



# Seven Springs Middle School JAGUAR UPDATE

**Mrs. Gantt, Principal**  
(727) 774 - 6700 [ssms.pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:ssms.pasco.k12.fl.us)

**First Semester Edition July 2018**

## **Welcome to the Jungle 6th Grade Open House / Orientation August 2, 2018**

All incoming 6th grade students and families please plan to join us on **Thursday, August 2nd between 8:00am-12:00pm**. This special orientation day and open house is just for you! Schedules can be picked up in our cafeteria and myStudent (secondary grade book) parent sessions will take place in the media center throughout the day. Students who attend will: receive their schedules early, meet 6th grade teachers, have the opportunity to locate classrooms, and receive a free SSMS T-Shirt. *Students who attend do not need to attend the Secondary Registration Day on August 7th.*

## **Secondary Registration Day 7th/8th Grade August 7th**

Tuesday, August 7th is the County-wide Secondary Registration Day from 8AM - 2PM in SSMS cafeteria. Parents and guardians are encouraged to come with their student(s) to pick up schedules, pay fees, purchase PE uniforms and lockers, buy yearbooks and tour the campus.

## **TDAP - 7th Graders**

*Pasco County students are required to be fully immunized. 7th graders must have their TDAP shot up-to-date prior to enrolling in school. Florida Certification of Immunization (DH680 Form) must be provided to the school nurse on August 7th or prior to the first day of school.*

## **Health Requirements & Clinic Information**

All Pasco County students are required to be fully immunized. Students who are missing required immunizations will be unable to receive their schedules on Orientation/Registration Day. On Orientation Day, parents should complete and sign two medical emergency cards listing any illnesses, medications, and emergency contact information.

## **Students are not allowed to carry ANY medications while at school.**

This includes prescription medications, over the counter medications, and medicines from health food stores. A student may carry an asthma inhaler with written permission from a doctor and a parent. All other medications that are scheduled to be administered during school hours MUST be stored in the clinic along with a signed parental form. Questions about the health requirements, and other health service may be directed to our school nurse after August 14th.

## **Schedule Changes**

The Assistant Principal for Scheduling and the guidance staff will review requests for schedule changes according to the following guidelines:

- Student has already taken the course
- Student has not completed the prerequisite
- Student needs the course to be promoted to high school

No other requests for schedule changes will be honored. Due to the Class Size Amendment, courses are limited and have been scheduled based on student requests in the spring/summer.



### 2018 - 2019 Middle School Fees

When enrolling your student, you will be asked to pay Pasco County School Board Approved Fees. The fees are used to provide classrooms and teachers with the supplies they need throughout the year. These fees are as follows:

General Fee	\$10
Art Fee	\$10
Band Program Fee	\$15
Chorus Program Fee	\$15
Career Technical Course Fee	\$10
Instrument Tech & Instrument Ensemble	\$10
Physical Education Fee	\$5
Science Fees (per year)	\$10
Student Technology Service Fee	\$2

### Yearbook

Yearbooks will be pre-sold during the school's Orientation Day through first semester, January 1st. The pre-sale price of yearbooks is \$25.00. After winter break, the cost will increase to full price which is \$ 40.00.

Yearbooks can be purchased online using the Acorn system, at Orientation, or at The SPOT, our school store.

### Every Student Succeeds Act

ESEA legislation requires schools to provide parents or guardians an annual status report called School Public Accountability Report. This report will be available online at <http://doeweb-prd.doe.state.fl.us/eds/nclbpar/index.cfm> A hard copy of the report will also be available in the front office.

### Staying Connected is essential in the Jungle!

To help your students succeed, parents/guardians are asked to:

- Develop an understanding of school requirements and policies.
- Support their students in meeting these requirements.
- Visit the SSMS website regularly at [ssms.pasco.k12.fl.us](http://ssms.pasco.k12.fl.us)
- Follow the SSMS Facebook page.
- Check myStudent regularly/ sign up for an account.
- Participate in parent/teacher conferences, school meetings, and related activities.
- Check myStudent for progress reports and report cards.
- Communicate with the school regarding concerns, comments, and suggestions.
- Be involved: join the PTSSO, volunteer, or attend Parent Nights, school activities, and sporting, events!

