

# The **MIDDLE** Years

## ***The Monthly Newsletter of Shaker Junior High School Edition 28, Issue 9***

---

May 23, 2016

To All SJHS Parents and Students:

The end of the 2015-2016 school year is fast approaching! As this is the last newsletter, it contains a great deal of information regarding activities taking place between now and the end of school; please be sure to read it through completely. Of particular importance are the many tests that are administered. We have already administered the NYS assessments in mathematics and English Language Arts to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade students. There are many other assessments still to go as you probably know from previous newsletters and/or PTA meetings. Be sure to look at the end-of-year calendar later in the newsletter. Your help in making sure that students are in school, prepared and ready to take these tests seriously will be greatly appreciated.

Our upcoming evening 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards program has been set. We will hold our evening awards program for all eligible eighth graders on Thursday, **June 9**. This program will be for those eighth grade students receiving awards and each recipient will receive two additional tickets, only, for guests. Letters to parents of eighth graders receiving awards were mailed the week of May 16. In addition, an eighth grade class event centered around the distribution of our yearbook is scheduled for Wednesday, June 8. Please refer to the article in this newsletter for more specific information.

For our seventh grade students, there will be informal block awards program, including snacks and various recognitions, to bring a positive end to the school year for them. These will take place the last half day of school for 7<sup>th</sup> graders, Wednesday, June 22, and will be for students and staff. On that last half day, **Wednesday, June 22, please keep your 8<sup>th</sup> graders home** - there is nothing for them to do on that day! We will dismiss that day at 10:00. Eighth graders' last day will be Tuesday, June 21. The Algebra Regents exam is at 8:00am on Thursday, June 16, and the Earth Science Regents exam will begin at 8:00am on Friday, June 17.

A reminder: the Orientation program for parents of Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> graders is set for Thursday, June 2. It will commence at 6:30PM sharp!! **Parking will be a problem** – please, no parking on Rt. 155 or in our fire lanes! You're encouraged to park at the high school and walk over to the junior high. A letter will be posted online and mailed as a reminder about this event AND the student orientation on June 17.

Friday, June 17 is the incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Student Orientation. At the conclusion of our orientation program, students will be taken back to their elementary schools for an immediate dismissal. Students will take their regular bus home, or parents may pick them up at their elementary school, at approximately 1:30 PM!

This time of the school year can get very crowded and hectic and students' attention can easily wander. We always see an increase in misbehavior and referrals for discipline in May and June; most of this is due to students looking past the last five weeks of school to summer. It is important to reinforce at home that school is not over until June 21 for 8<sup>th</sup> graders and June 22 for 7<sup>th</sup> graders and what happens between now and then is crucial. Monitoring your child's achievement and behavior will help us bring the year to a successful conclusion. We want all students to end the year on a positive note. Attendance is always critical for proper student preparation and learning and it is even more so at this time of year. Please continue to have your sons and daughters in school regularly and try to avoid any appointments that may conflict with important dates. Another issue this time of year regards student attire. We stress to students that school is their place of business and they should dress accordingly. We want to maintain an environment conducive to a successful conclusion of the school year and dressing appropriately is a key part of that. You will remember that we revised our student dress code – most students dress very appropriately! A copy of the dress code is included in this issue. Your assistance in this is greatly appreciated.

Even though we have a month to go, in looking back, the 2015-2016 school year has been very successful. Thanks to each of you for the effort you have expended to reinforce at home what we work to accomplish in school. It is very difficult to be effective when different messages are given to youngsters--this confuses students by giving them conflicting values and priorities. We are fortunate at SJHS to have a very high percentage of supportive parents who understand the need for consistent communication to students. Thanks to all parents for the support shown this school year; we know how much it helps your children and we appreciate it.

Sincerely,

Russell B. Moore, Ph.D.  
Principal

*Shaker Junior High School's enduring vision is to provide a safe, supportive and inspiring environment where students become independent learners. Within this environment they will master core academics, technological and social skills that foster literacy, critical thinking and respect in a diverse society where they can make life long contributions.*

**Important Policies/Information on the Web**

Please visit our website at [www.northcolonie.org](http://www.northcolonie.org) and click on Shaker Junior High School to review the following. These items have all been included in at least one newsletter previously this school year.

