

CARTER BUZZ



CARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

September 2018

WATSON'S WORLD~

No Energy Vampires Allowed!

Jon Gordon is one of my favorite authors. He has written several books, blogs, articles, and etc. on motivation, success, and the power of being positive. One of his books is titled "**The Energy Bus**" and in this book he discusses ten rules of riding the bus and being successful. One of the rules discussed is that Energy Vampires are not allowed. What is an Energy Vampire? An Energy Vampire is anyone that tries to suck positive energy from people. I discussed this with the students in the first week and I talked about it at our Open House to parents. In the school setting an Energy Vampire could be a person disrupting class, being mean, causing drama, or being a bully. Really, it is anyone that is taking away from the positive learning environment. Students are at school to learn in a safe and positive environment for that reason No Energy Vampires Allowed!

The digital age is upon us.

The majority of our student body now has their iPads. The iPads are not a toy. These iPads are to be used for educational purposes. The iPads are set up this year so students cannot download apps without going through our school Self-Service. The only apps on the Self-Service will be teacher-approved apps that have gone through the vetting criteria. If your student has the App Store on their iPad, then please notify the homeroom teacher to fill out the iPad Issues link. Your student should not have the App Store on the device. Some apps will automatically download on the devices that are frequently used apps for the district. 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. Including excused and unexcused absences. Last year 22 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

On Thursday, September 13th we will have a Parent Night at Carter Middle School from 5pm to 7pm. We will have pizza and drinks. 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.

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

**"The key to success is to be a lifelong learner who continuously works hard to improve."
~Jon Gordon, The Energy Bus**

STANLEY'S SECTION~

The 7th graders are having a great year thus far. They are getting accustom to grades, homework, testing, after school extra-curricular activities, community events, etc. There has already been a Back to School Dance, but the field trips, sports, incentives, etc. are in full effect. 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 on Tuesdays and Thursday at the PRIDE Store soon. Throughout the year, we will continue to address our Hornet PRIDE motto and encourage students to show it every day. The iPad Deployment night took place on Friday, August 24th. 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 September 13th from 5:00-7:00 for Community Report Card Night for Carter Middle School.

Please note that the fall field trip for 7th grade is scheduled for October 19th. Parents, please look for your child to bring the permission slip for the field trip home.

Jennifer Stanley
Assistant Principal
7th Grade



"Success comes from knowing that you did your best to become the best that you are capable of becoming."
- Coach John Wooden

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 7. Parent night will be on September 13 from 5:00-7:00. We are also going to try and have our 1st parent meeting for the New York/Washington trip towards the end of the month. We will communicate the date for this meeting via email, phone link, and students as soon as we can. Thank you all for your continued support and encouragement!

GO HORNETS!!!!
Joey Ramsey
Assistant Principal
8th Grade



~ATTENDANCE~

Please remember that's it's very important to be at school everyday on time and ready to learn. If absent, you must have a doctor or parent note turned in to the office

~LIBRARY NEWS~

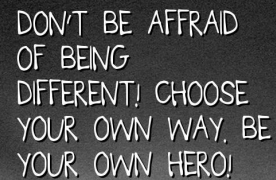
The Scholastic Book Fair will be here Sept 10-14 in the library. Students will visit the Book Fair with their Social Studies class and will also be able to shop during Homeroom each day. The Book Fair will also be available to parents during our Fall Report Card Night on Thursday, Sept 13. Additionally, the Book Fair is available online from Sept 2-22. Parents may also set up an eWallet for students so they do not have to carry cash to school. Find links and more information about our Scholastic Book Fair at <http://www.scholastic.com/bf/cartermiddleschool6>.

~COUNSELOR'S CORNER~

We are so excited to be back at Carter for another school year! We've had some changes to the Counseling Team that we want you all to be aware of. We now have 2 counselors for all three grade levels. Here are the grades we are working with, as well as how to reach us:

Mr. Meade – 6th Grade
8th Grade, last names A-L
adam.meade@knoxschools.org
(865) 932-8148

Ms. Kyburz - 7th Grade
8th Grade, last names M-Z
beth.kyburz@knoxschools.org
(865) 932-8152



DON'T BE AFRAID
OF BEING
DIFFERENT! CHOOSE
YOUR OWN WAY, BE
YOUR OWN HERO!

