



Chaparral Middle School

Home of the Cougars

Ron Thibodeaux,
Principal

Christina Aquino,
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Principal's Newsletter, August and September, 2018

Good day and Welcome Back, Chaparral Parents and Guardians,

Thank you for helping us with the opening of yet another fantastic school year here at Chaparral Middle School. The beginning of the year is crazy! Seasonably warm weather, new students scrambling around to try to figure out the block schedule and parents trying to understand our traffic pattern, this year has been no exception. Nonetheless, as we settle into the first week of school, I would like to remind you of some events that are taking place here at Chaparral this month...

For those of you driving your child to school each day, you understand that traffic congestion is a real issue here at Chaparral. Let me first apologize for the difficulties with this, but you can help. If parents follow the traffic pattern outlined on the video at the below link, it will save time. Please take a look...and remember...pull forward please! ☺
<http://www.chaparralmiddle.org/apps/news/article/111929>

Counselors are wading through student course change requests. This should be finalized within the next two weeks or so. Please keep in mind that counselors do not change schedules based on "requests for a favorite teacher." Logistically, this is just not possible. For other requests, be patient with hearing back from your counselor. They are working through requests as quickly as they can.

Every Cougar has been issued a binder reminder at this point. This binder reminder has information regarding the school's day to day functions, such as schedules, calendars, etc. It also specifically outlines behavioral expectations for all students. Please be sure to review this information with your child, and then sign and return the front page to your student's advocacy teacher. With you as a partner in your child's experience here, we cannot go wrong.

Also, in case you have not "felt the heat," it is certainly hot out there. Please be assured that we are taking into consideration the heat when deciding our PE activities each day, but we still need your help. Nine times out of ten, when we have students reacting negatively to the heat, it is because they have not taken in any nutrition. Please make sure that your students are eating each day and hydrating.

Mark your Calendars! Our annual Back to School Night will take place on Thursday August 16th. Please see the attachment at the link below for information about this evening's events. <https://www.chaparralmiddle.org/apps/news/article/896251>

On Wednesday, August 22nd, we will have a six period day to accommodate **picture day**. Be sure that your Cougar looks "spiffy" on that day. Pictures will be taken in student's PE classes. **Please note that there is no late start; school starts at 7:45 am.**



On Friday, August 31st, we will be having a minimum day. ***Students will be released at 11:00 am on that day.*** Note that there is no late bus on minimum days. Additionally, there is ***NO SCHOOL on Monday, September 3*** in observance of the Labor Day holiday.

For students wishing to participate in sports this year, we will be fielding football, volleyball and cross country teams this fall. Have your student contact their PE teacher or Coach Ruiz, our Athletic Director, with any questions that they have about athletics.

Thank you also for donating your child's recommended supplies from their teacher's recommended lists. Though no Chaparral student will ever be kept from participation in class assignments if they do not bring in recommended supplies, it helps us greatly when parents can assist us in procuring these items for their children and helps students as well as they are comfortable and familiar with having supplies that are their "own." Again, thank you!

Our first Late Start Day is scheduled for Wednesday, September 12th. On these days, classes will not begin until 8:40 am. We request that students use these mornings to get some extra sleep and to have a healthy breakfast before coming to classes. However, if your child needs to come to school at the normal time, we will have our blacktop area open to students beginning at 7:15 am. Please review this year's calendar to begin your Late Start planning. https://www.chaparralmiddle.org/ourpages/auto/2018/6/18/61697211/BLOCK%20CALENDAR%202018_2019.pdf

We are also holding our "Club Rush Week" on September 28th and 29th. Students will have the time to learn about the many clubs on campus at lunchtime on those days. We would like each of our students involved in at least one club, so encourage them to check out campus clubs during Club Rush.

Parents, the State is set to release results from last year's State test (CAASPP) this month. Please see the attachments for a timeline of this release and instructions on how to interpret the reports when you receive them. Please see the attached presentation below with instructions explaining how to read your student's results.

<https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1ZGR63JKkh5EgMWnrxUTNwxW-dD39Ohgx3kI6lwjO2uU/edit#slide=id.p4>

Our Community Club is our largest parent organization and all are welcomed and encouraged to join. The annual Education Support Drive is their largest fundraiser and its success over the past few years has resulted in large donations toward school technology and extracurricular programs. Your child will be coming home soon with information about this fundraising campaign for you to read through. Please sign the envelope acknowledging your receipt of the information. It is our hope that all Chaparral families will decide to participate in this critical fundraising campaign.

The first CAPA Meeting, Friday, August 17th, 10 AM in the Teen Scene Room.
The first Community Club Meeting, Friday, September 14th, 8:30 AM in the Teen Scene Room. ***Please consider becoming involved with these organizations which support our school's goals.***

Sincerely,

Ron Thibodeaux,
Principal, Chaparral Middle School

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Upcoming Dates to Note:

August 16 th	Back to School Night, 6:00 p.m. (food trucks starting at 5pm)
August 17 th	Chinese American Parent Association (CAPA) meeting, 10:00 a.m., Teen Scene Classroom
August 22 nd	Fall picture day, through PE classes, 6 period day, NO late start (school starts at 7:45)
August 24 th	Back to School Dance, MPR, after school
August 31 st	Six period minimum day; school dismisses at 11:00 a.m. (no late bus)
September 3 rd	Labor Day Holiday, NO school
September 11 th	Staff Meeting, no after school activities
September 12 th	Six period LATE START DAY; school starts at 8:40 a.m.
September 14 th	Community Club Meeting, 8:30 a.m., Teen Scene Classroom
September 12 th	Six period LATE START DAY; school starts at 8:40 a.m.
September 19 th	Six period LATE START DAY; school starts at 8:40 a.m.
September 26 th	Six period LATE START DAY; school starts at 8:40 a.m.