- ✓ Behavior Incentive Program
- ✓ State Assessments – Academic Intervention Services (AIS)
- ✓ Promotion/Retention Policy
- ✓ Dress Code

Remember, copies of this information and other policies can be obtained by visiting the SJHS office.

**2016-2017 Student Programming Update**

We are currently well into the process of program development for all students for the 2016-2017 school year. Concerns or questions regarding course selection, options available, program requirements, etc. should be made with the appropriate teacher or counselor.

Keep in mind that no course change requests will be accepted after May 31!! Following are important scheduling dates for each of the three transitions: grade 6 to 7, grade 7 to 8, and grade 8 to 9.

**Grade 6 to Grade 7**

- **May 31** Deadline for course change request.

**Grade 7 to Grade 8**

- **May 31** Deadline for course change requests

**Grade 8 to Grade 9**

- **May 31** Deadline for course change requests

We try to maintain an open programming process to allow for a broader involvement of parents. Please direct special questions or thoughts regarding your child's course of study to the appropriate people in a timely manner.

**8<sup>th</sup> GRADE AWARDS PROGRAM**

**June 9, 2016**

Shaker Junior High will hold an 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards Program at 6:30pm on Thursday, June 9. The program is for those eighth graders who will be receiving a recognition and will be held in the Shaker High School auditorium. This is a change from past years when the awards program was linked to a dance, but the format is changing as there will be no dance. Instead, an eighth grade class event will center on distributing yearbooks to students during a school day.

Parents of those eighth graders receiving awards will be notified of the recognition by mail. Due to limited seating, each award recipient is invited to attend along with two (only 2) family members or other adults. Students receiving awards will be given three tickets for entrance to the awards program; these tickets will be included in the letter of notification/invitation. The tickets will need to be shown at the door of the event. Students must be accompanied by an adult to be admitted to the program.

This format will again result in appropriate recognition for each award recipient as all students being recognized will be brought on stage to receive a certificate.

**8<sup>th</sup> Grade Class Yearbook Celebration**

**June 8, 2016**

Shaker Junior High School will hold an eighth grade class celebration for our students centered on the distribution of the yearbook. On Wednesday, June 8, during the regular school day, the entire eighth grade class will be given time out of their regularly scheduled classes to receive their yearbook, sign others', chat with friends, take photos, enjoy refreshments, and celebrate the end of their two years in our school. The Student Council is planning to have a "photo booth" available for students and the PTA will be providing cookies, brownies and water for all.

**Info for Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Graders - Orientations**

We are at that point in the school year when students are eagerly looking forward to next year. While we want them to continue to concentrate on their current classes, it is inevitable that they anticipate the move onto the next level. At Shaker Junior High School we are well involved in planning for the 2016/2017 school year, developing schedules for students and programs to positively affect our school's climate.

One of the major components of a successful transition of sixth grade students into Shaker Junior High School is providing information to incoming students and their parents that will answer questions and address some of your concerns. While you can learn a lot about us via our website, and we will be mailing additional information to you this summer, of special note are the two orientation programs that are specifically scheduled for parents and students. The program scheduled for Thursday, June 2, listed on the District calendar, is for **parents only**. Please note that it begins at 6:30pm and will conclude at approximately 7:40pm. **Parking is always a problem**. Please do not park on Route 155 or in clearly marked fire lanes. You will want to allow extra time to park; we encourage you to consider parking at the high school and walking to the junior high.

At this evening program, you will hear two presentations; one from block teachers and representatives from the different special area departments and the other from building administrators and guidance counselors. Each session will last 30 minutes, with 10 minutes transition time between the two sessions. Parents of students currently at **Blue Creek, Forts Ferry and Loudonville elementary schools** will begin in the **assembly room**. Parents of students currently at **Southgate, Boght Hills, Latham Ridge elementary schools** and **private schools** will begin the evening in the **cafeteria**.

