



Sunset Ridge Middle School

February 2018

Upcoming Events

2/08 - MESA

02/09 - Online course requests due!!

2/13 & 15 - Student-Led Conferences

2/16 & 2/19 - NO SCHOOL

2/21 - Spring Picture Day

3/28 - College Fair

Be Social with us!

www.facebook.com/srmsfalcons (Facebook page name is SUNSET RIDGE MIDDLE SCHOOL)

or

Twitter@FalconSRMS

MESA

MESA will be meeting on February 8th. Come join us and explore the exciting world of math and science!

Be the Change

Something new is coming to Sunset Ridge. **“Be The Change”** is a school-wide program designed to give any student the opportunity to make positive changes and be a positive influence in our school. More information will be coming in the next few weeks. If a student is interested, they can speak to Mr. Orr or their counselor about how they can become a part of **“Be The Change.”**




Dance auditions for Sunset Dance Company and Falcons Dance Company will be February 28th and March 1st. Audition Packets available in Main Office and Ms. Craven’s room 2403.

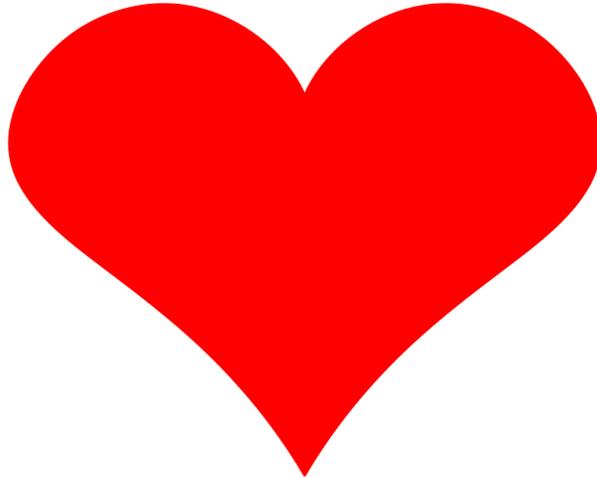
College Fair is Coming!

Mark your calendars for March 28th for the Annual College Fair. There will be representatives from local colleges and universities in attendance along with fun and games for all ages. Did I mention free giveaways, worth a total of over \$1,000 and free cotton candy? Come be part of the fun!

This is for ALL students, 7-9, their younger and older siblings and parents.

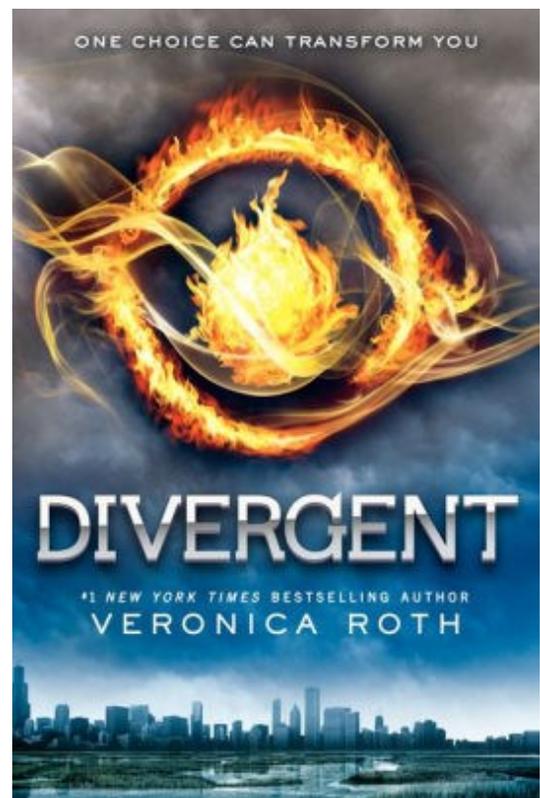
(Watch for more information in the March newsletter.)

Students! Keep your grades up! Midterms are coming February 15th, and wouldn't you LOVE to be passing everything?



