

# Phoenix Focus

## School News

Bring those smiling faces to Picture Day on September 13! Order forms should be brought to school and given to the photographers. Must have exact change with the order forms. Pictures can be ordered online from [Lifetouch](#). Enter student's ID number and picture day event ID: EVTX4SKK8.

[Breakfast](#) and [lunch](#) menus can be viewed online. There is new dietary staff for Aramark so there will be some exciting new food options. If your student needs special meal accommodations, please bring [this](#) signed form to the school nurse. Breakfast and lunch are free to all Starbuck students!

We are excited about our Extended Learning program. Is your child interested in staying after school for a club? If so, we offer a variety of clubs and will be adding new ones throughout the year. As of September 7<sup>th</sup>, we are offering the TOP (Teen Outreach Program), Girls Inc (STEM), Homework Help, and Fitness Clubs. Parents you can register your student online or have your student pick up a registration form from the main office. Snacks are provided and transportation is available. We're looking forward to great school year. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out at 262-664-6545 or [Shawnta.jones@rusd.org](mailto:Shawnta.jones@rusd.org)

Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> begins our testing sessions for the school year. During the next 3 weeks our students will be taking Fall MAP assessments for Math and Reading. MAP scores accurately measure a student's knowledge. Teachers can use the scores to inform instruction, personalize learning, and monitor the growth of individual students. Please help your students prepare to test well. They need to come to school with a fully charged laptop, their charging cable and a positive attitude. A good night's sleep and breakfast are also beneficial. Remember that breakfast is offered here at Starbuck, beginning at 8:05am. As a school we will work to ensure they are also prepared with test preparation and good testing environments. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the school at 262-664-650

Girls basketball starts Monday September 12<sup>th</sup>. Any girls who are interested in playing this year please come to the gym on September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:41pm in the gym. There will be a brief parent meeting on Thursday September 8<sup>th</sup> at 3:41pm in the gym.

Cross Country Team practice begins Monday September 12<sup>th</sup> after school. Any questions contact Coach Murphy or Coach Leavy.

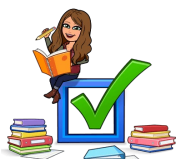
## Attendance Reminders

Anytime a student is absent from school due to an appointment, sickness, or any other reason the legal parent or guardian MUST call the attendance line at 262-664-6505 or email the attendance clerk at [courtney.klausch@rusd.org](mailto:courtney.klausch@rusd.org) to report the absence. Notifying teachers of an absence is helpful, the absence must be reported to the main office to make sure it is properly documented.

It is requested that dental and medical appointments be scheduled outside of the normal school day as much as possible. In the event a student must leave before the school day ends, or arriving at school late, the parent must come to the office and sign the child in or out. A note from a medical professional is not required but will be in favor of the parent.

## Coach's Corner

Hello and Welcome to the 2022-23 School Year!  
We are here to support our Starbuck IB Students & Teachers.



Stephanie Skaarnes, IB Coordinator



Karen Podbielski, Literacy Coach

*Greetings*



Tony Jordan, Math Coach

## Counselor Connection

Greetings from Mrs. Walker (Hagen)!!  
I will be sending out letters soon about scheduling for your student's Academic, Career, and Planning Conference (ACP). Each student is complete one their 5<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 11<sup>th</sup> grade of schooling. We will go over high school planning and explanation of things, among other things, and feel free to come with any questions you may have. Please look out for that letter in the coming month and to schedule your student's conference. I look forward to meeting with as many families and students as possible!!

# Phoenix Focus

## What's happening in the classroom?

**7th grade Science** is looking forward to the school year. We will be learning how to think like a Scientist, Ecology & the Environment, Force & Motion, Weather & the Atmosphere, as well as writing Claim, Evidence and Reasoning statements. Please turn in a signed safety contract to your Science teacher.

**7th Grade Math** welcomes students back! We will be kicking our year off with an International Food Truck Unit. A recipe that is special to your family or student with at least 5 ingredients will be used to study Number Sense fractions, decimals and more. Please take some time to locate a recipe with your 7th grader and copy it to send to school.

**8th Grade Science:** Ms. Ferger and Ms. Neo are so excited to start the 2022-23 school year with your 8th graders. We will begin the year with Science Safety and a unit on Atoms and Molecules, plus learning how to write lab reports. In 8th Grade Science, students will have the opportunity to experience Harry Potter Potions Week, atom building, and frog dissection lab, just to name a few. Be sure to get your signed safety contract to us so we can all have fun with labs!!

**8th grade math and algebra** are looking forward to a great new year! 8th grade will be tackling pre-algebra which includes solving for a variable, finding slope, and more. Algebra will be solving linear equations as well as solving and graphing inequalities and more. We cannot wait to jump into our curriculum! Ms. Grodey & Ms. Nuno

**General & Vocal Music:** Technology is the present and future of music. There are more digital tools at a musician's disposal now than ever before. Mr. Zelman will be exploring music technology this year with all vocal music students to ensure that they are familiar with the evolving tools of the trade. Students will be given the opportunity to write original compositions for class ensembles utilizing traditional vocal music concepts, as well as digital music technology which characterize modern music.

