

CARTER BUZZ



CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

September 2019

WATSON'S WORLD~

New Principal

Carter Middle holds a special place in my heart. I have had the privilege of being a student, teacher, and principal at Carter Middle School. Each experience has been incredible. I have and will be again in two years a parent of a student at Carter Middle School. Even though I am leaving my current position as principal later this month, I will still be involved for the next few years in one form or another because I want the best for your child and mine.

Mr. Jack Owen will be the new principal of Carter Middle School. I have known him for several years and he will do a fabulous job. He has been an administrator for many years at the middle school level and truly understands the needs of middle school students. The plan is to work together for a couple of weeks, so there is a smooth transition. During this time, I will be introducing him to the community and help him understand the Carter school community. Of course, I will also introduce him to Cardin's!

Watson's World Continues on page 2...

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure".
~ Colin Powell

Parents Beware of the Vape

It seems like vaping is becoming a fascination for some high school and middle school students. It has been a problem at the high school level for a year or so around the county. Now it is starting to seep down to middle schools, including Carter Middle. There have been recent cases of students in Knox County going to Emergency Room with lung issues associated with vaping. What are E-cigarettes? According to the Centers of Disease and Control (CDC):

- E-cigarettes are electronic devices that heat a liquid and produce an aerosol, or mix of small particles in the air.
- E-cigarettes come in many shapes and sizes. Most have a battery, a heating element, and a place to hold a liquid.
- Some e-cigarettes look like regular cigarettes, cigars, or pipes. Some look like USB flash drives, pens, and other everyday items. Larger devices such as tank systems, or "mods," do not look like other tobacco products.
- E-cigarettes are known by many different names. They are sometimes called "e-cigs," "e-hookahs," "mods," "vape pens," "vapes," "tank systems," and "electronic nicotine delivery systems (ENDS)."
- Using an e-cigarette is sometimes called "vaping" or "JUULing."

The tricky thing about some of these E-cigarettes is that they look like pens and in the case of JUULs, look like USB flash drives. Students can conceal them easily from teachers and parents. How do students get them? In most cases they steal them from their parents or older siblings. According to the CDC these are the risks for teens:

- The use of e-cigarettes is unsafe for kids, teens, and young adults.
- Most e-cigarettes contain nicotine. Nicotine is highly addictive and can harm adolescent brain development, which continues into the early to mid-20s.
- E-cigarettes can contain other harmful substances besides nicotine.
- Young people who use e-cigarettes may be more likely to smoke cigarettes in the future.

Parents be on the lookout for these devices and if you own them at your house, then lock them up from your children. When a student is found with the device at school, then the student is suspended from school and given a citation from the Sheriff's Department, which requires a court appearance. Parents please educate your child on the risks associated with vaping and the consequences.

The digital age is upon us.

The majority of our student body now have their iPads. The iPads are not a toy. These iPads are to be used for educational purposes. With the iPads come the responsibility of using it appropriately and using digital citizenship. If you would like to learn more about digital citizenship, then check out commonsensemedia.org. Students need to make sure their iPad is always charged and ready for school. The expectation is that students will have their iPad every day and take it to every class.

Chronic Absenteeism

Chronic Absenteeism is when a student is absent more than 10 percent of the school year. This includes excused and unexcused absences. Last year 23 percent of our students were Chronically Absent, which means they missed more than 18 days of school. That is unacceptable. Unfortunately, talking to our feeder school Principals Chronic Absenteeism is an issue at all our schools, which means it is a community issue. Students need to be in school to get the necessary instruction and to learn. Research shows that students that are Chronically Absent are more likely to drop out of school. We are putting some interventions in place to address the situation, but the best and most effective intervention is the parent. Encourage your child to come to school and give their best.

Parent Night and Meet the Principal

On Tuesday, September 10th we will have a Parent Night at Carter Middle School from 5pm to 7pm. You can pick up your child's mid-term and meet with teachers to discuss progress. We will also have the Scholastic Book Fair in the Library. You will also have the opportunity to have a meet and greet with Mr. Owen, the new Principal of Carter Middle School.

Thank you for your continued support and cooperation. Remember to show your Hornet PRIDE! Go Hornets!