Please note that much information to help familiarize you with Shaker Junior High School is available on the junior high's website. Our newsletters are also posted on our website which will provide additional information for you. You can visit our website at [www.northcolonie.org](http://www.northcolonie.org), then click on the Shaker Junior High School link, and navigate to the Inside SJHS page.

We will hold a separate orientation for students during the day, this year scheduled for Friday, June 17. Sixth graders will be bussed to the junior high at about 11:45am. While here, they will have lunch with us (lunch info is on the back of this letter; students can buy a lunch for \$2.50 by using their pin # or paying cash, or bring their own); students will hear from building administrators and they will meet and hear from their block teachers and guidance counselors. Students will be bussed back to their respective elementary schools for the normal dismissal home. This daytime orientation will be treated as a regular field trip. Parents of students in private schools will have to arrange their own transportation to and from Shaker Junior High School.



### **News From the Library**

Mr. Slyer brought his seventh grade science students to the library for his annual science fair project. Students researched their individual scientific topics to help prepare for their experiments.

Mr. Wallingford and Mrs. Allard visited the junior high library to participate in the reforming society station activity. Students learned about child labor, played an Underground Railroad simulation game, and read news articles from the Seneca Falls Convention.

Mr. Edgar and his eighth grade English students spent time in the library researching editorials using databases.

Have a great summer!

*Ms. Weimer and Ms. Stott, School Librarians*

### **Student Planner To Be Used Next Year**

Again next year the junior high school will be using a special daily planner to meet the many organizational needs of seventh and eighth graders. The planner is arranged to allow for the following:

- general study skills
- record of grades
- goal setting
- long range monthly planning
- weekly and daily planning
- communication between parents and teachers
- Character education traits

All students will be given a planner during the first week of school. Students (parents!) will need to purchase one for \$6.00. If students lose their planner, a replacement planner will also cost \$6.00. The senior high school will have a separate planner for ninth and tenth graders, which will be available at the SHS Book Store in September.



### **Late Bus Information**

Our district provides several late bus options for students to get home when they have stayed after school for a **legitimate reason**. It is not necessary for parents to come to school to pick up students. We insist that students remain after school for **legitimate school-related reasons** only, such as athletic team practices or games, club or organization meetings, academic assistance from a teacher, assigned detention or other reasons. If we determine that your child has

remained in school for no legitimate reason, we will call you to come to school to pick him/her up.

Parents should be aware that these late bus routes take longer to get children home than the normal dismissal routes. The late bus leaves at 3:55pm. Last day to get the late bus is June 16.

## Student Kudos



### French Level 1 National Exam

French 1R 8<sup>th</sup> grade students took the National French Exam in March. The *Grand Concours* is developed annually by the American Association of Teachers of French. Over 18,000 students took the exam in Level 1 nationwide. The Level 1A exam includes multiple-choice questions covering listening comprehension, vocabulary and grammar in context, and reading comprehension. Those whose scores represent the top scores nationally are considered Lauréats Nationaux and, as such, receive a certificate and a prestigious national Gold, Silver or Bronze award. This included 21 SJHS students! In addition, there was also one student, Aarya Kaushik, who achieved a perfect score on the exam and earned a Platinum medal! Aarya will also receive a plaque, engraved with her name. Many of these students will attend the Hudson Valley Chapter awards ceremony (sponsored by AATF) later in the spring along with their teachers, Madame Blau and Madame Tucci.