### myStudent

Having the right information is a key component to student success! The myStudent online grade book is a fantastic way for parents and students to gather information about grades, attendance, and test scores. Attendance is posted and updated daily while teachers update grades periodically depending on the course. Multiple students can be attached to one parent account, even if the students attend different schools within Pasco County. **All progress reports and report cards will only be available through myStudent.**

If you want to find the path to success, sign up for a parent account by going to the parent page of the district website at <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us/parents> Families can also get assistance setting their accounts during Open House.

### School Advisory Council

SSMS strives for excellence. A vital part of student success is the involvement of students, parents, teachers, and the school. To meet the needs of our students. The School Advisory Council (SAC) meetings for the 2018 - 2019 school year will be held at 7:45 A.M. in the Administrative Conference Room on the following dates:

September 28	March 29
November 9	April 6
January 25	



### Summer Homework

It is essential to keep skills sharp even during the summer. The following classes have homework over the summer:

- 6th Grade Advanced Math
- 7th Grade Advanced Math
- Algebra
- 6th Grade ELA
- 7th Grade ELA

Summer Homework handouts for each of the courses above are available in the SSMS front office.

### What is GRIT and Why Do Students Need IT?

University of Pennsylvania psychologist Angela Duckworth defined grit as: "A child's perseverance and passion for long-term goals." Today's mounting research on grit suggests that your child's ability to work hard, endure struggle, fail, and try again may be the key to determining his or her long-term success and happiness.

Developing Grit requires a growth mindset. Students must understand the following:

1. While teachers do their best to make their subjects engaging, the learning process is not always fun and improvement does not come without effort.
2. Ignoring a problem won't make it go away! Be proactive and ask your teachers for help. Study hall was created for this purpose.
3. The formula for success is simple.  
Desire to learn x effort = Skill, + Skill x effort = Achievement

### Free & Reduced Lunch Program

Bonnie Ferriolo, Cafeteria Manager  
[bferriol@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:bferriol@pasco.k12.fl.us)

Families are required to apply for the Free or Reduced Lunch Program each year. Applications will be available online July 16, 2018 at: <http://www.schoollunchapp.com/District.aspx>

Current Meal Prices  
Reduced Price Breakfast: \$ 0.30  
Reduced Price Lunch: \$ 0.40

Full Price Breakfast \$1.50  
Full Price Lunch \$3:00  
Pay for meals online at [www.myschoolbucks.com](http://www.myschoolbucks.com)



### 7th / 8th Grade Open House/August 30

We will be hosting our annual Open House on Thursday, August 30th from 6PM - 7:30 PM. Families will be following your student's schedule which will provide the opportunity to meet our teachers, gather information about classes, and get involved in your student's education. Teachers will be in classrooms to discuss their classes. School counselors, administrators and staff will be available to answer questions.

### Volunteer Information

Parents and community members can apply online to become an approved volunteer after July 1st. The volunteer application can be found on the district website <http://www.pasco.k12.fl.us> and must be renewed each year. The link to the application is located on the main page in the far right box entitled "Volunteer Programs." Volunteers are still subject to a state criminal background check and a sexual predator/offender check. Our school's volunteer coordinator, Jenny Colon, can advise you of your approval status once you have submitted your application. You can contact her at [jcolon@pasco.k12.fl.us](mailto:jcolon@pasco.k12.fl.us) or (727) 774 - 6700.