Mr. Watson

STANLEY'S SECTION~

The 7th graders are having a great year thus far. They are getting accustomed to grades, homework, testing, after school extra-curricular activities, community events, etc. There has already been a Back to School Dance. As our middle schoolers interact with each other, we want to instill in them "Hornet PRIDE". That is our school's motto. The acronym PRIDE stands for Positive, Respectful, Involved, Dependable, and Excellence. These "Hornet PRIDE" expectations were taught and practiced the first two weeks of school. We ask our students to show your "Hornet PRIDE" throughout the day. There are banners and posters throughout the building that relay this motto. It can also be found in the student handbook. Teachers have begun giving out Hornet PRIDE tickets for behaviors that are at and above the norm. The Hornet PRIDE tickets will be cashed in at the PRIDE Store soon and there will be more details to come. Throughout the year, we will continue to address our Hornet PRIDE motto and encourage students to show it every day.

The iPad Deployment has already taken place. If your child has not received his or her iPad, please contact the school. There are expectations for the iPad that have been given to students through their digital citizenship study and power point presentation. All students are expected to use the iPad appropriately.

We hope to see everyone on Tuesday, September 10th from 5:00-7:00 for Parent Night at Carter Middle School.



Jennifer Stanley
Assistant Principal
7th Grade

RAMSEY'S REVIEW~

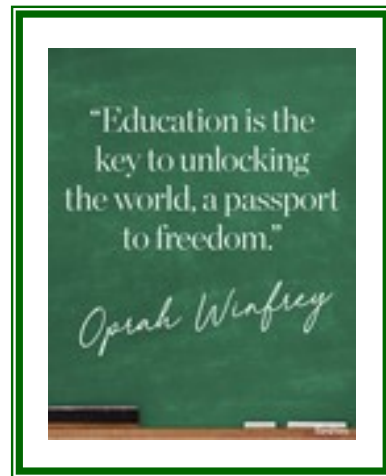
Hello Hornet Family,

September is already here and we're having a fantastic year so far! The end of the 4 ½ week grading period is September 5. Now is a good time to be talking with your student regarding grades and good study practices in preparation for high school. Parent night will be on September 10 from 5:00-7:00. We are also having a **Mandatory** parent meeting for the New York/Washington trip on September 10th, after parent night at 7:30

This meeting is **MANDATORY** (No Exceptions)! For students to be eligible for the trip a parent/guardian is **REQUIRED** to attend.

Thank you all for your continued support and encouragement!

Joey Ramsey
8th Grade Assistant Principal



"Be more concerned with your character than your reputation because your character is what you really are, while your reputation is merely what others think you are."
~Coach Wooden

COUNSELOR'S CORNER~

We are excited to start a new school year! Once again, we will be working with all grade level teachers this year to provide weekly Mindful Monday lessons during Hive time. These lessons will focus on the academic and social emotional needs of our students. Some topics might include: organizational skills, goal setting, and self-esteem, dealing with academic stress, conflict resolution, and career exploration...among many others! We may also go into classrooms to teach some lessons outside of Mindful Mondays. We appreciate your help in identifying the needs of your students. If you have not yet turned in the parent needs assessment that was sent home on the first day of school, there's still time! Please let us know how we can help you or your child.

Adam Meade 6th grade and 8th grade last names A-L
adam.meade@knoxschools.org 865-932-8149
Beth Kyburz 7th grade and 8th grade last names M-Z
beth.kyburz@knoxschools.org 865-932-8152



CAFÉ CORNER~

We are excited for this new school year and we are ready to start feeding our Carter Hornets!

Just a few reminders:

We are a CEP (frees) for lunch and breakfast. Yea!
We are also selling extra stuff; like ice cream, V8 juice and more.

There are two ways you can put money into your account:

1. Bring cash or check
2. Go online.

You can also go online to see the menu for the month.

** If we dismiss at 12:00, we will only serve a cereal breakfast.

***One hour late we will not serve breakfast.

If you have any questions just give me at the school 933-3426

Thank you,

Tina Golden
Cafeteria Manager



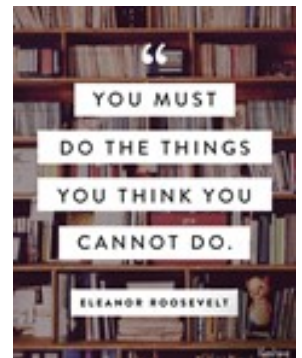
Nurse's Notes~

Just a friendly reminder if your child needs any medication (Inhaler, Epi Pen, etc) at school, we must have a new doctor order on file each school year.

Medications must be brought to the school office by an adult. Medication order forms can be found on the CMS website. Please contact me with any questions.

Thank you,
Davina Morgan, RN

davina.morgan@knoxschools.org



COME TO OUR SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR!



