

Welcome to Junior High

August 24, 2005

Also, welcome to the fascinating mind of the adolescent. We, as the junior high staff of SCCS, realize that your children come to us with a lot of “stuff” going on in their lives. We want to underscore the importance of communication. This goes two ways, as is pointed out in Mr. Dirksen’s introduction to the parent handbook. We urge you to read this document carefully and thoroughly.

Without being repetitious, the junior high teachers would like to mention a few items referred to in the handbook which are of particular concern to us:

1. Concerning school day arrival time: 8th graders may enter the building at 8:00. All others may enter the building at the 8:05 bell. Teachers cherish before school time. It is an important time for teachers to get ready for the day. Some students show up at school early. Usually the students are outside when the weather is nice, which is fine. However, if students show up at 7:30 a.m. in cold or inclement weather, it often interferes with our before school preparation time.
2. Over the years there has been an increasing number of students being taken out of school for various reasons. Although parents are unusually good about informing us, you need to understand that bringing your child back up to speed is much more than just completing homework assignments. Often reteaching must be done.
3. Page 11 of the handbook talks about dress. Although the handbook states very clearly the dress code, the junior high staff is committed to making appropriate dress a priority in teaching the Christian value of modesty and decency. Junior high students are at that delicate, fragile age; we do not need to fire up the hormones any more than they already are.
Concerning flip-flops: Although tolerated, they are inappropriate for any athletic activity whatsoever, including recess activities of 4 square, tether, IM-softball, ect... Tennis shoes will be required for any and all activities such as these.
4. Manners and common courtesy are always work under construction in the social realm of junior high interaction. Home and school need to work together on these attributes of God’s children. Junior high students are often about “self,” and this takes a lot of patience and prayer.
5. So, please pray for us as we help you train and nurture your children. Thanks!

P.S. Check you mail for the “Junior High Reminders “sheet and return to your child’s homeroom teacher. You may clip the signature blank, return it, and save the document if you wish. Thanks.