

Savannah Christian Preparatory School Middle School

HELPFUL INFORMATION NEW STUDENTS & PARENTS TO SCP MIDDLE SCHOOL *2008 / 2009*



We are pleased that you have chosen to attend Savannah Christian Middle School next year. We understand that you (and your family) are about to embark on a new era in your life - the middle school years at a new school. We want to do all we can to make your transition a smooth one. We trust you will find SCPS to be a challenging and enjoyable experience, and we certainly look forward to getting to know you.

Please note that information is printed on both sides of pages.

We know that you are looking forward to completing this school year and dreaming of those lazy days of the summer. Although you are probably not thinking about next year at this time, there is some general information that you may like to know about the opening of school. Don't hesitate to give us a call at the school if you have questions. Students and parents, please share the contents of this letter.

- 1]** Your family should receive the summer issue of our SCPS magazine, "The RAIDER" in early August. This issue will contain information about the opening of school, lunch menus, uniform requirements, etc. Thereafter, "The RAIDER" magazine should be received on a quarterly basis. Of course, the "E-Raider" is published on a monthly basis and includes timely information about programs, activities, etc, as well as the monthly calendar, the monthly lunch menu, and other items of interest about the school. Please view the school web site on a frequent basis; this is the best method of communicating with families and an excellent means for families to keep informed. The web site address is www.savcps.com.
- 2]** The first day of school is Thursday, August 14, 2008. A copy of the 2008/2009 school calendar is enclosed.
- 3]** Orientation for sixth-grade students and new seventh-grade and eighth-grade students will be held on Wednesday, August 13, 2008. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. This is an excellent opportunity for you to learn more about your new school. You will also be able to tour the school, meet your teachers, receive your schedule, learn where your classes are, and, probably most important, obtain the combination lock for your locker. We hope to complete the orientation program by 11:30 a.m. Parents are also invited to attend this session. You ARE NOT expected to be in uniform when you attend Orientation. Please dress casually - appropriate shorts are acceptable.
- 4]** You will be assigned a peer helper. A peer helper is a student who will be your friend and help you with any questions you may have about Savannah Christian. Your peer helper should contact you during the summer. If you have not heard from your peer helper by June 15, please call the school and ask for Mrs. Irene Lester or Mrs. Sherri Goodman, our counselors.
- 5]** Included in this letter is an invitation to the Peer Helper Skating Party scheduled for Monday, August 11, 2008. Don't miss this opportunity to meet your peer helper and other new students. Mark your calendar now!
- 6]** All students are expected to be in uniform on the first day of school. School and physical education uniforms are available through "A-1 Uniforms," "Uniforms by Patrick," "Uniform Source," and "Uniform/Scrub Source." Addresses and telephone numbers for these suppliers, as well as the printed Uniform Policy, are available on the website, www.savcps.com. Look under the "Store" heading and click on "Uniforms." Please note that the 2008/2009 "updated" uniform policy should be posted no later than June 1, 2008.

7] The wearing of a physical education uniform at the Middle School is a requirement. The cost of a physical education uniform will vary according to the size and the number of letters in your last name. [The supplier must place the last name of the student on the back side of the shirt.]

8] Requirements for the “Summer Reading Program” are included. You should begin to read your books early in the summer so that this responsibility does not slip up on you. Remember, you will be required to substantiate that you have read the appropriate books.

9] Class scheduling at the middle school level is a complex process and will not be completed until late in the summer. Your schedule will be available to you at Orientation. Every year we get early phone calls requesting schedule information. Please be aware that we won’t be able to oblige such requests and that we appreciate your understanding.

10] Supplies: Every conscientious parent wants to make sure his child is prepared for school. This includes having the proper school supplies. We always receive questions from parents about a supply list. The nature of the middle school program makes it difficult to provide a supply list. Sixth-grade students, particularly, are accustomed to being in a self-contained classroom where one or two teachers are with them throughout the day and where they usually know who their teachers will be prior to the summer months. Because students have several teachers at the middle school, and because student schedules are not determined until late in the summer, it is not possible to provide such a supply list. New students will receive a list of needed supplies when they attend orientation. Others will receive this list on the first day of school. Required items should be available locally and, hopefully, will not be difficult to find.

11] You are required to have on file a record of up-to-date immunizations. Any student not fulfilling this legal requirement will be denied access to all classes. Students must be age-appropriately immunized with all the required vaccines [DTP, DTaP, DT, or Td; Hepatitis B; Hib; OPV or IPV; Measles, Mumps and Rubella or MMR; and Varicella.] Please remember that all children entering 6th grade [on or after July 1, 2007] are required to meet the following **NEW REQUIREMENTS:** 1] Have two doses of Mumps vaccine, and one [1] dose of Rubella vaccine or laboratory proof of immunity against Measles, Mumps or Rubella; 2] Have two [2] doses of Varicella [chicken pox] vaccine or documentation of disease or laboratory proof of immunity. At the time your child entered school only one [1] dose of this vaccine was required. While a copy of your immunization certificate should be on file at the school from which you are transferring, you should remember that it is your responsibility to assure that it is “up to date.”

