

# PARSONS MIDDLE SCHOOL

August, 2006

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Dear Parents and Students:

I hope you all enjoying what is left of your summer vacation. It seems like yesterday that the halls of Parsons Middle School were full of life. Those of us who work in the office are getting everything in order for the 2006-07 school year.

There will be some staff changes for the upcoming year. In addition to the teachers who are moving from one place to another within the building, we will also have several new faces. On the last page you will find a list of the entire staff for 2006-07. We welcome them one and all.

We would also like to welcome our new sixth graders, as well as any other students new to our building. I'm sure you are anxious and have many questions. Let me assure you that the staff at Parsons Middle School is top notch. They are a very diverse and experienced group, and will not only make you feel very comfortable here, but also provide you with the quality education you will need to be successful in your future.

We have a new School Information System this year. This is a computer program that manages and stores just about everything we do. Parents will find the system exceptionally pleasing, as it will provide them with access to up to date academic records for their children. Installing the program has been quite an undertaking for our secretaries. There is so much information that must be entered for each student. In an effort to ensure that we have everything we need, this year we are asking that parents of all students to fill out the enclosed enrollment form/field trip permission form (yellow). We will also need every parent to sign an internet permission form (blue), which is also enclosed. August 2-4 has been scheduled for open enrollment. Any student who has one of the enclosed enrollment forms in this packet filled out and returned to the school office on these days will receive a Lancer Buck at the beginning of school. We would greatly appreciate your cooperation with this.

Open House is scheduled for Monday, August 28 at 7 p.m. We will begin in the auditorium for welcoming comments and the introduction of staff. Parents and students will then be allowed to walk the student's schedule. We have scheduled a five - minute allotment with each teacher. I hope you can attend.

Please take time to look at the school calendar for this year. The first day, August 17, is for all new students and sixth grade only. We will dismiss at 12:45 on that day. Friday, August 18 is for all students, and will dismiss at the normal time of 3:10.

Student handbooks and planners will be issued to students on the first student day. Although the Student Handbooks are not a part of the planners, each student will be given a hard copy of the Handbook on the first day. Students will be going over the policies and procedures in the handbook the first couple of days in Advisor Base. I would recommend that parents also read these, as many informational items are addressed.

In closing, I hope this will be a rewarding school year for all of us. Again, feel free to call us at 421-4190 should you have any questions. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Sincerely,

Terry Smith  
Principal



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## Lancer News

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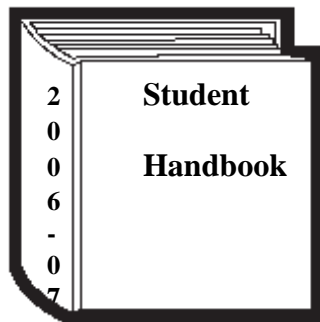
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## MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Educators, families, and community will join with students in a collaborative effort to develop socially responsible and academically successful students.

## ENROLLMENT FOR NEW STUDENTS

Office staff will be available to enroll new students from 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Parents of new students should provide a report card from the former school, proof of birth, and a copy of their immunization record.



The Student Handbook and the Student Assignment Book will be handed out to the students on the first day of school during advisor base. Parents should read and review the school policies with your child. Also, Student Handbooks will be available for parents the night of Open House, August 28.

## The Need for Students to be on Time at School is Apparent

All of us know how important it is for all students to be on time each day. Just as in the adult world we rely that business, employers, and government offices have set hours and abide by them. Middle School students are very impressionable. Thus far in their education they have been nurtured and guided closely. When they reach the sixth grade it is customary to allow them to become more independent. At Parsons

Middle School we impress upon our students that with independence come responsibility. We teach them that as they grow into adult life, there are some certain rules that must be followed in order for them to be accepted as mature adults. Prompt and consistent attendance at school and/or work is one of those rules.

If a child is late to school, not only is your child missing out on instruction that started on time in the classroom, other students are impacted. By your child coming into class late the teacher must stop teaching those who are punctual and address the issue of marking your child present in their attendance book and must try to get your child up to speed with the lesson at hand. Consequently, the learning that was occurring prior to your child coming in late to class has now stopped in an effort to address your child's situation. If two or three or more children arrive after your child, then the process repeats itself and learning stops for your child too. So it is important that your child is at school and on time each day. We understand that there are times that you have a family situation that causes you to have your child arrive late to school, just like in the work place. However, even in the work place there is policy that specifies how many times you can be late without consequences occurring to the employee.

Please read the following policies in excused tardies to school. Our PTO and Site Council have approved this change and the BOE made the decision to accept this as policy in 2003.

