

# SPRINGFIELD MIDDLE SCHOOL

1711 Springfield Pkwy

Fort Mill, SC 29715

803-548-8199

<http://sfms.fortmillschools.org>

## INFORMATION FOR PARENTS OF NEW SEVENTH AND EIGHTH GRADERS – 2019/20

Welcome to Springfield Middle School – we are happy you are here and look forward to getting to know your child and preparing him/her for high school and beyond. Here is some information to get your family off to a good start:

- Our school hours are 8:05 AM– 3:10 PM. The first bell rings at 8:05 to indicate to students to report to class. Students must be in their classrooms by 8:10 or they will be marked tardy. Student supervision begins at 7:40 AM; car riders can be dropped off after that time. If you arrive to school by car after 8:10, you must accompany your child into the office. For parents who need to drop their children off earlier than 7:40 AM, students are allowed in the building at 7:15 AM. They will then sit in the front office hallway until 7:40 AM when they can report to their grade level hallway. If you need to pick up your child before the end of the school day, you must pick him/her up by 3:00 PM. Students will not be released after this time.
- Our school website (listed above) is kept current. You can also register on “Peachjar.com” for updates about school and district activities.
- Students should bring their school supplies to school **ON** the first day of class (not before).
- FMSD PE uniforms are required and can be purchased online until school begins in August or from your child’s PE teacher for \$15.00. PE uniforms will be sized and distributed in class first and second semester. These uniforms may also be used in high school.
- New students must purchase a \$6.50 lock for their lockers. Returning students may use last year’s lock.
- “One School, One Book” is a shared reading experience – like a very large book club! Everyone at SMS will be reading one book together and participating in many exciting, related projects often including an author visit. This \$6 fee defrays these costs.
- Most student fees (including lunch fees) should be paid online through our website or any FMSD website. Look for the “\$ Pay Fees” tab near the top right corner of websites to create your permanent account.
- Lunch payments/misc. payments using cash or checks should be submitted during homeroom period using the procedures set forth by the homeroom teacher.
- Book bags and cell phones are kept in lockers during the day and may not be brought into classrooms.
- Report cards are issued at the end of each nine week quarter. You may also review your child’s performance using our “**Parent Portal**” website which is kept current to within two weeks. Sign up instructions are available in our office.
- When a student is absent, a parent or a medical note should be submitted to his/her homeroom teacher or given to our front office within three days. Five days per school year may be excused with a parent note.
- Seventh and eighth graders take two related arts classes each day. Each related arts class is 18 weeks long (one semester), except for band and honors chorus, which is taught the whole school year. (Students must audition to participate in honors chorus.) If your student chooses to participate in band or honors chorus, he/she will also take one semester of PE and one semester of our other available related arts classes. If your child does not participate in band or honors chorus, he/she will take four related arts classes each year. We will do our best to accommodate your child’s interests.
- Students are provided an agenda that contains a student handbook. This handbook is a comprehensive list of our policies and procedures. The handbook can also be found on our website under “Students.” We ask that you and your child review it together. All of our school rules are consistently enforced.
- We have a lost and found in our cafeteria. If your child’s name is found, belongings will be returned. We donate hundreds of items each year – we can’t stress how important it is to label your valuable clothing items.
- Students may not ride a different bus to go home with a friend except in rare cases as a babysitter request and then only with advance approval from the transportation department.
- Students may participate in sports in 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade. You will find more information on [www.fortmillathletics.com](http://www.fortmillathletics.com). The SC High School League governs our sports programs.
- Classroom interruptions are strongly discouraged. Every time we interrupt a class, a teacher needs to recapture his/her classroom’s attention. Please respect our classrooms – important work is going on!
- We have a fantastic PTO and a Booster Club. More information can be found on our website.