ONLINE: Sept 1-14

LIBRARY: Sept 9-13

including Parent Night Tuesday, Sept 10

<https://www.scholastic.com/bf/cartermiddleschool6>

Book Fair eWallet

A digital payment option for students



Now available at our school!

GET STARTED

 SCHOLASTIC



IMPORTANT INFORMATION **TAKE THE SCHOOL BUCKS CHALLENGE**

Please make copies of this sheet for **EVERY** student in your school to take home. Parents can use this to easily link their ValuCard to their school of choice at checkout*.

- At the cash register, have the cashier scan this barcode along with your Food City ValuCard. This will automatically link the two together, which means you only need to scan this barcode one time. The PLU listed below may also be entered at the cash register by the cashier in lieu of scanning barcode.
- Parents also can register their ValuCard online by visiting foodcity.com/schoolbucks

From that point, it's simple... just shop and earn valuable points for your school. Remember this is a ValuCard program... use your ValuCard and save for the school listed below!

***Supporters can sign up for one school per ValuCard.**

HERE IS YOUR BARCODE AND SCHOOL ID

CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL
SCHOOL PLU# 40310



Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Take good risks

Encourage your tween to try an activity that appeals to her, even if she's a little nervous. Maybe she wants to join the cross-country team but hasn't run longer distances. Or perhaps she's interested in the improv club but is hesitant about public speaking. Stepping out of her comfort zone will stretch her abilities and build confidence.

Agree to disagree

If your usually agreeable child starts poking holes in your opinions, that's a sign his reasoning skills are developing. Try not to take it personally, and ask him to share his views respectfully. He'll learn that it's okay to disagree, as long as he's polite about it.

Puzzle me this

Crossword puzzles boost your tween's vocabulary. Have her print free puzzles she finds online or get crossword books from a dollar store. Or she and her friends could make crosswords for each other on graph paper or with a website like puzzlemaker.discoveryeducation.com.

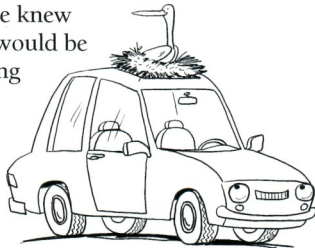
Worth quoting

"The way to get started is to quit talking and begin doing." *Walt Disney*

Just for fun

Q: Why did the bird build a nest on the car?

A: She knew they would be moving soon!



A good attitude = more learning

Starting the year with a positive attitude about school goes a long way toward a student's success. Inspire your tween to develop a winning outlook with these strategies.

Look for positives

Your middle grader can find something interesting about every class. Suggest that he start a list of fun facts, one from each class every week. After a biology lesson on genetics, he might write, "I had a 50 percent chance of having blue eyes since Mom's are brown and Dad's are blue." Encourage him to share his discoveries with you.

Celebrate achievements

Tell your tween to congratulate himself on a job well done. Maybe he earned a higher score on this week's vocabulary quiz than he did on last week's. Or perhaps he picked a topic for his history paper, even though he was tempted to



put off getting started. Saying "I did it!" will make him feel good about himself and motivated to keep working hard.

Seek help

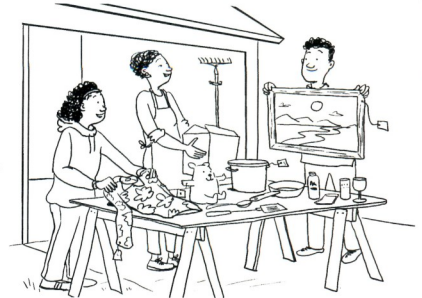
Successful students know how to get help when they face challenges. For example, your child could post a schedule of teachers' office hours or homework-help sessions in his locker. Then if he's struggling, he can sign up for a slot. Having a plan in place will help him stay upbeat. 👍

Fall family fun

Strong parent-tween relationships help kids resist risky behaviors and make family life more enjoyable. Try these ideas.

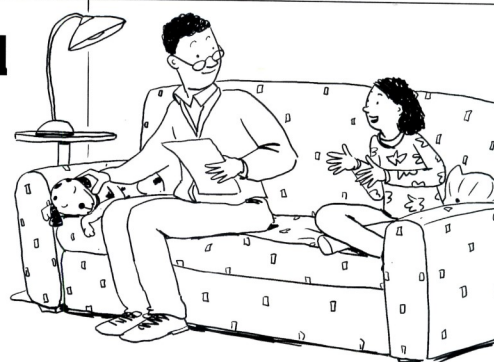
■ **Outings.** Ask your child to find outings that sound fun, such as a fall festival or a paint night. For ideas, she could look in the newspaper or check library and community center websites. *Tip:* Suggest that she ask classmates where their families like to go on weekends.

