



SAVANNAH CHRISTIAN PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Chatham Parkway Campus
1599 Chatham Parkway • P.O. Box 2848
Savannah, GA 31402-2848
(912) 234-1653 • Fax: (912) 234-0491

www.savcps.com

DeRenne Avenue Campus
2415 E. DeRenne Ave.
Savannah, GA 31406
(912) 355-2693 • Fax: (912) 352-7397

*Developing the whole person
to the glory of God.*

I – M – P – O – R – T – A – N – T

This letter contains **eight** pages. Please see additional information on the reverse side of pages 1, 3, 5 & 7, in addition to the attachment.



July, 2010

Dear Students and Parents:

I always look forward to this time of the year - a time when I have the opportunity to welcome new and returning parents and students to a new year at Savannah Christian Middle School. As the 2010/2011 school year approaches, many questions arise - some are from students; however, most are from parents. Please know that we want to be of any assistance we can. This letter is prepared with this goal in mind and has, therefore, been addressed to both of you. *If you happen to be the first to open this letter, please share the information with your parents or with your child.*

Mrs. Sheila Crossley, Middle School Counselor



As many of you are aware, after twenty-one years of service, Mrs. Irene Lester retired from Savannah Christian Preparatory School. We are very pleased to welcome Mrs. Shelia Crossley as a member of the Middle School guidance department.

Mrs. Crossley is a graduate of Converse College where she earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in English and Psychology. She completed her English teacher certification program at Armstrong Atlantic State University and her Masters of Education in School Counseling from Georgia Southern University. She holds her Level 5 certification in School Counseling.

Mrs. Crossley has teaching experience at Pinewood Christian Academy and Savannah Christian. At SCPS, she taught English and served a coach in softball, basketball and soccer. During the 2009/2010 school year, she served as a junior/senior counselor at our Upper School on a part-time basis, so we really shouldn't consider her new to Savannah Christian, but now joining with Mrs. Sherri Goodman to continue the outstanding counseling program already in place at the Middle School.

SCHOOL OPENING

Teachers will be present at the school on Thursday, August 5, through Tuesday, August 10, excluding Saturday and Sunday, August 7 & 8, for preplanning. The first day of school for students will be Wednesday, Aug. 11, 2010.

THE SCHOOL DAY

The middle school day begins at 8:00 a.m., when teachers begin supervisory responsibilities. Students are allowed to enter the building at 8:20 a.m. and homeroom begins at 8:30 a.m. The regular day ends at 3:00 p.m., when students are released from classes. Please remember - the gymnasium is open in the morning [with teacher supervision] during inclement or extremely cold weather. It is requested that you

let your child out **in front of the gym** on rainy days. All students should be picked up by 3:15 p.m. unless they are involved in activities that begin immediately [within thirty minutes] after school. Students involved in activities that begin after 3:30 p.m. may not remain on campus.

ARRIVAL / DEPARTURE / LOADING / UNLOADING

Middle School students should be dropped off either in front of the main building or the gymnasium. Parents are requested to use the DERENNE AVENUE entrance, either exiting through the rear gate or circling the drive and exiting the front gate. **CAUTION:** Please drive slowly and carefully while on campus. The speed limit is ten (10) miles per hour and **STUDENTS** always have the right-of-way. Please do not be offended if it becomes necessary for us to remind you to drive slowly and safely while on campus. If you are entering or exiting the rear gate of the campus, please be mindful that you are traveling through a residential area. Every consideration should be given to those living in this area. Please observe speed limits and be sure to allow residents to enter and exit their personal driveways at their pleasure.

Middle School parents with Lower School students are requested to use the ONE-WAY drive. This ONE-WAY drive begins at the rear gate of the campus, circles behind the middle school facility and continues in front of the lower school building, exiting at the DeRenne Avenue end of the gymnasium. If you are using the ONE-WAY drive, please **STOP AND LOOK** before crossing either of the walkways. Students attending the lower school should be dropped off and picked up in front of the lower school building. Please do not release lower school students from your vehicle while stopped on the main road in front of the middle school or expect them to come to your car while stopped there in the afternoons. This is simply too dangerous and tends to increase the traffic congestion on campus. Special arrangements have been made for lower school students who carpool with middle school parents to be picked up in front of the middle school gymnasium; however, the responsible adult must escort the student from the gymnasium to the vehicle.