Book Whisperers

Hello, book lovers! In February the Book Whisperers group is continuing to read about dystopian societies with the novel *Divergent* by Veronica Roth. This is the story of Beatrice, or Tris, who lives in a future America where everyone lives in factions with people who have similar personality types. There are five factions: Candor (honest), Abnegation (selfless), Dauntless (brave), Amity (peaceful), and Erudite (intelligent). Dividing the society this way has kept people from disagreement and war. Beatrice grows up in Abnegation, but when it comes time to choose the faction where she will spend her adult life, she turns out to be "Divergent" - she fits more than one faction. It is dangerous to be Divergent, so she must hide her true nature. If you have seen the movie, you can't miss the book! Book Whisperers meets every Tuesday from 3:00-3:30 in the Jungle Pod, which is the south 7th grade pod. All grades are welcome, and you can join at any time. We hope to see you there!



Fixed or Growth Mindset

Have you heard of the term “Fixed or Growth Mindset?” In a book titled “Mindset” by Carol S. Dweck PhD, readers learn that people have more capacity for life-long learning and brain development than they ever thought. Scientists are finding that even though people may start life with different temperaments and aptitudes, it is clear that experience, training, and personal effort take them the rest of the way.

If a person has a fixed mindset they believe that their traits are fixed and that they have a certain amount of brains and talent and nothing can change that. In a growth mindset, people see their qualities as things that can be developed through effort and dedication.

According to this book, the best thing parents and teachers can do to instill a growth mindset is to teach youth to “love challenges, be intrigued by mistakes, enjoy effort and keep on learning.” This will help them have a lifelong way to build and repair their own confidences. It also suggests that adults can “praise them as much as they want for the growth-oriented process – what they accomplished through practice, study, persistence and good strategies” (Dweck, pg. 176).

Examples given are:

“I like that you took on that challenging project for your science class. It will take a lot of work – doing the research, designing the apparatus, buying the parts, and building it. Boy, you’re going to learn a lot of great things.”

“That homework was so long and involved. I really admire the way you concentrated and finished it.”

This book has a lot of great insight as to how people of all ages can achieve success through having a growth mindset. Mr. Urry thought it was such a great book that he gave each staff member at SRMS a copy and encouraged everyone to read it. Many have made the growth mindset theory part of their everyday practice.

“Failure is just another term for GROWING”

Scholarship Opportunity!!

“BIG Things Come in Small Packages”

And now, those simple gifts can really pay off in our Sweet and Simple Scholarship! Think back to a time when you received a special gift that seemed so unassuming yet made such a strong impact in your life. Was it a present you could open in a box or a humble gesture from a stranger?

Your gift will forever be priceless, but our Sweet and Simple Scholarship can help sweeten that present with a \$1,500 award towards your college education. So, for those looking for an easy scholarship, keep it simple - sweet and simple.

Applicants must:

- Be thirteen (13) years of age or older at the time of application
- Be legal residents of the fifty (50) United States or the District of Columbia
- Be currently enrolled (or enroll no later than the fall of 2023) in an accredited post-secondary institution of higher education

Submit an online short written response (250 words or less) for the question:

"Not every gift has to be expensive or extravagant. In fact, sometimes it's the sweet and simple things that make a real difference in our lives. Think back and tell us about something you received as a gift and why it meant so much to you."

Deadline is February 28, 2018

The Sweet and Simple Scholarship winner will be notified by email or phone on or around May 29, 2018.

Apply at: Unigo.com

Grades got you down?

Need a boost?

THE SKILL CENTER MAY BE THE ANSWER FOR YOU!!

If your child is struggling with getting work done and turned in, the **SKILL CENTER** may be the answer!!

To work in the **SKILL CENTER**, a referral from a teacher is necessary. Often students who have been ill or absent for another reason need extra help getting caught up with their work. Contact your child's teachers if this is the case.

Did you know that you can eat your lunch and get some work done at the same time in the **SKILL CENTER**? Again, if interested, contact your child's teacher. Lunch work is limited to a two week long session

Registration Information

Feb 9

Online course requests **due** for all 6th, 7th, & 8th grade students

February 8

Falcon Fly-bys for Oakcrest, Mt. Shadows, and Fox Hollow C track

February 22

Falcon Fly-bys for Hayden Peak, Fox Hollow A, B, & D tracks, Falcon Ridge

Math Lab Information

Having a hard time understanding your math class? Does it seem like your teacher has started speaking Swahili in the last week? Math Lab is here to help! A math teacher is available Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays, before school from 7:00 - 7:45 a.m. and after school from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m., in the Neon Ninja Pod area (across from the elevator).

DON'T SUFFER IN SILENCE - HELP IS AVAILABLE!!