Congratulations to the following students:

Aarya Kaushik -	Platinum
Shreya Bavdekar-	Gold
Kimi Canete -	Gold
Virag Korniss -	Gold
Tanya Pai -	Gold
Catalina Varela -	Gold
Eric Brunco -	Silver
Sydney Bulatao -	Silver
Blake Iftiger -	Silver
Willow Yang -	Silver
Ruchika Kilaparty-	Silver
Haejin Lee -	Silver
Andrew Morrison -	Silver
Anavi Parikh -	Silver
Tiffany Tang -	Silver
JiWoo Chung -	Bronze
Avo Elebyjian -	Bronze
Maria Miller -	Bronze
Grace Papa -	Bronze
Zaidalyn Schiappa-	Bronze
Yun-Woo Son -	Bronze
John Yin -	Bronze

### Olympics for the Visual Arts



The Olympics of the Visual Arts (OVA) program of NYSATA- the New York State Art Teachers Association

which provides an opportunity for students from across the state to participate in individual or group artistic problem solving. A new series of problems is posed every fall. Students create long-range solutions at their schools, and travel to the Albany area to compete on short-range problems in a day-long celebration of creativity. There are awards for each of the problem categories at every level. This year there were categories of Drawing, Painting, Illustration, Photography, Graphic Design, Fashion, Architecture, and Sculpture

The 2016 Olympics of the Visual Arts was held at the SARATOGA SPRINGS CITY CENTER, Saratoga Springs, New York in April. North Colonie had several teams enter from the JHS and the SHS. Congratulations to all the students and cooperating teachers who prepared for and participated in the creativity event:

Special Recognition for her 2<sup>nd</sup> place category finish at the HS level in Graphic Design to Ms. Lauren Halek, for her artist series of postage stamps....And congratulations to our JHS Photography team of Mariana Luna & Frances Marino for a 3<sup>rd</sup> place finish in their category.

#### Students:

##### SHS:

Fashion:	Khanh Le, Iris Pu, Natalie Brunco, Deena Albright, Tyahna Thomas
Photography:	Alyssa La Pietra
Drawing:	Portia Kitner, Rachel Gee, Genny Diehl, Alexa Hallock
Painting:	Amulya Jakkani, Chat Perera, Marian Elasser, Angela Lu
Illustration:	Cecilia Lu, Helene Ryu
Graphic Design:	Lauren Halek

##### SJHS:

Photography:	Mariana Luna, Frances Marino
Drawing:	Kevin Kim
Painting:	Fergus Younger
Architecture:	Ivy Miah
Sculpture:	Hannah Wang, Apurva Jakkani

#### Advising Teachers:

Ms. Chornyak  
Ms. Lancaster  
Ms. Lue  
Ms. Paris  
Mr. Haacker  
Ms. Boudreau  
Ms. Manzella, District Art Supervisor

### Cap Rep's Young Playwrights Contest

Congratulations to Sabrina Salam who has been named a winner Capital Repertory Theatre's second annual Young Playwrights Contest. Sabrina's play, *Flawed*

*Perfection*, was selected from a number of very promising 10-minute plays submitted by young writers between the ages of 13 and 19 from schools within a 90-mile radius of Albany. *Flawed Perfection*, along with five other winning plays, will be professionally produced at Capital Repertory Theatre in a series of free performances from August 11-14.

Congratulations Sabrina! Job well done!

### **Student Wins Albany Co District Attorney's Words Campaign Weekly Contest**

---

The Albany County District Attorney's "WORDS" campaign recently visited Shaker Junior High School, an outreach program that travels to schools and presents about how words can either hurt or heal. As a follow-up, the DA's office encouraged students to participate in random acts of kindness with an emphasis on the WORDS theme.

Shaker Junior High School student, James Schadt was recognized by Terence Parker, Cassidy Dwyer, and Molly O'Brien from the DA's office, for helping a man in a local Lowe's Home Improvement store. The man had knocked over a display and was having difficulty picking the items up while at the same time caring for his young children. James voluntarily helped the man pick up the items and also gathered up a slew of shopping carts that were scattered around the parking area to ward off damage to surrounding vehicles. James was selected as Albany County's weekly winner and is now in the running to be the monthly award winner. Congratulations to him!

### **SJHS 8<sup>th</sup> Grader Forms Unique Bond with Special Needs Student**

---

For four months Shaker Junior High School eighth grader, Kara Quackenbush, walked to Blue Creek Elementary after school to assist with the sixth grade musical. From the start, Kara bonded with one of the special needs students who wanted to participate. She says their friendship started with a simple question.