Parents are reminded to use the directional arrows in front of the gymnasium. The area directly in front of the gym is reserved for drop-off and pick-up only. Please do not block this area! Please note that the rear gate to the campus is locked at approximately 9:00 a.m. and remains locked until approximately 2:30 p.m., thereby eliminating through-traffic during the school day.

HOMEROOM ASSIGNMENTS

Homeroom assignments will be posted on both front doors of the main building on the first day of school. All students should report directly to their homerooms at 8:20 a.m. The homeroom assignment sheet is also listed on the last page of this letter.

STUDENT SCHEDULES

Class schedules for students are generated during the weekend before school opens. New students will receive their schedules at orientation, August 11th. All other class schedules are distributed during homeroom on the first day of school. Since class schedule information will not be available until this time, we request that you do not ask for your schedule in advance.

IMMUNIZATIONS

Before we can allow students to attend classes we must have on file an up-to-date immunization certificate. This should already be on file at the school for returning students and new students should have this forwarded from their previous school as part of their educational records. If not, it may be obtained through the local county health department or your private physician.

IMPORTANT: The State of Georgia has established new immunization requirements for attending school. There is now only one immunization certificate for all students, the "**Georgia Department of Human Resources Certificate of Immunization, Form 3231**". Certificates **must** be marked either as "Complete for School Attendance" or have a "Date of Expiration" filled in. Vaccine administration dates must be entered. The number of vaccine doses depends on the child's age when immunizations were started and at the time of the student's school entry. **TWO** doses of the Varicella and

two doses of a measles-containing vaccine are now required for all students entering school. The Hepatitis B Vaccine is required of all students born on or after January 1, 1992 and for all students [regardless of birth date] entering from a non-Georgia public school or any other non-government school.

All students entering the middle school for the first time (all 6th graders and new 7th or 8th graders) must provide certification of a second dose of measles-containing vaccine/measles immunity and certification for Varicella vaccine/immunity. In accordance with Georgia law, this proof must be recorded on the **Certificate of Immunization Form (Form 3231)**. Any student failing to meet this requirement will not be allowed to continue attending classes until the matter is resolved.

UNIFORMS

It is important to remember that all students must be in uniform on the first day of school. Uniforms are available through the following suppliers: "A-1 Uniforms Company," "Uniforms by Patrick," "Uniform Source" or "Uniform Scrub/Source." The text of the uniform policy will be included in the Student/Parent Handbook and will also be available on the website at www.savcps.com. We recommend that all clothing (including shoes) be labeled with your student's name or initials. All physical education uniforms are **required** to have the last name of the student printed on the back of the shirt. Remember, shoes are covered under the Savannah Christian uniform policy. Students who do not comply with the dress policies will not be allowed to attend classes.

Middle School students are not permitted to wear non-uniform jackets/sweaters/or other outer-wear garments on campus. This policy considers the availability of uniform clothing which will allow for the maintaining of warmth without the need for non-uniform jackets/sweaters/or other outer-wear garments. It also considers past experiences which show that non-uniform jackets/sweaters/or other outer-wear garments many times become bulky, cumbersome and do not represent the dress expected from our students.

LUNCHES

Hot lunches are available to students. Lunch menus will be posted on the SCP website, www.savcps.com. Lunch tickets **may not** be purchased on a daily basis. Students may, however, purchase a lunch without a ticket. The daily cost of a meal is \$4.00. Parents are encouraged to save money by purchasing yearly meal tickets or tickets in groups of twenty-five. (MS - Groups of 25 = \$92.50 / MS - Yearly ticket = \$611.00) Students may bring a "sack" or "bag" lunch. Lunch tickets [groups or yearly] will be available for purchase at orientation on August 12th. If you have already purchased lunch tickets through the business office, these will be distributed to your child on the first day of school.