12] The enclosed letter regarding testing for accelerated math, English and/or science classes is important and self-explanatory. If you desire your child to be considered for any advanced classes, please submit the reservation form in a timely manner.

13] Please take time to read carefully the enclosed letter containing information about the “Publix Partners Program.” We solicit your support. You can immediately become an active supporter of the SCP family, even now before school begins.

14] Fall Athletics [Football] – On Friday, August 8th, all eighth-grade students interested in participating in football should report to the Middle School gym for equipment distribution at 3:00 p.m. Seventh-grade students should report for equipment distribution at 4:00 p.m. and sixth-grade students should report for equipment distribution at 5:00 p.m. The first practice will begin the conditioning phase [helmets, cleats, shirt & shorts only] and is scheduled for 3:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 12th. Thereafter, practices will be held each day from 3:30 p.m. until approximately 5:30 p.m. on each day of the week, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, until the season opens.

15] Fall Athletics [Volleyball] – Tryouts for the competitive sixth-grade volleyball team are scheduled for August 19, 20, and 21, from 3:15 – 4:45 p.m. The sixth-grade intramural volleyball program will not require tryouts and will begin September 6. There will be practices and several intramural teams competing against each other. Tryouts for the seventh-grade volleyball team are scheduled for August 19, 20, and 21, from 4:45 – 6:15 p.m. Tryouts for the eighth-grade volleyball team are scheduled for August 19, 20, and 21, from 6:15 – 7:45 p.m.

16] Fall Athletics [Pep Squad] - Sixth-grade girls interested in participating on the Pep Squad will receive information after they return to school.

17] Athletics [General] - A student **MUST HAVE A PHYSICAL FORM AND A PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM ON FILE WITH THE SCHOOL TO participate in ANY athletic activity, including tryouts.** A "Physician's Physical Statement" and/or "Parental Permission and Release Form" is available in the school office. You may also download a .pdf-formatted copy from the school website. Access www.savcps.com, click on "Documents/Forms," scroll down to "Middle School" and click on "Parental Permission Form" (and/or) Physician's "Physical Statement."

18] If you do not purchase yearly lunch tickets, you may purchase packs of twenty-five on the day of Orientation. The cost for a pack of twenty-five is \$85.00.

19] Do you have an e-mail address? The attached letter regarding school-home communication provides you with an additional method of keeping informed. Please take time to read it carefully.

20] Parents, our PTF [Parent/Teacher Fellowship] is extremely active at Savannah Christian Middle School. The PTF always has a busy year and depends on the support of volunteers to help accomplish their goals. In fact, the support of caring and energetic parent volunteers is the foundation upon which the efforts of the PTF are founded. Your involvement is always encouraged and welcomed. Throughout the school year there will be ample opportunity for you to share your talents and interests; however, if you are interested and willing to take on specific tasks, please give one of the members of the executive committee a phone call. They will be more than happy to hear from you. Volunteering will bring to you personal gratification. Thanks in advance to those who are in a position to assist. If you have any questions, please contact one of our 2008/2009 PTF officers listed:

Amy Carlson, President (Cell: 661-2470)
Kim DeLoach, Vice-President (Cell: 312-1649)
Andi Carter, Secretary (Cell: 656-4614)
Lisa Harper, Treasurer (Cell: 658-4651)

21] In an effort to "get an early start" on the 2008/2009 Student Director, we are providing you the opportunity to inform us of the information you wish to be included next year. Completing the included form and returning it to the school will assist us in getting the directory out to families earlier during the 2008/2009 school year. If this is your student's "first" year at SCPS, do not check the statement, "Please DO NOT make any changes to my information in the student directory," but instead complete the "Please update my information in the student directory with the following information:" These forms will also be distributed through our e-mail distribution list. Please mail the form to Savannah Christian Middle School, 2415 East DeRenne Avenue, Savannah, Georgia 31406 OR FAX it to (912) 352-7397. Thanks!

Students, your parents selected Savannah Christian because they want to provide you with the opportunity to obtain a quality education. We are proud of the tradition that has been established at SCPS and look forward to sharing the opportunities available with you and your family. We trust the remaining days of this school year will be enjoyable ones for you and that, as the time to begin a new school year approaches, you will become more and more excited about becoming a Savannah Christian "Red Raider."

***STAY INFORMED – ACCESS OUR WEBSITE [www.savcps.com]
CALENDAR OF EVENTS PLUS OTHER INFORMATION***



Mr. Wesley Ward, Principal
Mr. Stephen Hefner, Assistant Principal
Mrs. Irene Lester, Counselor
Mrs. Sherri Goodman, Counselor
Mr. Sonny Lady, Athletic Director