"The first day I went over to him and asked him if he needed any help," said Kara.

Kara's mother, Heidi Quackenbush, has directed the musical for six years, but this year, witnessed something extra special. "They instantly bonded," she said. "He took right to her."

Heidi says the student, who is in an Academic Skills Class, was nervous at first, but was also eager to be part of the musical. He was given a spot on the stage crew, responsible for moving scenery and props. Through Kara's gentle guidance, the student's confidence slowly started to build.

"For the average sixth grade student, play rehearsals and the show itself can be challenging," said Principal Annette

Trapini. "Students do a lot of waiting and responding to cues; it can be easy for students to lose focus. Kara helped this student for whom this presented a great challenge."

"It was very sweet to see how she interacted with him," added Heidi.

Kara's efforts were noticed by Blue Creek teacher and the musical's technical director, Brook Greco, who nominated Kara for the North Colonie Kids Care program.

"Kara is a funny, kind student with a huge heart," said Greco. "She always looks to where she can help others, especially kids with special needs. She is truly a role model."

During practice breaks, Kara would take the student for walks, talk with him about his day, and encourage him to do his best. The two students became a source of inspiration for each other; Kara dreams of becoming a special education teacher after college. She says she loves working with special education students and helping to build their confidence.

Even though the musical's practices have come to an end, Kara's friendship with the student continues. She still visits his Blue Creek classroom once or twice a week after her day is done at Shaker Junior High, and the student, in turn, loves showing her his classroom and weekly work.

"A genuine friendship was forged," said Trapini.



### **APPROPRIATE DRESS POLICY**

---

#### **Student Dress**

The manner of dress reflects on our school and on us; it plays a significant role in setting an appropriate tone for the learning environment. Students will be expected to maintain dress and appearance that is appropriate for school in this community. Students are required to attend school in appropriate dress that meets health and safety standards and does not interfere with their or other's education. We also understand and respect the legitimate expression of speech as upheld by the courts. This policy is intended to balance a student's constitutional free speech with the District's obligation to provide for a safe and healthy learning environment free of substantial disruption. It is written as Shaker Junior High's application of Board of Education policy #5311.5.

Students often dress as they see others dress on television or at the mall. Being fashionable, however, is not always the same as being appropriate for school. Young adolescents often do not see how their appearance is perceived by their peers and by adults.

We emphasize to all students that school is a place where students are engaged in the **business of learning** and that they need to dress in a manner that promotes self-respect and the respect of others. Most students dress appropriately on a daily basis; some need regular reminders.

**Students are expected to adhere to the following:**

- Students should be covered from shoulders to mid-thigh, except for arms (no bare midriffs showing)
- shorts and skirts have to be a mid-thigh length or longer
- no undergarments, such as boxer shorts or bra straps, should be visible: clothes that reveal undergarments should not be worn
- thin spaghetti strapped tops and tank tops are considered undergarments and should be covered
- headwear (except for those of a religious or cultural nature) and sunglasses are not to be worn in the building
- jackets and coats meant for outdoors should not be worn in school

The wearing of attire bearing an expression (phrase, word or words) or insignia (picture, symbol, patch or pin) that is in any of the following categories is forbidden:

- is obscene or libelous, contains an objectionable message, is graphic, or has language including insults, whether directed to themselves or others
- advocates prejudice towards race, color, religion, culture, national origin, disability or any protected group
- is sexually harassing, or suggestive or contains sexual references
- displays or advocates the use of alcohol, tobacco, or controlled substances
- advocates violence or threatening behavior by others
- displays known gang colors or identifications

Certain categories of clothing have been held to be impermissible by the Commissioner of Education on the basis of factors other than appropriateness of style, fashion or taste. These categories are those constituting:

- Health and safety to the student and others (e.g., long haired sweaters worn near open flames and heating elements, or loose parts of clothing worn near machinery).
- Possibility of damage to school property (e.g., metal cleats or shoes, long chains or straps, or clothing containing hardware which may scratch or gouge furniture).
- Indecent or obscene
- Distraction so as to interfere with the learning and teaching process (e.g., noise producing adornment or appearance or clothing that is distracting to other students or the educational environment).