WELCOME TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL ORIENTATION

Orientation for sixth graders and all new seventh and eighth graders will be held on Tuesday, August 10, 2010. The program will begin at 10:00 a.m. This is an excellent opportunity for students and parents to learn more about the middle school program. The students will also have the opportunity to tour the school, learn where their classes are, meet their teachers, receive their schedules, and, probably most importantly, obtain the combination lock for their locker. We hope to complete the orientation program by 11:30 a.m. Parents are always welcome at this session. Students **are not** expected to be in uniform when they attend orientation.

PEER HELPER SKATING PARTY

IMPORTANT: All sixth graders, new 7th and 8th-grade students and their peer helpers are invited to attend a skating party on Monday, August 9, 2010. The skating party is scheduled from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. at the Star Castle Family Entertainment Center [550 Mall Boulevard]. You do not need to RSVP; just come, enjoy a great time and meet your peer helper and other new students. Snacks and drinks will be provided. All students are requested to bring \$5.00 to cover admission and rental of skates. Parents - please make every effort to assure that your child is picked up promptly at 6:00 p.m.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School picture day is scheduled for Wednesday, August 25, 2010. This will be a free non-uniform day; however, students should be dressed appropriately for photographing. Students are not required to purchase a picture package; but, all students will be photographed. The school picture is the only picture that will be printed in the school yearbook; therefore, the photographer provides the pictures to the school. Additional information will be provided at a later date, but please mark this day on your calendar.

SCHOOL 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. Unfortunately, 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 teaching assignments are sometimes determined late in the summer, it is not possible to provide such a supply list. New students will receive a list of generic 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. Selected items will also be available throughout the school year from our "School Store" which is operated by the Student Government and open three days of the week.

BIRTHDAY PARTY / GROUP LUNCH / NON-SCHOOL SOCIAL ACTIVITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please remember that the middle school has a policy which reads: "**Invitations to individual birthday parties, dances, or other social activities may not be distributed at school or through school channels.**" Of course, **birthday celebrations may not be held at the school, including lunch time.** Please note that parents should not plan to bring pizzas, doughnuts, etc. to school to be shared with friends of their child. While we do wish the best for all students as they turn a year older, we do request that all invitations to any party or social event be mailed to the invitees. While we do not prohibit birthday balloons from being placed on the student's locker, we do request that parents and students restrict the number of balloons. Balloons should be limited to one large OR a maximum of three small. The school will have no choice but to remove balloons that interfere with hall traffic or the access to any locker. Flowers delivered to the school will be kept in the school office until the end of the school day. Birthday celebration and/or congratulatory posters, either inside or outside the buildings are not permitted.

POSSESSION/USE OF CD Players, IPODs, and Other Electronic Devices



Because of abuse of cell phone and other electronic device usage at school, including I-Pods, etc., it has become necessary to develop a policy regarding the possession and use of cell phones, IPODs, and other electronic devices while on campus. It is the intent of Savannah Christian Preparatory School to provide an environment that is free from distraction. Our campus cell phone and other electronic devices policies promote a *healthy learning environment* and *student safety*. In consideration of others and in promotion of good manners, please abide by the following guidelines while on campus.

- **Cell Phone Policy:**

The use of a cell phone during school hours is strictly prohibited. Cell phones should be **TURNED OFF** and left in the student's vehicle [US] or **TURNED OFF** and placed into either the locker or book bag and left there **THROUGHOUT THE SCHOOL DAY** [US & MS]. There is no rationale for a student to have a cell phone on his person during the school day. The school office will receive emergency phone calls from parents, and students will be allowed to make emergency phone calls from the school office.

Cell phones in the possession of students during the school day will be collected by staff personnel. Parents will be required to retrieve them from the school office. Students are responsible for their personal property. The school has no responsibility or liability for damaged or lost cell phones.

On the second offense, the student will be informed that he has lost the privilege of having a cell phone at school. A third offense may lead to suspension from school.

