

## Changes are highlighted

\*\* The following procedures will be followed in the grading of the Exploratory Arts Subjects:

- Grades for World Language, and Physical Education will be given quarterly.
- Grades for Health Education will be given at the conclusion of each semester.
- Grades for Art, Computer Literacy, Family Consumer Science, Technology Education, and Music will be given at the end of each 36-day mini cycle, and are reported quarterly.

\*\* The following procedures will be followed in the grading of the Exploratory Arts Subjects:

### Grade 7

- Grades for Health Education, Physical Education, Art, Family Consumer Science, STEM, STAR, Music, Design 21, World Languages, and specialized music will be given at the end of each 36-day mini cycle, and are reported quarterly.

### Grade 8

- Grades for Art, Family Consumer Science, STEM, Music, and Design 21 will be given at the end of each 36-day mini cycle and are reported quarterly.
- Grades for the Physical Education, Health, and Applied Technology cycle will be given at the conclusion of each marking period.

## NEW

### **National Junior Honor Society**

At Southern Lehigh Middle School, we have an active chapter of The National Junior Honor Society for our 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. This organization promotes recognition for students who reflect outstanding accomplishments in the areas of **scholarship, character, leadership, and service**. The NJHS member exhibits academic achievement (GPA of 3.8 or higher), leadership, honorable and admirable character, citizenship, and service that demonstrates the member is willing to use his or her talents and skills for the improvement of society. It is both a privilege and a responsibility to be selected to participate in the National Junior Honor Society.

Seventh grade students are invited to join if their cumulative grade point average is 3.8 or higher at the end of the third marking period.

Eighth grade students who are new to our school and can demonstrate a grade point average of 3.8 will also be invited to join.

## **FERPA**

### **Southern Lehigh School District Notification of Rights under FERPA for Elementary and Secondary School**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) affords parents and students over 18 years of age ("eligible students") certain rights with respect to the student's education records. These rights are:

The right to inspect and review the student's education records within 45 days of the day the School receives a request for access. Parents or eligible students should submit to the School Principal [or Superintendent] a written request that identifies the record(s) they wish to inspect. The School official will make arrangements for access and notify the parent or eligible student of the time and place where the records may be inspected.

The right to request the amendment of the student's education records that the parent or eligible student believes are inaccurate or misleading. Parents or eligible students may ask the School to amend a record that they believe is inaccurate or misleading. They should write the School Principal [or Superintendent], clearly identify the part of the record they want changed, and specify why it is inaccurate or misleading. If the School official decides not to amend the record as requested by the parent or eligible student, the School official will notify the parent or eligible student of the decision and advise them of their right to a

hearing regarding the request for amendment. Additional information regarding the hearing procedures will be provided to the parent or eligible student when notified of the right to a hearing.

The right to consent to disclosures of personally identifiable information contained in the student's education records, except to the extent that FERPA authorizes disclosure without consent. One exception, which permits disclosure without consent, is disclosure to school officials with legitimate educational interests. A school official is a person employed by the School as an administrator, supervisor, instructor, or support staff member (including health or medical staff and law enforcement unit personnel); a person serving on the School Board; a person or company with whom the School has contracted to perform a special task (such as an attorney, auditor, medical consultant, or therapist); or a parent or student serving on an official committee, such as a disciplinary or grievance committee, or assisting another school official in performing his or her tasks. A school official has a legitimate educational interest if the official needs to review an education record in order to fulfill his or her professional responsibility. Upon request, the School discloses education records without consent to officials of another school district in which a student seeks or intends to enroll.

The right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education concerning alleged failures by the School to comply with the requirements of FERPA. The name and address of the Office that administers FERPA are:

**Family Policy Compliance Office**  
U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, SW  
Washington, DC 20202-5901

## **Commitment to Parent Involvement**

We at SLMS are committed to the belief that all children can learn and acknowledge that parents share the school's commitment to the educational success of their children.

We recognize that a child's education is a responsibility shared by the school and family and agree that to effectively educate all students, the teachers and parents must work as knowledgeable partners.

We define parent and family involvement as an on-going process that assists parents and families to meet their basic obligation as their child's first educator, promotes clear two-way dialogue between home and school, and supports parents as leaders and decision makers at all levels concerning the education of their children.

Because of this, a written plan for parent involvement that establishes practices to enhance parent involvement and reflects the needs of students and families was jointly developed by parents and the school staff. This plan is a school-parent compact. SLSD would like to thank you for reading the compact with your child and discussing its importance.

Because the policy is a work- in-progress that requires periodic changes, we welcome your suggestions and comments.

## **The Southern Lehigh Middle School will:**

Provide high quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective learning environment that enables the participating children to meet the State's student academic achievement standards.

- All lessons will be supported and enhanced by academic standards
- Provide students with authentic assignments with pertinent and timely feedback
- Students will be provided access to cutting edge technology that will enhance curricular experience
- Cyclic review of curriculum

**Hold parent-teacher conferences during which this compact will be discussed as it relates to the individual child's achievement.** Specifically, those conferences will be held during the 1<sup>st</sup> semester each year.

**Provide parents with frequent reports on their children's progress.** Specifically, the school will provide reports as follows:

- Progress reports
- Report cards
- Access to web-based reporting systems

**Provide parents reasonable access to staff.** Specifically, staff will be available for consultation with parents as follows:

- Email
- Phone conversations
- Pre-scheduled conferences

**Provide parents opportunities to volunteer and participate in their child's class, and to observe classroom activities,** as follows:

- Parent-Teacher Group membership
- Serve as activity chaperones

## **Parent Responsibilities**

We, as parents, will support our children's learning in the following ways:

- Monitoring attendance
- Making sure that homework is completed
- Monitoring amount of television their children watch
- Participating, as appropriate, in decisions relating to my children's education
- Promoting positive use of my child's extracurricular time
- Staying informed about my child's education and communicating with the school by promptly reading all notices from the school or the school district either received by my child or by mail and responding, as appropriate
- Serving, to the extent possible, on policy advisory groups, such as being the Title I, Part A parent representative on the school's School Improvement Team, the Title I Policy Advisory Committee, the District's Policy Advisory Council

## **Student Responsibilities**

**We, as students, will share the responsibility to improve our academic achievement and achieve the State's high standards.** Specifically, we will:

- Do my homework every day and ask for help when I need to
- Read at least 30 minutes every day outside of school time
- Give to my parents or the adult who is responsible for my welfare all notices and information received by me from my school every day