- Anurag Prakash Ray

Please visit us on the Carter Middle School Counseling Services website! If you go to the CMS website, you'll find a "School Counseling" tab toward the top of the page. While you're there, please take just a few minutes to complete the **Parent Needs Survey** so that we have a better idea of how to best serve both you and your student. On our website you will also find a **Parent Student Referral Form**. Please complete this form if you would like us to talk with your student about something. **Email** is also a great way to reach us!

We're looking forward to working with both you and your students this year!

Education is the

key

to unlock the
golden door of

freedom

George Washington Carver

PTSA NEWS~

Parents: Please help you student by participating! You are always welcome to attend PTSA meetings. Our general meetings are the second Tuesday of the month at 6 p.m. in the library. We would love to hear your thoughts and ideas.

cartermiddleschoolptsa@knoxschools.org

Visit us on our
Facebook page and stay
up to date with Carter
Middle School Events!
cartermiddleschoolptsa



2018-2019 CMS
Volleyball Team

Varsity

Robin Foster
Ava Morell
Sadie White
Alli Autrey
Camdyn Seal
Halle Watson
Josie Shipley
Dallas Brogdon

Junior Varsity

Hailey Sarton
Layla Smith
Emily Kirby
Brooklyn Seal
Sarah Jarnagin
Katrina Lee
Kelsi Lindsey



2018-2019 CMS
Cross Country Team



April Britton
Hailey Komoroski
Kaetlyn Reynolds
Ivey Jones
Lillith Best
Kylie Hancock
Danielle Cohen
Shelby Mcbee
Collin Abbott
Dalton Woods
Tyler Weaver
Drake Limbaugh
Asher Williams

Show your
Hornet PRIDE!

Don't be an Energy Vampire!



BELIEVE!

If you have the desire, you also have the
power to make it happen!



10 Rules to Fuel Your Life, Work and Team with Positive Energy!
www.TheEnergyBus.com



SEPTEMBER 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
	LABOR DAY NO SCHOOL			COUPON BOOK CAMPAIGN STARTS TODAY!		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
				PTSA Meeting in the library FALL REPORT CARD NIGHT 5 PM-7 PM		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	YOKE BEGINS @7:00 PM IN CMS CAFE'					
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			LAST DAY OF COUPON BOOK CAMPAIGN!			
30						

Basketball News~



Boys and Girls basketball tryouts will begin on Monday, September 24th. All students who plan to try out **Must have a sports physical turned in to the coach before tryouts begin.**

See Coach Rudolph or Coach Parker for details.



"You cannot get through a single day without having an impact on the world around you. What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make."
~Jane Goodall

Middle Years

Working Together for School Success



Short Stops

Connect after school

Your middle grader may not feel like talking the minute he gets home from school. Try simply saying, “Hi, I hope your day went well!” and giving him time to relax. Later, you might ask about a class or an assignment, such as what he did in art or how his history presentation went.

A load off your back

Carrying a heavy backpack can strain muscles and cause shoulder, neck, and back pain. Let your tween weigh herself and then her backpack to make sure it's no more than 10–20 percent of her body weight. Also, she should carry the bag over both shoulders so the weight is evenly distributed.

Guess my number

This fun family game stretches your child's logical thinking skills. Take turns choosing a number between 1 and 100. Have everyone else ask yes or no questions (“Is it odd?” “Is it more than 60?”) until someone figures out the correct number. Then, that person picks a new range (say, between 475 and 600) and a new secret number.

Worth quoting

“Never mind what others do; do better than yourself, beat your own record from day to day, and you are a success.” *William J. H. Boetcker*

Just for fun

Q: Who is strong enough to move a castle?

A: A chess player!



A+ organizing strategies

As the school year gets underway, your middle grader will be calmer and more confident if she knows she's on top of things. Strategies like these can help her get organized.

Create “command centers”

Encourage your tween to keep school-related materials in specific places so she'll always know where they are. She could store homework supplies on a kitchen shelf or in a box on her bedroom desk. Have her choose a spot near the front door for items like her backpack, musical instrument, and gym shoes so they'll be ready to go when she is.



file what she needs and throw away what she doesn't.

