

JOSEPH KERR MIDDLE SCHOOL

8865 Elk Grove Boulevard
Elk Grove, California 95624

ZACHARY CHENEY

Principal

MATTHEW KEMPEN

Vice Principal

GARRETT LEBSOCK

Teacher-in-Charge

CHRIS PERRIS

Activities Director

February 2020

Dear 8th Grade Student and Parents/Guardians:

This letter contains important information for you and your parents/guardians regarding the upcoming activities for the 8th grade class. **In order for students to participate in ALL of the following activities, they must meet 8th grade Promotion Ceremony criteria, academic/citizenship and behavior expectations. All library materials must be returned and all fines must be paid prior to an event to be eligible to participate. In order to participate in activities, students must meet the specific expectations listed below for each activity.**

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

8th Grade Promotion Dance: Friday, May 15th, 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Only students who meet 8th grade Promotion Ceremony criteria, grade, and discipline requirements will participate in the promotion dance. Event participation criteria: No student may sign up for or attend the dance if they are on the No-Activities List or do not meet the Academic/Citizenship and Behavior Expectations. (See Dances – pg. 13-14 & No-Activities List – pgs. 51-52 in the Kerr Student and Parent Handbook.)

- Academic/Citizenship Expectation/No-Activities List – Students must be in good academic standing. Students must have a 2.0 or better GPA and can have no more than one F and no more than one U in citizenship on their 4th quarter progress report, Friday, April 24, 2020. This will be the grade students will be held accountable toward for this activity.
- Behavior Expectation – Behavior will be monitored up until the day of the activity. Students are expected to maintain appropriate behavior. Should a student receive a full day home suspension at any time during the 4th quarter, they may not be able to participate in this or any other promotion related activity.

The cost for the dance is \$8.00. Students must present their current I.D. card and dance ticket in order to get into the dance. The dance is for Kerr 8th grade students only – NO GUESTS ALLOWED. Students must be dressed appropriately and adhere to the school dress code. Students should dress in appropriate clothing such as dresses, dress shirts, slacks, suits, or other school clothes. Skirts and dresses must not be shorter than mid-thigh and no strapless or spaghetti straps. No “see-through” or fishnet fabrics. Tuxedos, long formal gowns, and limos are not recommended. The dress code will be strictly enforced.

The last dance will be announced at 6:45 p.m. and students will be at the front of the school by 7:00 p.m. for pick up. Students may be picked up early only if their parent/guardian checks them out.

*Knights show...Kindness **E**ffort **R**espect **R**esponsibility*

Sunsplash: Wednesday, May 27th, 9:00 a.m.-5:30 p.m.

The cost is \$75.00 with an ASB sticker, \$80.00 without, which includes admission, lunch, unlimited drinks, and transportation. Permission slips for Sunsplash will be available Monday, April 20th in the Student Activity Center and Main Office. We will begin Sunsplash sign-ups on Monday, April 27th in the Student Activity Center. **CASH ONLY**. Sign-ups and payments will be in the Student Activity Center (SAC). A full refund will be made to students who cancel in the SAC before Friday, May 15th. Refunds will NOT be given to no-shows or after Friday, May 15th. (Financial assistance is available. Call Mr. Perris.)

This trip is on a first come, first serve basis for eligible students. Only students who meet 8th grade Promotion Ceremony criteria, grade, and discipline requirements will participate in the Sunsplash trip. Field trip participation criteria: No student may sign up for or attend the field trip if they are on the No-Activities List or do not meet the Academic/Citizenship and Behavior Expectations. (See No-Activities List – pgs. 51-52 & Field Trip Criteria – pg. 47 in the Kerr Student and Parent Handbook.)

- **Academic/Citizenship Expectation** – Students must be in good academic standing. Students must have a 2.0 or better GPA and can have no more than one F and no more than one U in citizenship on their 4th quarter progress report, Friday, April 24, 2020. This will be the grade students will be held accountable toward for this trip.
- **Behavior Expectation** – Behavior will be monitored up until the day of the trip. Students are expected to maintain appropriate behavior. Should a student receive a full day home suspension at any time during the 4th term, they will be removed from the trip and may not be able to participate in any other promotion related activity.