Should a student be observed with a cell phone during any testing session (**whether or not the student has completed his/her test**), the student shall receive an automatic zero on that test – no excuses will be accepted and no exceptions will be made.

The school day is defined as beginning at 8:15 a.m. and continuing through 3:00 p.m. During these hours the use of cell phones is prohibited.

- Cell phone use *by anyone while driving any vehicle on campus is prohibited* at all times, even while waiting in pick-up or drop-off lines. If you must talk on your phone in a vehicle, please park to do so.
- Parents or students should *use school office phones to contact each other during school hours*.
- Parents are requested to assure that their cell phone is muted during indoor school events such as plays, performances, chapels, awards and recognition ceremonies, etc.
- **CD Players, IPODs, and Other Electronic Devices Policy:**

“Students may not have CD Players, IPODs, and other Electronic Devices while on campus.

CD players, IPODs and other electronic devices seen or used during school hours will be collected by staff personnel. Parents will be required to retrieve them from the school office. Students are responsible for their personal property. The school has no responsibility or liability for damaged or lost electronic devices.

On the second offense, the CD player, IPOD and/or other electronic device will be kept in the school office for 30 calendar days, at which time a parent will be required to retrieve it from the school office.

Should a student be observed with a CD player, IPOD or other electronic device during any testing session (**whether or not the student has completed his/her test**), the student shall receive an automatic zero on that test – no excuses will be accepted and no exceptions will be made.”

CODE OF CONDUCT

The Code of Conduct will be included in the *Student/Parent Handbook* that will be provided to each student through publication on the school’s official website at www.savcps.com. Each student and parent should personally sign a form indicating receipt of the handbook.

SAVANNAH CHRISTIAN WEBSITE

Because we are in a technology age, where more and more information is becoming available through the internet and less and less paper is being used to communicate with others, you are encouraged to access the Savannah Christian Preparatory School website often. A school calendar, as well as other information, is provided for the upper, middle and lower schools. Information regarding tuition and fees, as well as the process for applying for admission, is available through the Public Relations link. Alumni may be interested in connecting to the Alumni link. The Development office is an excellent way to keep informed of exciting news about the school. If you have ideas to improve the middle school link to the website, please contact us. The website address is www.savcps.com.

FALL SPORTS (Football - Volleyball - Pep Squad – Cross Country)

- Fall Athletics [**Football**] – Football equipment distribution [helmets & shoulder pads] for **7th & 8th graders only**, will take place on **Monday, August 2nd**. Eighth-grade students interested in participating in football should report to the Middle School gym for equipment distribution beginning at 5:00 p.m. Seventh-grade students should report for equipment distribution beginning at 5:30 p.m., with equipment distribution ending at 6:30 p.m. 7th & 8th grade football players will also need to have practice

jerseys, football pants (black) with pads, football cleats (black preferred) and socks. We will have mouthpieces & used practice jerseys available for purchase at equipment distribution and thereafter.

The first football practice for **7th & 8th graders only**, which is the conditioning phase [helmets, cleats, shirt & shorts only], is scheduled for Tuesday August 3rd from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Practices from Wednesday August 4th through Friday August 6th are also scheduled from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00pm. Beginning Monday August 9th, practices will be held from 3:30 p.m. until approximately 5:45 p.m. each day of the week, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, until the week that games begin.

Football equipment distribution (helmets & shoulder pads) for **6th graders only**, will take place on **Friday, August 6th**. Sixth-grade students interested in participating in football should report to the Middle School gym for equipment distribution beginning at 4:30 p.m. and equipment distribution will end at 6:00 p.m. Sixth-grade Football players will also need to have practice jerseys, football pants (white) with pads, football cleats (black preferred) and socks. We will have mouthpieces & used practice jerseys available for purchase at equipment distribution and thereafter.

The first football practice for **6th graders only**, which is the conditioning phase [helmets, cleats, shirt & shorts only], is scheduled for Tuesday August 10th from 3:30 p.m. until 5:45 p.m. Beginning Wednesday August 11th, practices will be held from 3:30 p.m. until approximately 5:45 p.m. each day of the week, excluding Saturdays and Sundays, until the week that games begin.