### Unexcused Tardy Policy

An unexcused tardy is defined as being late without a note or a phone call from the parent or guardian. Consequences are listed on the tardy notice.

### Excused Tardy Policy

(New policy as of Aug. 2003)

In an effort to emphasize the importance of being on time, students will be allowed 4 tardies in a semester. Parents may excuse their son or daughter with a note or a phone call. On the fourth excused tardy the

Guidance Counselor will phone or send a personal letter home and explain the consequences for each additional tardy (excused or unexcused) will be one detention from 3:15-4:00 p.m.

## OPEN HOUSE

Mark your calendar for the evening of Monday, August 28 for our annual Open House. The activities for the evening will be a general assembly at 7:00 p.m., followed by classroom visitations.

**COMING SOON!**  
**FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL**

**The first day of school will be Thursday, August 17 for all new students and 6th grade students only. With early dismissal at 12:45 p.m.** New students and sixth graders should report directly to the auditorium on Aug. 17.

All students will report to school on Friday, August 18. August 18 will be a regular schedule, 8:00 a.m. to 3:10 p.m. **This day all students should enter the building through the south main doors and report to their advisor base.** Information has been enclosed which provides all advisor base assignments. Students should find their name on the list enclosed and report to that room number. **ALL** students will receive their class schedule on the first day during their advisor base.

## ATTENDANCE PROCEDURES

Students are required by law to be in attendance each day of school unless they are ill or there is a serious family emergency. If your child must be absent from school, please call us at 421-4190 by 8:30 a.m. on the day of the absence. Otherwise, the school will attempt to contact you to obtain information concerning your child. If telephone contact is not made between home and school, please send a note to the office stating the reason for absence when the student returns.



**1st P.T.O. Meeting  
Tuesday, September 5  
6:30 p.m.  
Middle School Library  
Everyone is welcome!**

## CLASSROOM MATERIALS

To begin school it is necessary for each student to have paper, pen and pencil. Teachers will instruct as to any additional required materials after school begins. **Physical education students will be instructed by the teacher as to what they will need for class.**

## BREAKFAST IS SERVED

Breakfast will be from 7:30-7:45 a.m. Students will remain in the lunchroom until they are dismissed at 7:50 a.m. The cashier will collect money from the students who are going to eat breakfast outside the south cafeteria doors. If your student will be using lunch account money to pay for breakfast, they should tell the cashier their **advisor base** teacher's name before proceeding to the cafeteria for breakfast. The cost for breakfast is \$1.30 (Student) and \$1.55 (Adult). Reduced priced breakfast is 30 cents. (BREAKFAST WILL BEGIN AUGUST 17.)

## LUNCH PROCEDURE

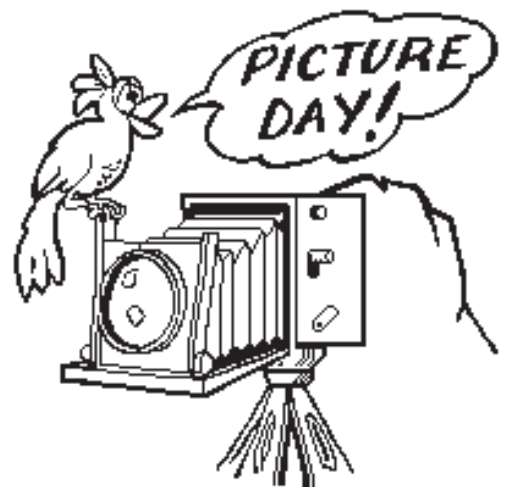
Parsons Middle School operates a closed lunch schedule. All students are required to remain at school during the lunch period. Lunches will be served on the first day of school.

Students may purchase a lunch or bring one from home. Lunches will be served on the first day of school. Full price lunches will be \$2.10 per day (\$21.00 for a 10 day period.) Reduced price lunches will continue to be \$4.00 for a 10 day period. Extra milk will cost 30 cents each. Adult lunches will be \$2.60. Parsons Middle School operates on a cafeteria accounting system. Every student is assigned an account. Individuals wishing to pay ahead will be issued an account card showing their name and the account number. This system enables parents to send money in whatever amounts they choose. Students may then use their account funds for purchases of lunch and/or extra milk. When a student's account balance is low, a reminder for lunch payment will be given to the student. Students may also purchase a full price lunch bringing \$2.10 in exact change to pay while going through the lunch line.