**Band and Orchestra:** I am so excited to start making music with you this year, but no instruments will be needed the first week of school. At orientation/open house, I provided information on how to get an instrument and the supplies that will be needed.

[Go to this link if you missed it!](#) As a quick calendar reminder...

### When are concerts?

Tuesday, December 20th at 7pm\*

Thursday, May 25th at 7pm\*

ORCHESTRA ONLY: Orchestra Festival tentatively scheduled for Saturday, April 22

\*Students are asked to arrive no later than 6:30pm.

### What do we wear for concerts?

All black. I'd like to keep it as easy, simple, and inexpensive as possible for families. If you'd like to wear dressy black clothing and shoes, you can. If you'd rather wear black joggers, a black t-shirt or hoodie, and black gym shoes - that's fine too. For the winter concert, feel free to add some (silent) festive accessories.

Also, I am hoping to have a jazz band and chamber orchestra if there is enough interest. I am looking at having jazz on Wednesdays and chamber orchestra on Thursdays. These would both take place before school (7:30am). Please let me know if this is something that you are interested in. Any other questions? [dawn.pachniak@rusd.org](mailto:dawn.pachniak@rusd.org)

**8th grade Language & Literature(L&L):** From classic literature to everything in between, Language and Literature presents a world of engaging lessons and culturally relevant readings to all students. We are incredibly devoted to building students' writing and reading skills.

## Meet the Support Staff

Welcome back to the 22-23 school year. If you have any questions, needs or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to one of us.

### **Your Starbuck Support Staff:**

6th grade Counselor, Mrs. Susan Kennedy, [susan.kennedytorine@rusd.org](mailto:susan.kennedytorine@rusd.org) or 664-6522

7th grade Counselor, Mrs. Brittany Medlin, [brittany.medlin@rusd.org](mailto:brittany.medlin@rusd.org) or 664-46512

8th grade Counselor, Mrs. Bryn Walker, [bryn.walker@rusd.org](mailto:bryn.walker@rusd.org) or 664-6530

Behavioral Social Worker, Mrs. Carrie Vanden Wymelenberg, [carrie.vandenwymelenberg@tusd.org](mailto:carrie.vandenwymelenberg@tusd.org) or 664-6435

Behavioral Interventionist, Ms. Vera Armstrong, [vera.armstrong@rusd.org](mailto:vera.armstrong@rusd.org) or 664-3539

Social Worker, Mrs. Lori Cottingham, [lori.cottingham@rusd.org](mailto:lori.cottingham@rusd.org) or 664-6536

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## Starbuck Middle an IB World School

**September  
2022**

IB Learner Profile Trait of the month: **PRINCIPLED**

Students who are **PRINCIPLED** have a sense of fairness and are honest with themselves and with others. They understand that sometimes there are rules and they follow them. They have an understanding of moral reasoning.





1. Involve your child in deciding on the rules for a game or activity and then ensure that they stick to the ones that have been decided upon
2. Encourage our child to play games that involve teams. Discuss with your child the qualities of a team player. What sort of person would they want on their team?
3. When your child wins a game, insist that he or she is a well-mannered winner. They might thank their opponent or shake hands with them if it's appropriate.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				<b>1</b> <i>First Day of</i> <b>SCHOOL</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> No school 	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
						
<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> <i>Picture</i> 	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	

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## Suicide Prevention Awareness Week



MONDAY 5th	TUESDAY 6th	WEDNESDAY 7th	THURSDAY 8th	FRIDAY 9th
<p><b>LABOR DAY</b></p>  	<p><b>Suicide Awareness!</b></p> <p>Students get a <b>Suicide Prevention Lifeline Bracelet</b> during lunch.</p> <p>Wear the bling to support those struggling with both visible and invisible mental challenges.</p>	<p><b>TEAL OR PURPLE DAY!</b></p> <p>Wear teal or purple <b>clothes</b> in support of Suicide Prevention Awareness</p> 	 <p><b>KINDNESS MATTERS!</b></p> <p><b>During LUNCH,</b> write a word of kindness on a heart.</p> <p>Here's to a year filled with supporting one another!</p>	<p><b>Lap for Life</b></p> <p><b>WHAT:</b> Walk or roll <b>ONE Lap</b> around Starbucks.</p> <p>Every student will receive a Phoenix Feather to be entered in a drawing during lunch next week!</p> <p><b>WHEN:</b> The designated time for your classroom.</p>

### 2022 Theme: End racism. Build peace.



**WHAT:** Each year the International Day of Peace is observed around the world on 21st of September. *The UN General Assembly* has declared this as a day devoted to **strengthening the ideals of peace**, through observing 24 hours of non-violence and cease-fire.

**ACTIVITY:** Students will make an origami peace dove in morning meeting. Ask your student to show you theirs, or to try and teach you how to do this fun family activity together!

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## MEET OUR STAFF

Ms. Hernandez

8<sup>th</sup> Grade L&L

### All About Me

- My favorite color is blue.
- I have two fur babies--cats! 🐾
- Feel free to talk all things nerdy with me. 🇺🇸
- Traveling is my superpower. ✈️

Excited to meet you!  
Ms. Hernandez  
8th Grade



Cancun, Mexico