Classroom teachers have an educational obligation to encourage neat, clean and appropriate dress. Students shall be asked to wear appropriate protective gear in certain classes (i.e., family and consumer sciences, technology education, science, art and physical education).

Students will be asked to change their appearance to conform to these building-wide expectations; students also may be excluded from field trips, regular classroom attendance and extracurricular activities and programs due to inappropriate dress or appearance as determined by school administrators. If necessary, progressive consequences will be assigned for repeated violations.

We want to impress upon our children what constitutes appropriate clothing for a school environment, and we ask for your help. A concerted message from home and school will be most effective. Please be sure to check your child's clothing before he/she leaves for school in the morning.

*Thank you in advance for your support and assistance.*

### **Lost and Found**



Our lost and found is overflowing with coats, sweatshirts, hats, sneakers and other articles of clothing. If your child has misplaced something, encourage them to stop by Lost & Found on the second floor as soon as possible and have a look. Any unclaimed items will be donated to charity at the end of this school year.

Also, there are lost items in the main office such as eye glasses, jewelry, calculators, etc.



### **Lost or Missing Books**

Each year at this time we have a large number of students who have lost or misplaced one or more school books. In order to receive books and relevant materials for the next school year, fines for these missing books will have to be paid; the amount of each fine varies depending upon the cost of the book. Each year there are also a few students who claim the missing book was stolen and it was not the owner's fault. However, it is difficult to differentiate among the reasons a book is missing and, thus, we hold the owner responsible for returning all books at the end of the school year. The owner, then, is responsible for the fine.

It would be helpful if you could assist by looking for lost books at home, where often they are found. Also, we find books in the strangest places in school so have your son or daughter check in the offices at school for their books. They may locate them here and not have to pay a fine. Your help and understanding in this annual process are appreciated.

## PTA News

The May Flower Sale was a success! **Thank you** to **Tracy Gamache, Ann Hymes, Kathy Mattison, Dibian Pick, Nicole Ross, Andrew Tidd, and Melissa Woodcock** who volunteered their time to sell flowers!

The Scholastic Book Fair was a big success, too! **Thank you** to **Tracy Gamache** for organizing and running it and to **Leslie Dota, Kelleen Giambertone, Paige Hartl, and Andrea Zeh** for their time volunteering throughout the week!

Just a reminder, that the PTA gives the Peter McManus Staff Recognition Award at the end of the year during the Teacher/Staff Luncheon. **The PTA Executive Board will choose this deserving person from among the nominations.** The recipient fosters staff excellence and provides that little bit extra that makes our school so good. If you would like to nominate a staff member from SJHS for this award, please go to the SJHS webpage via the North Colonie website to print up a copy of the form. **All nominations are due by Wednesday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.**

The PTA will be underwriting the cost of the June activities: Winning Hall BBQ, Zero Point Sundaes, 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Breakfast, and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Refreshments and Gifts.

**In homeroom on Wednesday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, all 8<sup>th</sup> Graders will be receiving an envelope with goodies in it from the PTA. Be sure to ask your children about it.**

The Teacher/Staff Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>. Dr. Moore will be sending home a letter to all parents next week regarding how parents can contribute to the luncheon. Please consider donating!

Need apparel?

The PTA will be selling apparel June 2 at the Incoming 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Orientation, and on Locker Day a week before school starts.

**Colonie Center School Bucks Program** – Bring your original Colonie Center receipts dated after August 1, 2015 to the Guest Services Desk (located on the lower level of the mall next to Five Guys). Our school will receive 1 School Bucks Point for each dollar shown. Colonie Center will award cash prizes to the schools with the highest totals. Please help out the school.

