



## Saug Rapids-Rice Middle School

*Enthusiasm, Energy, Excellence, Engaged*

901 First Street South, Sauk Rapids, MN 56379

Phone: 320.654.9073 • Fax: 320.259.8909 • [www.isd47.org/srrms](http://www.isd47.org/srrms)

August 2018

Dear Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School Families,

Welcome to the 2018-19 school year at Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School! I am hoping that each of you has found time throughout the summer to enjoy some sunshine, be active, read, learn, and enjoy time with family and friends. This school year promises to be another amazing opportunity for our middle school age children to not only survive their middle school years, but to thrive in them! Many of our staff members have also been engaged throughout the summer collaborating on curriculum work, training and learning, teaching summer school, and preparing for another great year! As your child returns, we stand ready and enthusiastic to begin the journey together. As always, feel free to contact us if you have any questions regarding the information in this letter as we are happy to assist you to make the back to school transition as smooth as possible for your child and your family. **Please use the following information as your *CHECKLIST* to get ready for the school year.**

**Note:** The information in this letter can also be accessed at [www.isd47.org/srrms](http://www.isd47.org/srrms) and, for your convenience, we have also emailed a link to families. Please make sure that you have an updated email address on file with us. If you need to update any contact information, including email address, you can do so in [Family Access](#) (Skyward).

### **FAMILY ACCESS (SKYWARD)**

If you are new to the district or otherwise do not have your *Family Access* login and password, please call the office at 320-654-9073 between 7:30 A.M.-3:30 P.M. [Family Access](#) (Skyward) offers parents access to food service accounts, attendance reports, disciplinary reports, grade reports, schedules, fee management, health records, etc. This system also houses our Skylert system, which serves as notification center and allows families to get individualized, up to date school information pushed to them via email, text, and/or phone options.

### **FEE MANAGEMENT**

*Fee Management* is one of the systems located in the Family Access (Skyward) Portal. This system houses school fees such as class material fees, special project fees, book fees, etc., and *any outstanding balances from previous years*. (Note: Sports/Activity fees are not a part of this system) *Fee Management* allows parents to make online payments using a credit or debit card. **For assistance in making payments, please view the [step-by-step directions](#) here: <http://www.isd47.org/online-fee-payment>.**

### **1:1 TECHNOLOGY**

As you may know, Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School is a 1:1 (iPad) technology school. This means that each student will be issued an iPad as a tool to help organize, access information, collaborate with others, and learn! We will be distributing iPads to each student over the next several weeks. Families can expect to receive an email soon with *specific information* regarding iPad distribution and dates.

New this year, we will be providing two dates in August for any student who was enrolled in our district at the end of last year and entering 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade (and parent) to attend a distribution event and pick up the iPad prior to the beginning of the school year. Distribution of iPads for all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and students in 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grades who are new to the district will begin when they arrive on the first day of school.

**IMPORTANT:** Prior to any iPad distribution, families need to sign and submit the district 1:1 agreement and pay any outstanding fees. Protection plans are also available and families are **strongly** encouraged to participate. The protection plan provides generous coverage towards damages or loss. To prepare for iPad distribution, please simply complete and submit the steps outlined on the district website at <http://www.isd47.org/technology>. Step-by-step directions are given.

### **STUDENT SCHEDULES**

Student schedules will be available **ONLINE** on Thursday, August 23<sup>rd</sup> in the [Family Access](#) (Skyward) portal. *Please be aware that many schedule changes may still be made between August 23<sup>rd</sup> and the start of the school year based on programming needs and enrollment. Updated schedules will be available from the student's advisor at Open House.*

### **PRIOR TO OPEN HOUSE - CHECKLIST**

Please visit the middle school home page and complete the **pre-open house checklist**. <http://www.isd47.org/srrms>.

### **OPEN HOUSE CHECKLIST**

**Open House is Wednesday, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 4:30-7:30 PM:** Parents and students will have the opportunity to meet teachers, locate classrooms, and become familiar with locker combinations and SRRMS. Please bring the following checklist with you to Open House to use as your "to-do" list for the evening. We will be hosting an INFORMATION FAIR in the main commons during Open House.

**Nate Rudolph**  
Middle School Principal  
[nate.rudolph@isd47.org](mailto:nate.rudolph@isd47.org)

**Jessica Messerich**  
Assistant Principal  
[jessica.messerich@isd47.org](mailto:jessica.messerich@isd47.org)

**Phillip Klaphake**  
Recreation and Middle School Activities Director  
[phillip.klaphake@isd47.org](mailto:phillip.klaphake@isd47.org)