If you wish to apply for free or reduced lunches, the enclosed form must be **completed and returned to the school immediately** and approved by the district office before they become effective - **only one application per family is necessary.** Personal information on the forms should be accurate since there will be a random audit for verification. Families who were receiving free or reduced lunches at the end of last year will continue to receive assistance until August 28 under last year's application.

## INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL PICTURES

Individual student pictures will be taken on Wednesday, September 20. We will begin taking pictures of students at 8:15 a.m. through your child's Social Studies classroom. Your student will receive information the first part of September on picture packets that are available. **Students must pay for picture packets on the day of pictures.** All students will have their picture taken, even if they do not wish to purchase any. When ordering, you must make the check or money order payable to the picture company, *Interstate Studios.*



**INTERSCHOLASTICS**

**TRAFFIC**

Students are to always use the crosswalks in front of the school when arriving or leaving school grounds. Students should never cross any street, except at the corners of the campus at the designated crosswalks. A little extra time and effort are certainly worth avoiding injury.

Please never park in bus loading zones and never double park around the campus. Always load and unload passengers on the school side of the street. This helps the kids avoid walking through congested traffic. The Parsons Police Department will be on patrol around our campus before and after school to help insure student safety. Always be extra alert and cautious any time you drive by our campus during the school day. Please also review pedestrian safety with your child before the first day of school.

Bicycle racks will be provided for students on the west side of the campus. Students are encouraged to lock the rear wheel of their bikes to the bike rack. The back part of the bicycle is the most valuable part of the bike. **Students are to walk their bikes at all times when on campus and walk their bikes through crosswalks around campus.** When they mount up to ride, they should ride with the traffic laws between home and school.

**FREE**  
**School Sports Physicals**  
**August 8, 2006**  
**6:00 p.m.**  
**Katy Clinic**

On behalf of all the coaches and sponsors at Parsons Middle School, we would like to welcome you back for the Lancers' upcoming seasons. The Lancers are fortunate to have an excellent coaching staff and a tradition of winning. When you consider our "state of the art" facilities, we eagerly anticipate a banner year.

Interscholastic sports are open to seventh and eighth grade students who have maintained zero "F" grades from the previous grading period. Interscholastic athletes must also have a signed doctor's physical on file in the school's office to be eligible to participate.

Thanks to area physicians and nurses, free physical examinations will be offered for all middle school students planning to participate in our interscholastic programs on Tuesday, August 9th beginning at 6 p.m. at the **Katy Clinic**. This is a wonderful opportunity for parents and students alike as it saves money.

Football, volleyball, and girls' tennis coaches will give students more information about the upcoming practice schedules at the Tuesday, August 9th physicals.

Football coaches are Rob Barcus, Eddie Kearns, Mike Krull, and Bill Wolff. Volleyball coaches are Sherri Martin and Lisa Jackson. Girls' tennis will be directed by Brandi Yates. A parents meeting will be scheduled for all interscholastic sports at the beginning of the season.

**INTERSCHOLASTIC SCHEDULE**

**FOOTBALL**

Date	Place	Opponent	Time
Sept. 7	Independence	Independence	5:00 p.m.
Sept. 14	Pittsburg	Pittsburg	5:00 p.m.
Sept. 21	Parsons	Iola	5:00 p.m.
Sept. 28	Parsons	Chanute	5:00 p.m.
Oct. 5	Parsons	Columbus	5:00 p.m.
Oct. 13	Parsons	Pittsburg	5:00 p.m.
Oct. 19	Coffeyville	Coffeyville	5:00 p.m.

Practice begins Monday, August 14 from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

**VOLLEYBALL**

Date	Place	Opponent	Time
Aug. 31	Parsons	Chanute	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 9	Fredonia	Tournament	9:00 a.m.
Sept. 11	Independence	Independence	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 18	Iola	Iola	3:30 p.m.
Sept. 23	Iola Tourney	7th Grade Only	9:00 a.m.
Sept. 28	Coffeyville	7/8 Only	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 3	Pittsburg	Pittsburg	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 5	Parsons	Coffeyville (7/8 Only)	3:30 p.m.
Oct. 10	Parsons	Pittsburg	3:30 p.m.

Practice begins Monday, Aug. 14

**GIRLS' TENNIS**

Date	Place	Opponent	Time
Aug. 31	Wichita Edgemoor		3:00 p.m.
Sept. 12	Parsons		3:00 p.m.
Sept. 18	Independence	Independence	3:00 p.m.
Sept. 26	Independence	Independence	3:00 p.m.
Oct. 6	Winfield	Winfield	9:00 a.m.

Practice begins on Monday, August 14 from 3:30 - 5:00 p.m.

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# Lancer News

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