All students must ride the bus to and from Sunsplash in Roseville and may not be dropped off or picked up early by a parent/guardian without prior authorization from school administration by the end of the day Friday, May 22nd. A parent/guardian will be required to check out with Mr. Perris before taking their student from the park. Students who ride the school bus home need to make arrangements to be picked up at the school by the designated time. All bus, school, and district rules apply during the trip. Students violating any rules may be suspended from school and/or will not be permitted to participate in the promotion ceremony.

Promotion Ceremony: Friday, May 29th, 7:30-8:45 a.m.

The Promotion Ceremony is a privilege not a right. Only students who meet credit, grade, and discipline requirements will participate in the promotion ceremony. Promotion Ceremony participation criteria: No student may participate in promotion if they are on the No-Activities List or do not meet the Academic/Citizenship and Behavior Expectations. (See No-Activities List – pgs. 51-52 in the Kerr Student and Parent Handbook.)

- **Academic/Citizenship Expectation** – Students must be in good academic standing. Students can have no more than one F and no more than one U in citizenship on their 4th quarter report card. To participate in the 8th grade promotion ceremony, students need a minimum total of 100 credits earned during their 7th and 8th grade years. **The promotion ceremony is a privilege earned by the students, not a right.** Students who have earned 65 or more credits in 8th grade and at least a 2.0 GPA, but have not earned a total of 100 credits over two years may request to have their promotion rights reviewed by the promotion committee.
- **Behavior Expectation** – Behavior will be monitored up until the day of promotion. Students are expected to maintain appropriate behavior. Students who receive a home suspension the last two weeks of school will not be eligible for promotion practice or walking in the promotion ceremony.

Students who do not meet the requirements for participation in the promotion ceremony will be notified in person by their counselor by the end of school on Friday, May 22nd. Notification to parents will be made by telephone call. In addition, a follow-up letter will be given to the student to deliver to the parents at the time of notification.

Students should dress in appropriate clothing such as dresses, dress shirts, slacks, suits, or other school clothes. Skirts and dresses must not be shorter than mid-thigh and no strapless or spaghetti straps. No “see-through” or fishnet fabrics. Tuxedos, long formal gowns, and limos are not recommended. The dress code will be strictly enforced.

Tickets will not be required for admittance. Gates will open at 7:00 a.m. with seating on a first come, first serve basis. Please do not reserve seats. The ceremony will be held in the quad on the outdoor stage if weather permits. At 7:15 a.m. participating 8th grade students are to be seated in their assigned seats. The ceremony will begin promptly at 7:30 a.m. Please adhere to promotion etiquette by not whistling or yelling out student names. **Please no noise makers and hold applause as directed by the speaker. Families with balloon bouquets must stand in the back.** Students will receive their promotion certificate at the ceremony.

In the event of inclement weather, there will be two Promotion Ceremonies (by alpha) held in the Multipurpose Room. Due to fire code attendance restrictions, only two guests per student will be allowed to attend in the Multipurpose Room. The Multipurpose Room ceremony will be videotaped and will be available for a nominal fee a week after the ceremony. Parents will be able to sign up for the video. Additional guests will be able to wait in the gymnasium during the ceremonies. Should this be necessary, information will be posted on the schools website at jkms@egusd.net, our marquee, and via the automated phone caller system prior to the Promotion Ceremony.

Our school grounds have limited parking spaces. Additional parking will be available on the basketball courts, at the Community Services District across from the school, and on surrounding public streets. **Please honor local businesses by not parking in their parking lots during the ceremony.**

Sincerely,



Zachary Cheney
Principal

Important Events at a Glance:

March 24	8 th Grade Promotion Certificate Pictures
April 6-10	Spring Break
April 20	Permission slips for Sunsplash go out
April 24	4 th Quarter Progress Report determines eligibility for the Promotion Dance & SunSplash
April 24	Last day checks are accepted for payment, <u>CASH ONLY</u> starting April 27 th Last day to get a replacement I.D. Card
April 27	Begin accepting Sunsplash sign-ups in the SAC (first come, first serve) - <u>CASH ONLY</u>
May 15	8 th Grade Promotion Dance (5:00-7:00 p.m.)
May 18	Yearbook Distribution
May 19-20	8 th grade textbooks returned and fines paid - <u>CASH ONLY</u>
May 20	8 th Grade Awards Night (by invitation only)
May 20	Final 8 th Grade Promotion Ceremony participation determined
May 22	Final 8 th Grade Promotion Ceremony non-participation notification
May 27	8 th Grade Sunsplash Trip
May 28	8 th Grade Promotion Practice
May 29	8 th Grade Promotion Ceremony (7:00 a.m. gates open, 7:15 a.m. participating 8 th grade students are to be seated in their assigned seats, 7:30 a.m. ceremony) Last Day of School – Late Start Minimum Day 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Joseph Kerr Middle School
8th Grade Promotion Contract/Agreement 2019-2020

Please read, sign and return this form no later than Friday, February 21, 2020. This form needs to be returned to your first period teacher. Failure to return this signed agreement form may result in your student NOT being eligible to attend any of the 8th grade year end activities.

Students participating in any school activities are expected to follow school rules and dress codes. Violation of school and/or dress code rules or activities judged as inappropriate may result in removal from an activity, home suspension from school and/or suspension from future activities including Promotion Ceremony.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES PARTICIPATION POLICY:

Student activities are considered a privilege. No student may sign-up for or attend any of the 8th grade promotion activities if they are on the No-Activities List or do not meet Academic/Citizenship and Behavior Expectations. The policies are as follow:

8th Grade Promotion Dance and SunSplash

- Must meet 8th grade Promotion Ceremony criteria.
- No student may sign up for or attend any 8th grade end of the year activities if they are on the No-Activities List or do not meet the Academic/Citizenship and Behavior Expectations.
- Academic/Citizenship Expectation – Students must be in good academic standing. Students must have a 2.0 or better GPA and can have no more than one F and no more than one U in citizenship on their 4th quarter progress report, Friday, April 24, 2020. This may be the grade students may be held accountable toward for the Promotion Dance and Sunsplash trip.
- Behavior Expectation – Behavior will be monitored up until the day of the activity/trip. Students are expected to maintain appropriate behavior. Should a student receive a full day home suspension at any time during the 4th quarter, they may not be able to participate in the Promotion Dance and will be removed from the Sunsplash trip.

Promotion Ceremony

- Academic/Citizenship Expectation – Students must be in good academic standing. Students can have no more than one F and no more than one U in citizenship on their 4th quarter report card. To participate in the 8th grade promotion ceremony, students need a minimum total of 100 credits earned during their 7th and 8th grade years. The promotion ceremony is a privilege earned by the students, not a right. Students who have earned 65 or more credits in 8th grade and at least a 2.0 GPA, but have not earned a total of 100 credits over two years may request to have their promotion rights reviewed by a committee including a parent, counselor, and an administrator.
- Behavior Expectation – Behavior will be monitored up until the day of promotion. Students are expected to maintain appropriate behavior. Students who receive a home suspension the last two weeks of school will not be eligible for promotion practice or walking in the promotion ceremony.

Students must be dressed appropriately and adhere to the school dress code for all year end activities.

I have read this entire packet of information and agree to all policies and expectations for participation in these 8th grade year end activities as stated.

Parent/Guardian Signature

Parent Name (please print)

Student Signature

Student Name & ID Number (please print)

Parent Volunteer Survey

Parents may assist with the Year End Activities in the following ways. Please check mark where you'd like to assist.

_____ Chaperone at the Promotion Dance

_____ Provide refreshments such as drinks and candy for the promotion dance

_____ Make a monetary donation to help defray the end of the year costs (Cash or Check made payable to JKMS)

Volunteer Name (please print)

Daytime/Cell Phone Number & Email Address (please print)

Address (please print)

Student Name & ID Number (please print)

Should you have any questions regarding volunteering, please contact Chris Perris, Activities Director at (916) 686-7728.