### Asbestos Notification

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a final rule, 40 CFR Part 763, Asbestos Containing Material in Schools, commonly referred to as AHERA. This rule requires all Local Education Agencies (LEA's) to identify asbestos containing materials (ACM) in their school buildings and to take appropriate actions to control the release of asbestos fibers. All inspections for Seven Springs have been completed and a Management Plan describing the results of the inspection and the action plan to control any asbestos found during the inspections where applicable are available. Copies of this plan are located in the administrative office of the school and at the District School Board of Pasco County Maintenance/Facility Operations Department. The report is available for review upon request.

### Safety Drills

In order to ensure a safe learning environment for all Jaguars, the school will continue practicing emergency drills during the school day. Fire drills will be conducted during the first two weeks of school and monthly thereafter, in accordance with state law. A severe weather drill, missing persons drill, and Active Threat Plan will be scheduled during both first and second semester. These drills allow staff and students to practice procedures that may be needed in the event of an emergency situation.



**Join the SSMS PTSO**

The PTSO is a nonprofit association that prides itself on being a powerful voice for all children, a relevant resource for families, and a strong advocated for public education. Membership in the PTSO is open to anyone who wants to make a difference in the lives of our students.

The PTSO supports the school community through fundraising efforts designed to assist teachers and school leaders in meeting student needs and by sponsoring teacher appreciation events that keep teachers motivated.

Membership dues for the PTSO are \$10.00 per family. PTSO members are not required to make commitments but can assist when time is available in their schedule. Members have one hour planning meetings once per month. If you are interested in joining the PTSO, please contact Miquealena Zullo at (727) 967-9499 or mnmsmom6@gmailcom

**SSMS 2018 – 2019 Bell Schedule**

<b>Monday-Friday</b>
1st Period 8:30 - 9:25
2nd Period 9:29 - 10:20
3rd Period 10:24 - 11:15
4th Period 11:19 - 12:10
5th Period 12:14 - 1:05
6th Period 1:09 - 2:00
7th Period 2:04 - 2:55

<b>Lunch A-7th</b> 10:24 - 10:45 Study Hall/Interventions 10:45 - 11:15 Lunch
<b>Lunch B-6th</b> 11:19 - 11:40 Study Hall/Interventions 11:40 - 12:10 Lunch
<b>Lunch C-8th</b> 12:14-12:35 Study Hall/Interventions 12:35 - 1:05 Lunch

**School Policies  
Tardy Policies**

Students are considered tardy when they are not physically inside the classroom door when the tardy bell rings. If a student is tardy to class, the teacher will send the student to Student Services to log in tardy violation.

*Tardy Consequences*

1. Warning
2. 2 days of lunch detention
3. One day of ISS lunch
4. 2 days of After School Detention
6. Saturday Detention
7. Discipline Referral

\* Failure to complete any listed intervention will result in a referral.

**Dress Code**

The SSMS dress code can be found on the school website and posted throughout the campus. If students are out of dress code, staff members will send them to the Student Services/Clinic offices to log in the dress code violation.

*Dress Code Consequences*

1. Warning & change clothes
2. Change clothes & 2 days lunch detention
3. Change clothes & Saturday detention
4. Discipline Referral

**Wireless Communication Devices**

The use of any WCD in classrooms for non-education related communications or purposes is prohibited. Using a WCD to capture or record/transmit pictures of others without their consent. Using a WCD in a locker rooms, shower facility, or restroom. Using a WCD to capture or record/transmit/receive test information constituting fraud, theft, or academic dishonesty.

Devices may be used Before and after school, passing, lunch, after school activities, on the school bus, and when a classroom teacher allows you to use it for an instructional activity. If a student uses a device inappropriately, staff members may confiscate the wireless device. Refusing to hand over a device to a staff member is defiance of authority. Students who refuse will receive a discipline referral.

*Wireless Device Consequences*

- 1) Confiscation, student picks up
- 2) Confiscation, parent picks up
- 3) Confiscation, parent picks up & 3 days ISS lunch
- 4) Confiscation, parent picks up & 2 days after school detention
- 5) Confiscation, parent picks up, Saturday Detention
- 6) Confiscation, parent picks up, Discipline Referral & OSS