

# Asa Mercer International Middle School

Dear Mercer Families,

As spring arrives, the weather warms and the sun makes more of a presence it is an exciting time of the year. We also begin to transition toward the end of the year.

In the next couple of weeks we will bring our state SBA window to a close:

- Seventh grade take the Math portion on Monday & Tuesday, May 8 & 9.
- Sixth grade take the Math portion on Wednesday and Thursday, May 11 & 12.
- Eighth grade take the Science portion on May 23.

Also, a reminder about appropriate school clothing. Page 12 of your student's planner specifies expectations. This year the new trend we see are ripped/torn jeans. Usually a non-issue unless the rips/tears are too far up on the leg. Our general rule of thumb is skin is covered below an arm's length. This applies whether pants, shorts, or skirts. Please review additional reminders on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter.

There are a number of activities coming up on the horizon. Page 3 of this newsletter provides some details. Students must continue to work hard in school and meet expectations in order to participate.

This past week was Teacher Appreciation Week. We'd like to thank all of you for your cards, emails, and surprise treats that made its way to Mercer. I would also like to extend much gratitude to our fabulous PTSA for sponsoring morning treats and coffee as well as a staff luncheon. These acknowledgements were warmly received and are greatly appreciated!

Lastly, a significant achievement for the Mercer community is the recognition, for an eighth consecutive year, as a Washington State Achievement Award winner. This is the highest recognition a school can receive from our state and something to be proud of. This is a direct result of the hard work of our students and families along with the amazing staff at Mercer.

Go Mustangs!

Principal Carter

[cecarter@seattleschools.org](mailto:cecarter@seattleschools.org)



## Contact Information

**Main Office:** (206) 252-8000

Ms. Hodges and

Ms. Nouch

**Grade Level Administrators**

6th: Ms. Encarnacion

7th: Ms. Simmons

8th: Ms. Gerlitz

**Grade Level Counselors**

6th: Mr. Malaki

7th: Ms. Chappelle

8th: Ms. Bradley

**Attendance:** (206) 252-8004

Ms. Kolner

**Nurse:** (206) 252-8007

Ms. Eckerdt

**Registrar:** (206) 252-8010

Ms. Holmes

**Bilingual Office:** (206) 252-8008

Mr. Adan – Somali

Ms. Almendarez- Spanish

Ms. Bunnell – Tagalog

Ms. Chung – Chinese

Ms. Deloya - Spanish

Mr. Siew– Chinese

Mr. Tran – Vietnamese

**After School**

**Activities:** (206) 252-8020

Damien Hicks and

Won Choi

**School Based**

**Health Center:** (206) 762-2394

Sarah Bernhards

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### **PLEASE REVIEW | Safety Reminders**

In addition to teaching and learning, the safety of our students is the most important responsibility we have. As a result, we take the supervision of our students, and teaching expectations very seriously.

#### **1. A.M. Arrival to Mercer**

We realize the later start time for middle school may make dropping off students more difficult in the morning. However, our Mercer campus is not open for students until 8:15 a.m. We do not have staff on duty to supervise until then. Yet, we are seeing more students arriving before the approved arrival time of 8:15 a.m. Unfortunately, we need to address this with more strict expectations.

##### A.M. ARRIVAL PROCEDURE

1. Campus is closed until 8:00 a.m. **No students** should be on the Mercer campus prior to 8:00 a.m. Students arriving before this time will be pulled into the office for a phone call home.
2. If arriving between 8:00 - 8:15 a.m. students **MUST** report to the cafeteria. Morning breakfast is available beginning at 8:15 a.m.
3. Students are dismissed from the cafeteria at 8:25 a.m. Until 8:25 a.m. hallways are off limits.

#### **2. Mercer is a Closed Campus.**

**Once students arrive on school grounds students CANNOT leave campus for any reason. This applies to morning arrival, lunchtime, and after school activities. For example:**

- ✓ We have some students begin dropped off in the parking lot, then crossing the street to go to MacPherson's. We also have some students getting off the school bus in the morning and walking across the street. Either example is not OK. Once on campus students are expected to remain on campus.
- ✓ This expectation also applies to students at lunch and for students that stay for after school activities. Students cannot go to the store and return to school.

**Thank you for your partnership!**

## NEWS AND INFORMATION

### **PLEASE REVIEW | Cell Phones**

Most of our middle school students do a great job managing the use of devices.  
However, many middle school students do not.

Mercer policy and expectations are simple and straight forward.

- Cell phones and electronic devices should be powered off and put away.
- Not to be seen or heard during the school day, 8:15 a.m. to 3:15 p.m.



These are extremely disruptive to our learning environment. Every parent and guardian we speak with agrees that using Snapchat rather than learning math in math class, as an example, is electronic device mismanagement. Yet, this is an example of what too many of our students are doing even with constant reminders from teachers and staff. Please review your family expectations with electronic devices in school that align with school expectations. **Thank you!**

### **End of Year Activities | PREVIEW**

Our students work hard all year long. We have many days of the school year remaining, but as we look forward to June there are a number of activities on the horizon. We continue to reinforce expectations for all of our students around the A, B, Cs of success.

**Attendance:** No unexcused absences is our target, and on-time to class.

**Behavior:** No referrals for misbehavior is our target. Follow adult direction the first time given.

**Coursework:** Cs and above is our target. Students need to take advantage of opportunities for re-takes and to improve grades.

Each activity below has expectations that will be clearly communicated to students. As information comes home, please help to reinforce these A, B, C expectations. We want every student to participate!

**Grade 6:** Mercer Carnival (June 2), Wild Waves (June 21), Yearbooks (June 22), Field day (June 23)

**Grade 7:** Mercer Carnival (June 2), Wild Waves (June 21), Yearbooks (June 22)

**Grade 8:** Mercer Carnival (June 2), Yearbook (June 20), Promotion Celebration (June 22), Family Fun Center (June 23)

## IMPORTANT REMINDERS

### PTSA Meeting, Wednesday, May 10, 6:30 pm

We have PTSA meetings every 2nd Wednesday of the month, unless posted otherwise. If you have any questions, concerns, suggestions and ideas, you can contact us at [mercer\\_ptsa@outlook.com](mailto:mercer_ptsa@outlook.com) or visit the Mercer website: [http://mercerms.seattleschools.org/school\\_involvement/PTSA](http://mercerms.seattleschools.org/school_involvement/PTSA).

We hope to see you here!

### Summer Learning Opportunities!

Summer is fast approaching. This [link](#) provides information for many opportunities that exist in our community. Please refer to the program contact person for more information.



### Bell Time Change | 2017-18

You may have been hearing about possible Seattle Public School bell schedule changes for 2017-18.

[Bell Time Changes 2017-18](#)

We've received a number of questions about this. Nothing with SPS has been finalized, yet we are hearing a likely 9:00 a.m. - 3:50 p.m. school day. Once finalized we will be able to communicate our specific Mercer changes and possible after school program changes.

#### IMPORTANT MAY DATES

- 1-5: Teacher Appreciation Week!
- 10: 2 hr Early Dismissal (1:15 p.m.)
- 19: Mid-quarter progress reports
- 25: Asian Culture Night Celebration (5:30 p.m.)
- 29: Memorial Day (No School)

#### June Dates

- 2: Mercer Carnival (1:45-3:15 p.m.)
- 15: Spring Concert (7:00 p.m.)
- 26: Last day of school (2:15 p.m dismissal)