Use “5-minute wonders”

Suggest these habits that take only a few minutes. Before leaving school each day, she can scan her planner to check dates and deadlines for tests, assignments, and forms. That way, she'll know which books and papers to take home. At home, she could quickly leaf through her folders and notebooks, then

Keep an estimate log

Knowing how long tasks actually take will give your tween an edge when organizing her time. Suggest that she time herself completing different types of schoolwork, such as doing research for a report or reviewing Spanish vocabulary. She could write the times in her planner and refer to them later to help her budget accurately in the future. 👍

Part of the group

Joining an extracurricular activity gives your child a productive—and fun—way to spend his free time. Try these ideas.

■ **Find a good fit.** Suggest that your middle grader listen to morning announcements or check the school website for a list of activities. He can ask the coach or advisor for more details about ones he's interested in.

■ **Arrange transportation.** Set up a carpool with other parents. Or have him find out whether there's a late bus he can ride and get the schedule.

■ **Show interest.** If he joins a sports team, cheer him on at games or meets. Or if he's in the science club, ask him to tell you about an experiment he enjoyed. 👍



Homework: Smooth sailing

In middle school, your tween is the captain of the ship when it comes to handling homework. He can sail smoothly with these tips.

Discuss expectations. Encourage your child to think about what he expects of himself. He might say he will turn in assignments when they're due and get in the habit of looking over math problems to be sure he didn't



make careless mistakes. Also, let him know what you expect when it comes to homework. Consider writing down your expectations, such as doing his best and turning assignments in when they're due.

Step back. Have your middle grader decide when to do homework, whether it's after school or after dinner. When it's time for him to start, be matter-of-fact.

You could say, "Looks like it's time to do homework. Let me know if you need anything." Then, allow him to work independently. This shows him you have confidence in his abilities and encourages him to take responsibility for his own work. 👍

What is "vaping"?

The good news: Fewer middle schoolers are smoking cigarettes. The bad news: More tweens are vaping, or using electronic cigarettes. Here's what you need to know.

What it is:

Electronic devices are used to inhale vapor that usually contains nicotine. Vaping appeals to kids because it comes in flavors like cotton candy or bubble gum. The devices are often small and easy to hide—some even look like flash drives and can be plugged into laptops to charge.



Why it's dangerous: Nicotine is addictive, and it harms growing brains and lungs. And the verdict is still out on what additional damage the chemicals could cause.

What you can do: Don't allow any type of smoking, and let your child know the consequences if she breaks this rule. Also, be on the lookout for signs of vaping, such as giant clouds of vapor or unexplained odors. And search for images of e-cigarettes online so you'll know what they look like. 👍



Parent to Parent

Encourage initiative

I mentioned to my neighbor Jeanne what helpful kids she has, since I often see them getting the mail or working in their yard. Jeanne said they do a lot without being asked, so I wanted to know her secret to raising children who take initiative!

Jeanne explained that when her youngest started middle school, she went back to work and had less time to do things around the house. So she taught her kids that rather than waiting for her to change the trash bag or start the dishwasher, they needed to handle those things themselves. Eventually, they got used to taking on bigger roles in the household.

I decided to take a page from Jeanne's book and have my daughter start doing her laundry and packing her snack. After the first few days, I stopped reminding her—and when she didn't have clean clothes or a snack, she learned to remind herself. She may not offer to do the gardening overnight, but at least I'm sending the right message! 👍



Q & A

In school every day

Q Last year, my son asked to stay home when he was tired or "needed a break." I know he has a lot to do—should I let him stay home occasionally?

A One of the best ways to help your child have a successful year is to make sure he attends school every day from start to finish.

Start the year by reading the attendance policy in the school handbook together. That way, you'll both be on the same page about what counts as

an acceptable reason for missing school, such as illness or a family emergency.

Then if he asks for a "day off," explain that learning is his job. To keep up with new material and participate in class, he has to be there. You can let him know that his days off come during winter break and spring break. Regular attendance at school now will create a habit that he'll continue throughout his school years—and one day, on the job. 👍



OUR PURPOSE

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

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