1. Enter SRRMS: 6<sup>th</sup> Gr. - Door # 9; 7<sup>th</sup> Gr. - Door #1; 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. - Door #3; Information Fair - Door #4 (Signs will help guide you.)
2. Look for **advisor lists** posted inside doors 9, 1, 3 and 4 to confirm your child's advisor. (This information is also on schedules.)
3. Visit **advisory teacher** and pick up UPDATED class schedules from advisor. (Drop off tissue box - from supply list - in advisory.)
4. Drop off other school supplies in **student's locker**. (Locker number and combinations are found on schedules.)
5. Visit the **classrooms** that your student will attend according to the schedule and meet teachers.
6. Visit the **Information Fair** in the main commons. Ask questions and receive helpful middle school information regarding:
  - o Transportation
  - o Food Service
  - o Technology
  - o Health/Emergency
  - o Conference Sign Up
  - o MS Activities: Athletics, Co-Curricular, Clubs, Leadership, Music, Electives, etc.
  - o Academic and Student Support Services

#### **BEGINNING OF THE SCHOOL YEAR (DATES)**

- **August 20th, 1:00-2:30 PM (Optional):** 6<sup>th</sup> grade students and new students to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are invited to the middle school for an *optional* day to help students prepare their lockers for the school year. Students can practice opening the combination locks and add shelves and supplies. Students planning to attend should find their **locker number and combination** in Family Access (Skyward) under the *Student Info Tab* and bring the information with them on this date. This date is *optional* for all new students to SRRMS.
- **Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>:** First day of school for all 6<sup>th</sup> grade students, new students in grades 7 and 8, and W.E.B. leaders. Our fantastic "W.E.B." (Where Everybody Belongs) leaders will create a welcoming and supportive atmosphere for all new students.
- **Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup>:** School begins for returning 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders.

#### **FALL ACTIVITIES**

- Students interested in participating in fall sports/activities should visit <http://www.isd47.org/storm/register>.

#### **STUDENT DROP OFF AND PICK UP (PROCEDURES)**

- To provide a safe drop off and pick up zone in front of school, the direction of traffic is one-way as indicated by the painted arrows on the pavement. As you enter and exit, drive slowly with caution, as students walking to and from school will cross traffic lanes. Please remind your child to look before walking across traffic lanes, and if a designee is transporting your child, please share this information with them as well. No vehicles, except buses, are allowed in the back of the school for student drop off or pick up.
- In the morning, students are to be dropped off using the right lane and left lane, the middle lane is to be used to exit after dropping students off. Students who exit vehicles in the left lane need to look both ways before crossing. Vehicles exiting in the middle lane need to do so with caution.
- After school, students are to be picked up by the grade level at the door associated with their grade level (6<sup>th</sup> grade door #4, 7<sup>th</sup> grade door #1, 8<sup>th</sup> grade door #3). The outside lanes are to be used for drivers who are waiting in their vehicles to pick up a student. The middle lane is to be left open at all times to exit after picking up a student. NOTE: If traffic begins to back up on 1<sup>st</sup> street, we ask that vehicles travel to the east end of campus, turn and line up in the westbound lane to enter the safety zone. See diagram here: <http://www.isd47.org/srrms/aboutsrrms/ms-hours-attendance>
- Various times of the year bring an increase in the number of vehicles transporting students. Everyone must exercise patience.
- Please keep these important safety issues in mind, and share this information with others who may be transporting your child.

#### **PUBLICATION OF STUDENT NAMES AND PHOTOGRAPHS**

During the school year, your student may be part of activities or events that are photographed. The district may want to use your students name and/or photograph for educational or promotional purposes on the district website, newsletters, multimedia projects, social media, or other publications. Each school publishes student names and photographs in their yearbook. *Parents/guardians may request their student's name and photograph not be released by obtaining and returning an [Opt Out Form](#) which can be found at the district website or middle school office. Please complete all Opt Out Forms by September 14, 2018.*

#### **MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS**

- School is in session from 8:10 AM to 3:05 PM. We do not provide direct supervision for students who arrive before 7:35 AM. After 7:35, students are assigned to the following gathering areas: 6<sup>th</sup> Grade-East Gym; 7<sup>th</sup> Grade-Community Room; 8<sup>th</sup> Grade-Commons.
- If your child requires any medications at school, please contact Jessica Efraimson, Health Secretary, (320-654-9073) before the first day of school. Ms. Efraimson's office hours begin on August 27<sup>th</sup>. She will also be available during Open House.
- **If your child will need to remain at school beyond 3:30 P.M.**, and is not in a school sponsored activity, he/she will need to enroll in the [Storm After-School](#) program through Community Education. This program is free to students/families. Parents can register online.
- Parent-Student Communication - The use of cell phones during academic hours is prohibited to allow students to remain focused on learning. Parents who need to be in contact with your child or send a message before the end of the school day should contact the main office at 654-9073. Thank you for your support and cooperation.

Thank you for your help with these requests in preparation for the 2018-19 school year! We look forward to meeting families at Open House and students again on the first day of school. We are here to help your child grow academically, social-emotionally, and to prepare them for high school. Please feel free to contact the main office at 654-9073 if you have any questions or if we can be of assistance. It is going to be an AMAZING year at Sauk Rapids-Rice Middle School! *GO STORM!*

Sincerely,

*Nate Rudolph*

Dr. Nate Rudolph  
Principal