**BOX TOPS    BOX TOPS    BOX TOPS    BOX TOPS  
BOX TOPS    BOX TOPS**

please bring them to the main office. Each box top earns SJHS PTA 10 cents.

The SJHS PTA Executive Board  
would like to thank all of you for your support  
of the PTA throughout the year!  
**THANK YOU!**



## Community Partners

Throughout the course of the school year we give away a wide assortment of gifts to our students. These gifts are used as incentives, to thank students for special efforts, to reward students for results or simply as random give-aways. To do so, however, requires donations from area businesses.

Rob Spring, Norris Hall Guidance Counselor, has worked hard developing relationships with many area businesses. These businesses have donated hundreds of free give-aways that we pass on to our students. We consider these businesses our "Community Partners" and want to thank them publicly for their generous donations.

Our community partners and their donations are:

- **Regal Cinemas** --- 110 discounted movie tickets
- **Ted's Fish Fry** --- Ten (10) \$5.00 gift certificates  
The seventh and eighth grade Summer Reading Lists/Projects ave been posted to the Shaker Junior High School website. They are found on the library pages from ncolonie.pbworks.com and our SJHS library Facebook page.
- **Latham Greens Family Fun Center** --- 25 games free indoor mini golf
- **Stewarts Shops** --- 120 free ice cream sundaes
- **Paisan's Pizza** – free gift certificates
- **Little Bites & More** – 10 gift certificates for free pizza & wings.

## Parking Concern Notice

When we hold special events at Shaker Junior High School, parking is always an issue. We have a very high percentage of involved, interested parents who want to take part and we want all of you to take part as well. However, we cannot accommodate in our parking lot everyone who attends. What often happens is that people park in all possible locations, making access to the building impossible and creating a safety issue as expressed by local fire and police departments. We need to keep a fire lane open to allow any police vehicles or emergency vehicles of any type, to get to the front door.

Please be mindful of the fire lane and do not park in the fire lane. We encourage our staff and our parents to park at the high school and walk to the junior high school for special events. It is not a long hike and it would help tremendously if many people would do so.

Thanks for your interest and for your attendance at our school events and also thanks in anticipation of people

being mindful to maintaining access to the school and not parking in the fire lane.

### SUMMER 2016 SPORTS RECHECK SCHEDULE

#### Shaker Junior High School

August 2 – 25	8:30-11:30 (Tues/Thurs)
August 29-Sept. 1	8:00-11:00 (Mon-Thurs)

#### Starting Dates for Try-Outs

August 15	All fall high school sports
August 25	Modified Football
September 1	All other modified Sports



### Summer Reading Projects

Students entering 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grades are given a list of suggested titles for reading over the summer. We hope that each student entering the junior high in the fall will read several titles from the list. The more students read, the better they will do in other areas, such as writing, test-taking and speaking.

To help underscore the importance of reading, each student entering 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup> grade in the fall will also have to complete and submit to his/her English teacher a project. The book lists and project descriptions will be distributed to all current 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders before the end of school. Look for them - if your son/daughter doesn't have one by the last day, give us a call at school. Look for them also on the school's web site.

Help support reading - read the same book along with your youngster!

#### Food Service Reminder

Starting June 2, students will no longer be able to charge lunch if there is no money in their account.

Any student with outstanding charges will need to make payment by June 9 at the cafeteria or the Food Service Dept. Office.

Thank you!

### Students Of The Month

SJHS continues its program for positive recognition of students by selecting a "Student of the Month." A picture of each student, along with a certificate of merit, is posted on the glass window of the main office.

All teachers may nominate students each month for this recognition. Each block then reviews all nominated students to make sure each meets the criteria and then selects one student to receive the honor.

