

November 1, 2016

Dear Parents of Fleming M.S.

We are nearing the end of the first quarter of the 2016-17 school year. Things are moving so fast. Be mindful to encourage your student to check their grades with StudentVue and remember you can also check their grades using ParentVue. It is important to remember that these grades represent the current performance and are an opportunity to change or reinforce current learning habits. The first quarter grades do not represent a permanent grade instead they are a halftime score that represents where your student is performing in his/her class(es). <u>All</u> students have another nine weeks to make up the grade they may have at this time.

In an effort to support your student, below are some items that may be impacting your students grade. Take the time to talk with them about these issues or tools for checking on grades.

- 1. **Homework** Despite what your child may think or say, homework does have a purpose. It allows your child to practice and gain a deeper understanding of a procedure, process or concept, not to mention preparing the student for an assessment. The best place to make mistakes is on homework, not on an assessment! Homework also prepares a student to discuss solutions to a problem in the next day's class. It allows opportunities for classmates to explore alternate ways to approach a situation.
- 2. Agenda Book Check your students agenda book or syllabi's Each teacher asks that students use their agenda book to write down assignments and homework. Each teacher also has their own criteria for completed homework assignments. Your child will get higher grades if he or she knows what the teacher expects. Parents can encourage students and provide them with quiet time and space for doing homework. Please visit your child's teachers website to learn more about assignments and upcoming exams.
- 3. Check grades all the time Parent Vue is available all the time and 'there is an app for that'.
- 4. **Attendance** Great attendance maximizes a students ability to practice the skills necessary to pass all their classes.

IMPORTANT DATES

- 11/3 Picture retakes
- 11/7 8th grade Math Competition from 9-10am
- 11/9 End of the 1st guarter of school
- 11/10 NO SCHOOL
- 11/11 NO SCHOOL (Veterans Day) Thank you to those who are or have served our country.



- 11/17 NO SCHOOL Parent Teacher Conferences
- 11/18 NO SCHOOL Parent Teacher Conferences





ATHLETICS

Fleming Fall sports just wrapped up. Thank you to all the students who participated, the families who supported them and the coaches who gave their time to these programs. The winter sports seasons are begining. Below is a snippet of the sports we will offer for the winter plus some other news and notes.

- Boys Basketball season is starting. Tryouts are Monday and Tuesday Oct. 31st and Nov. 1st. Parent meeting is Wednesday Nov. 2nd at 5:15 in the cafeteria.
- Girls Basketball and Wrestling will be having sign-ups at the end of November. We are looking for a 7th grade girls basketball coach. If you are interested, please contact the office.
- Calling all Wrestling Parents- We are in desperate need of help raising money for the program. Parent meeting to discuss fundraising options will be Wednesday Nov. 2nd at 6:15 in the Fleming library. Any questions please call the office and speak to Donna.

LIBRARY

Thank you goes out to the PTO. Their generous donation was used to buy books from Oregon Book Store. They sell gently used new books at such a discounted price. Every time you go into The Oregon Book Store, please mention you are from Fleming middle school. We get 5% back of all Fleming School sales. We are still interested and using Box tops. Bring them into the library. All the new books have been processed and in circulation.

21st CENTURY PROGRAM

Our current programs run through December. We encourage all students to join us on Monday or Wednesday to learn an exciting new skill and if you need tutoring we have teachers available on Tuesday and Thursday. Please feel free to contact us at (541) 476-8284 or visit our website at https://goo.gl/t1qSBv if you have more questions.

**Don't forget we have Homework Helphouse from 8-845am Monday - Thursday where your student can come and receive some extra classroom support.

**Parent Tip of Month:

• The holiday season can be a very happy time in the school year. The opportunity for reflection and rest is certainly earned. Amongst all this celebration, the holidays serve as a magnifier of what students may or may not have. This can cause a plethora of emotions which students in middle school may not know how to interpret or handle. Be a great listener this year and watch for signals of distress and be aware that saying how much you care can be the difference between a good or bad day. Love and Affection

Tips of Month

- SET UP A SCHEDULE. For classes that are harder, make sure you give yourself more time to study or do homework. Also make time for recreation and social activities; they are just as important as your grades.
- START STUDYING FOR 10-15 MINUTES AT A TIME AND THEN BUILD UP TO LONGER PERIODS OF TIME. Start reading/studying for 10-15 minutes. Then build on that by 10 minutes once you become comfortable studying for at least an hour at a time. So work hard, but be realistic. If you can no longer concentrate or remember what you have read, stop. Do not waste valuable time.

My best,

Sid Hobgood Principal