■ **Projects.** Let your middle grader plan family projects. Perhaps she'll suggest a garage sale. Work together to gather books, housewares, and toys you don't need anymore. She can help to advertise the sale, price items, and greet customers. 👍



Wanted: Involved parents

What does parent involvement look like in middle school? While you probably won't be volunteering in your child's classroom, she still wants your support (even if she doesn't act like she does). Consider these tips for being a partner in her education.



At school. Make it a priority to attend school events like curriculum nights and school plays. Also, look for ways to help that are related to your tween's activities. If she plays in the band, you could volunteer to set up for a concert. If she belongs to a book club, you might offer to shelve library books and talk to her afterward about

books you noticed. Or if she's an athlete, maybe you'll work at the concession stand during sporting events.

At home. Offer to quiz your middle grader on material she's studying or to look over a paper she's working on. To stay in the loop about what's happening in school, read the website regularly and sign up for email or text alerts. Mention the announcements to your child so she knows you're interested in her school. 👍

Q & A Getting started with community service

Q My son is required to complete community service hours this year, but he can't decide what to do. How can I help him?



A Doing community service will let your son help others and gain work experience. The main office or his school counselor may have a list of places where he can volunteer. He could also ask friends, relatives, and neighbors for ideas.

Then, suggest that he choose a job that matches his interests—he'll get more out of it that way. For example, he might participate in a beach cleanup if he's concerned about the environment. Or if he likes working with younger children, he may play games or read with little ones at a homeless shelter while their parents attend job training.

Finally, encourage him to keep track of his work, including names of supervisors, so he'll receive credit—and even have references for a job someday. 👍

OUR PURPOSE

To provide busy parents with practical ideas that promote school success, parent involvement, and more effective parenting.

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128 N. Royal Avenue • Front Royal, VA 22630
800-394-5052 • rfeustomer@wolterskluwer.com
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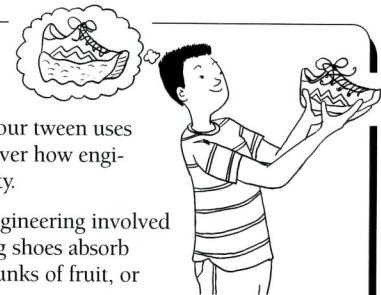


Everyday engineering

From shoes and clothing to appliances and electronics, just about every product your tween uses was designed by engineers. Help him discover how engineering affects his daily life with this activity.

1. Encourage your child to consider the engineering involved in his favorite products. Maybe his running shoes absorb impact, the smoothie maker purees big chunks of fruit, or his jacket repels rain.

2. Now let him pick a product to redesign. He could decide to add another layer of foam to his shoes. First, he should run a block and rate his comfort on a scale of 1–10. Then, he can add foam, run another block, and rate his comfort again. What happens if he adds even more foam? How much might be too much? 👍



Parent to Parent The “elevator speech”

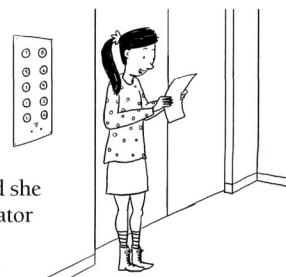
When I was looking for a job, I discovered an interesting technique for “selling” yourself in an interview: the “elevator speech.” I shared the idea with my daughter Susan, thinking she could use it to write summaries or make points during class discussions.

I told Susan to pretend she was going to ride an elevator with me and summarize the novel she's reading in

30 seconds or less—about the time it would take to ride from the ground to the top floor of a building.

Susan jotted down what she wanted to say. At first, it took her almost 3 minutes to read it. But she kept trimming her summary until it was about 30 seconds long.


Then, she read it aloud to me. She got to the point quickly, and now she plans to try the strategy in class. 👍





September 2019

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

1	2 LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL	3	4	5	6	7
8 	9	10 PARENT NIGHT 5 PM -7PM	11	12	13 KCS Coupon Book Campaign Begins! 	14
BOOK FAIR WEEK						
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27 Dance 3:45-5 PTSA Tailgate party 5-7	
29	30 KCS Coupon Book Campaign Ends!					



Beta News~

Beta Club will have it's first meeting, Friday, September 6th. It will last until 4:30. We will meet in the chorus room. 6th graders- bring your National Honor Society Certificate, Junior Beta Certificate, or last years 5th grade report card.

