

APS has renamed the Teaching Instruction Department to the Department of Teaching and Learning.

Upcoming dates:

10/18 early release

10/20 – Harvesting dreams for our children 5:30-9:00 kenmore

Parent/teacher conferences arena-style format:

10/26 5:30-7:30

10/27 7:30 – 11:00 or 2:30

No school on 10/27

10/28 APS Dyslexia conference at Kenmore 9:00-3:00 (Saturday)

Middle school boundary discussions – meeting dates (check APS website)

Guest Speakers – Jenny Sexton APS Substance Abuse Counselor – Kenmore and Swanson MS Lieutenant Susan Noack. Following are highlights from their discussion – the PowerPoint is available upon request.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION

Dates: Red Ribbon week 10/24 – 28.

She is available Tuesdays and Fridays.

Objectives:

- Why adolescents uses drugs
- Role of the APS substance abuse counselor
- Substance use reported by APS students
- Symptoms and warning signs of use and addiction
- What a parent can do to help

Concluded at 8:45; next meeting is on November 14, 2017 in the Swanson library at 7:00.