

7th Grade Yellow House

Summer 2009

Dear 7th Grade Parents,

Welcome to the Weber Middle School 7th Grade Yellow Team. Whether you are a first time 7th grade parent or a veteran, we guarantee that the year will be unique. In order to prepare for this, we wanted to share a few thoughts which we feel will help us work together to ensure the success of your child this year.

First of all, we want you to realize that you are the most important person in your child's life, and you have more ability to motivate, more ability to stimulate, and more ability to get your child to succeed than anyone else. Research has shown that even the best schools, the best teachers, and the best principals are not as important to a child's achievement in school as you are. As a result, we will do everything possible to work with you in creating a year of success for your child.

Two areas of concern for parents should be discipline and homework. Both of these areas require parents and teachers to remain in close contact, especially if your child is not meeting the expectations set forth. In middle school, we do not contact you at every infraction of the rules but rather emphasize that the choices each student makes will bring either positive or negative consequences. We will help your child learn to make correct choices and will support and praise them when they are successful. However, if we feel there is a problem and we need your support, you can be assured we will not hesitate to contact you. As teachers, we will treat your child, as we would expect our own children to be treated.

The other area of parental concern is homework. It is a very important part of our curriculum since it is used to check what the students have learned as well as to serve as a jumping off point for our next day's lesson. We also assign homework to establish responsibility and good study habits. The problem that often arises in middle school is that students do not take homework assignments seriously and do not always communicate either the presence or extent of homework to their parents. Failure to complete homework assignments is the primary impediment to students achieving the grades they desire. To assist you and your children in keeping abreast of their responsibilities, we distribute a weekly calendar that will provide a general overview of the week as well as serve as a resource in which your child can write specific assignments for the day.

In order for us to accomplish our goal of working together, you must be aware of the lines of communication available to you. During each ten-week marking period, your child will receive a progress report that will give you a picture of your child's academic performance at that point. However, if you feel there is a problem before this report, you should call us to discuss what can be done. The best way to make contact is through your child's guidance counselor. We also have a conference time scheduled into our day so we have the opportunity to personally meet with you when necessary. Whatever the circumstance, show your child you care about his/her success by staying in contact with us over any incident that you feel may affect your child's self-esteem or academic success.

Now that you have our plan for helping your child meet success this year, we are going to make four requests of you. First, we ask you to support our academic efforts by stating to your child that you expect him/her to put forth a quality effort. Second, we need you to impress upon your child that you expect proper behavior by following the rules of the classroom and school. You must make it clear to your child that he/she is responsible for his/her own actions. Third, you must make sure your child does the assigned homework each night and be willing to provide positive reinforcement when it is completed and negative consequences when your child chooses not to meet his/her obligations. Finally, you must contact us whenever your child experiences a problem or crisis. In adolescence, even the slightest problem can interfere with your child's learning; however, if we are aware, we may be able to provide your child with extra support. An involved parent can provide the boost to a student's self esteem that will lead to ever increasing success in school and a more fulfilling adulthood.

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We are confident that if we work together your child will have a great year. We will give our total effort each day, but you are the real key to his/her success. We need you on our side.

Enjoy the rest of the summer. We look forward to your child's arrival at Weber and hope to see you at our Open House on Sept. 30, 2009.

Sincerely,

Ms. Goldstein
Math

Ms. Manzo
Social Studies

Ms. Shapiro
Science

Mr. Shackel
English

7th Grade Yellow Team

Dear Yellow Team Member,

We would like seventh grade to be one of your most successful years. To help you get off to a good start, here is a list of supplies you will need:

- Hard cover 3-hole loose-leaf binder with a clip, if possible.
- 1 ½ -2 inch binder- social studies
- Dividers
- Wide lined loose-leaf paper
- Reinforcements
- Pencil case with blue or black pens and pencils
- Three-hole punch (inexpensive type that fits into a binder)
- Highlighter
- Box of colored pencils
- Protractor (keep at home until you are asked to bring it to school)
- Ruler for home
- 1 package of graph paper (keep at home until you are asked to bring it to school)
- Box of tissues
- 2 packs of 3 x 5 index cards with lines

You will be given your own locker with a lock so that you will have a place to keep your belongings. DO NOT share the combination of your lock with anyone so that your belongings will be safe.

This will be a new and exciting year. We are looking forward to sharing it with you.

See you in September!

7th Grade Yellow Team Teachers

*****While you are shopping for your child's school supplies, if you are able, please consider picking up an additional supply for a student who is less fortunate. These supplies may be dropped off in the guidance office in the designated boxes. Thank you so much for your care and concern of others.***