Criteria for selection of student of the month include:

- 0 points in the behavior incentive program
- B or better in conduct
- C or better in achievement
- polite, cooperative and puts forth good effort

Our Students of the Month for April were:

<b>Calhoun 7</b>	<b>Sophie Dvorak</b>
<b>Clahoun 8</b>	<b>Abigail Rys</b>
<b>Clay 7</b>	<b>Jethro "JR" Lee</b>
<b>Clay 8</b>	<b>Shreya Bavdekar</b>
<b>Houston 7</b>	<b>Robert Fratangelo</b>
<b>Houston 8</b>	<b>Andrew Lenart</b>
<b>Norris 7</b>	<b>Brynn Connors</b>
<b>Norris 8</b>	<b>Justin Osborn</b>

### Calendar of Events

Mon., May 30	Memorial Day- no school
Wed., June 1	6 :30pm Studio Art Reception
Thurs., June 2	6:30pm Incoming 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Parent Orientation
Thurs, June 9	8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Awards Program
Fri., June 17	Incoming 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade Student Orientation

## SHAKER CREW FREE TRIAL WEEK



### shaker crew 2016 FREE trial week

See if rowing is *your* sport!

*No experience required.*

**WHEN**

- June 6-10, 2016  
(There will be a meet-and-greet/BBQ for parents and rowers at the river on Thursday, June 9 after practice)

**WHO**

- Anyone in grades 6-11 in North Colonie schools

**TIME**

- 4 pm – 6 pm

**WHERE**

- Albany boathouse on the Hudson River at the Corning Preserve

**TRANSPORTATION**

- Crew bus leaves the high school at 3:45 pm.  
Parents pick up students at the river at 6 pm



**TO REGISTER** or for more information including summer camps: [www.shakercrew.org](http://www.shakercrew.org),  
or contact Dawn Schaefer (registrar) with any questions: [dschae1@nycap.rr.com](mailto:dschae1@nycap.rr.com)

### Junior B/C National Championships in Saratoga

In the girls' Junior C Four, which included Tara Bryan and Brynn Conner, they finished fourth behind two boats from California and one from Florida, and ahead of a boat from Texas and another one from Florida.

In the Girls Junior B Four, which included Andrea Mullen, Olivia Botelho and Olivia Merolle, their boat finished 5th out of 10, in-between some of our local club competition and clubs from far afield in the US.

In the Boys 8th grade double, Dan Lemme and Ben Richardson finished fourth out of seven, coming after 2 boats from Seattle and one from Rochester!

**2016**  
**FINAL TESTING SCHEDULE**

**JUNE**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
	<b>May 31</b>	1	2	3
		Foreign Lang. Gr 8 Speaking Assess. (Cont'd)	<b>Parent Orientation 6:30pm</b>	
		NYS Science 8	Performance	Assessment (Cont'd) 
6	7	8	9	10
NYS Science 8 Written Assessment  Locker Clean-Out H/N 7 <sup>th</sup> Grade "0" Points Sundaes	Earth Science Lab Exam (MPR)  Locker Clean-Out C/Y 1:00 - 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr "0" Points Sundaes	1:40pm Grade 8 Yearbook Distribution  Winning Hall BBQ	8 <sup>th</sup> Gr Health Final (in class)  7E Science Lab Exam  <b>6:30pm 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Awards Program</b>	12:00 Studio Art Final Exam  7 <sup>th</sup> Gr Health Final (in class)
13	14	15	16	17
FACS 7/8 Final Exam ( In Class)	Tech. 7/8 Final Exam (in class)	8 <sup>th</sup> Gr Soc. St. Final 7 <sup>th</sup> Gr Foreign Lang Final  <b>LAST FULL DAY</b>	8:00 Integrated Algebra Final  7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Gr Math Final  <b>HALF DAY</b>	8:00am Earth Science Regents  7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Gr Science Final  <b>Incoming 7th Gr. Student Orientation HALF DAY</b>
20	21	22	23	24
7 <sup>th</sup> Gr Soc. St. Final 8 <sup>th</sup> Gr Foreign Lang. Final  <b>HALF DAY</b>	7/8 Gr English Final <b>Last Day for 8<sup>th</sup> Gr</b>  <b>HALF DAY</b>	<b>Last Day for 7<sup>th</sup> Gr</b>  <b>HALF DAY</b>	<b>REGENTS RATING DAY</b>	