- Fall Athletics [**Volleyball**] – Sign-ups for Volleyball Tryouts will take place on the first day of school, Wednesday, August 11th and continue through Friday, August 13th. Tryouts for the sixth, seventh & eighth-grade volleyball teams are scheduled for Tuesday, August 17th, Wednesday, August 18th, and Thursday, August 19th. Tryouts for the sixth-grade volleyball team will be 3:15 – 4:45 p.m., seventh-grade volleyball team tryouts from 4:45 – 6:15 p.m. and eighth-grade volleyball team tryouts from 6:15 – 7:45 p.m. each of those days.

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

- Fall Athletics [**Cross Country**] – Sixth, seventh and eighth grade girls and boys interested in Middle School Cross Country will have an opportunity to sign-up to participate after they return to school. The first Middle School Cross Country practice, at the Chatham Parkway campus, is scheduled for Monday, August 23rd. Families are responsible for transportation to the Chatham Parkway campus for Cross Country practices and meets.

- Athletics [General] - A student **MUST HAVE A CURRENT PHYSICAL FORM AND A PARENTAL PERMISSION FORM ON FILE WITH THE SCHOOL** to participate in ANY athletic activity, including tryouts. **No Physical, No Participation, No Exceptions.** Physicals are current for one calendar year from the date the physical is performed. 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."

MORE INFORMATION MAY BE PROVIDED AT WWW.SAVCPS.COM

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 every six months. "E-News" is sent out on a regular basis, so it is important that you provide us with your email address and that changes be reported when your email address is changed. "E-News" includes timely information about programs, activities, 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.

SUMMARY

You are always encouraged to contact the school if you have any concerns, problems, questions or suggestions. We are ready to listen, accept constructive criticism and do what we can to help resolve any problem or answer any question.

Please become an active member of the Parent / Teacher Fellowship (PTF), the athletic Booster Club, and the Music Association. These organizations are a vital part of the middle school and are excellent ways for you to support your child's school and its activities. You made a wise decision when you selected Savannah Christian. We appreciate the confidence you have placed in this school and the trust you have shown in our faculty and staff. We are proud of the tradition that has been established at SCPS and look forward to sharing the opportunities available at our school.

I trust the few remaining days of the summer will be enjoyable ones for you and that your child will enter the 2010 /2011 school year refreshed and ready to settle down to academic pursuits.

Respectfully,

Wesley Ward

Middle School Principal

***The administration, faculty and staff wish for you a most enjoyable
2010/2011 school year!***



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

SAVANNAH CHRISTIAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

Homeroom Assignments 2010-2011

HOMEROOM	Name	Teacher	Room #
17-1 [Grade 6]	A – B	Kay LeBlanc	2
17-2 [Grade 6]	C – Ed	Linda Fidler	3
17-3 [Grade 6]	Eg - Lo	Mike Hazeltine	11
17-4 [Grade 6]	M - She	Pat Duffy	4
17-5 [Grade 6]	Shu - Z	Martyne Rea	12
16-1 [Grade 7]	A – Ch	Patrina Rivers-Davis	8
16-2 [Grade 7]	Co – G	Cynthia Brinson	17
16-3 [Grade 7]	H - Ke	Troy Brantley	20
16-4 [Grade 7]	Ki – O	Terry Aultman	15
16-5 [Grade 7]	P - She	Charles Smith	9
16-6 [Grade 7]	Shi – Z	Beth Lynah	16
15-1 [Grade 8]	A – Ca	Barbara Lanier	10
15-2 [Grade 8]	Ch - Gh	Brenda Williams	18
15-3 [Grade 8]	Gr - Ken	Jane Rollins	13
15-4 [Grade 8]	Kes - N	Monica Lewis	6
15-5 [Grade 8]	P - Slau	Sarah Crowe	14
15-6 [Grade 8]	Slay - Z	Jennifer Herndon	7