

s.c.m.s. Staff

St. Clair Middle School

4335 Yankee

St. Clair, Michigan
48079

(810)676-1800
Main Line

(810)676-1825
Fax Line

(810)676-1826
Attendance Line

Website:
www.ecsd.us/scm

School Hours:
8:28 a.m. - 3:19 p.m.

Office Staff

- Mr. Michael Alley,
Principal
- Mr. Thomas J. Bialk,
Asst. Principal/
Athletic Director
- Mrs. Phyllis Hamlin,
Building Secretary
 - Mrs. Carol
VanTroostenbergh,
Athletic Secretary
- Mrs. Amy Castle,
Attendance Secretary
- Mrs. Janice Schwehofer,
Office Paraprofessional

From The Boss's Desk

February. Is there a better month? It's cold, snowy, icy, windy. The sun goes into hibernation for the whole month. It's dark when we get to school and it's dark when we get home. It's a month that screams for you to be depressed. The way I look at it, there is only two ways to handle February....1) you can succumb to the almost overwhelming urge to feel depressed or 2) you can attack the month with an almost sickening cheerful, happy mentality. To keep your sanity, and to make the days somewhat enjoyable, the only option is option two. As silly as this might sound, and you might already know this, attitude is contagious. Ever notice that when you're around someone that does nothing but complain and whine about everything that you start looking at things as the glass being half empty. The same is true in reverse. When you're around someone whose glass is half full....you start to feel better about things. Your help at home is critical to us making it out of February. When kids get depressed, they tend to shut down. When they shut down, they don't do their homework. When they don't do their homework, their grades drop. When their grades drop, they fail. All of a sudden, they're 28 years old and still living in your basement. No one wants that. My goal for the month of February is to not let my glass get half empty. No matter what anyone throws at me, I'm going to look at the positive side of things. "It's snowing again!". "Perfect for skiing and snowboarding". "It's going to take me hours to shovel the driveway". "Nothing beats outside exercise". "Mr. Alley is the Greatest". "True.....I hear it all the time....I've got no reply to that". Here is something else that will help. February is broken up into two short chunks of time ...two short term goals. We've got 14 days from the end of the Semester (January 27th), until Mid-Winter Break (February 17th). Then when we get back from Mid-Winter we only have basically a week until February is in our rearview mirror. Getting the kids to focus on homework, tests and enjoying life instead of getting a case of the "glass half empty-itis" will make everyone's job and life much easier. Two very do-able short term goals. Stressing the importance of looking at the bright side of things, not only will help in the short term, but is a life long lesson. Together we can turn this month into one of the highlights of the year.....ok...that might be a tad of a stretch, but we can definitely make it an enjoyable month.

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The mission of St. Clair Middle School is to promote a positive learning environment where students and staff, in partnership with the community, work toward the optimal development of the whole child.

Student of the Month

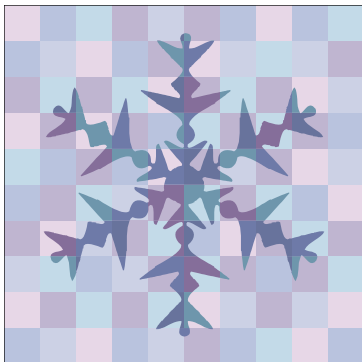
6th Grade: Lauren Swantek, Olivia Young

7th Grade: Madeline Shepherd, Chad Cousino

8th Grade: David Hankins, Brenden Hurttgam

Congratulations to all of you!

You are "SAINTS" to be proud of!!



**Mid Winter Break
February 17th - 21st!**

**Half Day for All Students
February 29th!!**

Students Dismissed at 11:48 a.m.



**American
Red Cross**

National Junior Honor Society is sponsoring a blood drive at S.C.M.S. Please mark your calendar for Tuesday, February 28th. The blood drive will run from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Auxiliary Gym. We would love to have staff/parents from all E.C.S.D. buildings donate their blood. Pre-registration is required. If you are interested please:

Sign up online at redcrossblood.org

Enter sponsor code: stclairmiddle

- 2/6 Girls' Basketball home vs. Central 4:15 p.m.
- 2/6 S.C.M.S. Wrestling at Central 4:15 p.m.
- 2/8 S.C.M.S. Wrestling home vs. Holland Woods 4:15 p.m.
- 2/8 Girls' Basketball at Marine City 4:15 p.m.
- 2/11 Chili Heat Run 5K at S.C.M.S. 9 a.m.
- 2/13 S.C.M.S. Wrestling home vs. Ft. Gratiot 4:15 p.m.
- 2/13 Girls' Basketball at Ft. Gratiot 4:15 p.m.
- 2/15 S.C.M.S. Wrestling at Marysville 4:15 p.m.
- 2/17 - 2/21 **Mid-Winter Break!**
- 2/22 S.C.M.S. Wrestling at Cros-Lex 4:15 p.m.
- 2/22 Girls' Basketball home vs. Cros-Lex 4:15 p.m.
- 2/23 S.C.M.S. Wrestling home vs. Central 4:15 p.m.
- 2/23 Girls' Basketball at Central 4:15 p.m.
- 2/27 S.C.M.S. Wrestling at Holland Woods 4:15 p.m.
- 2/27 Girls' Basketball home vs. Holland Woods 4:15 p.m.
- 2/28 American Red Cross Blood Drive 2-8 p.m. at S.C.M.S.
- 2/29 Half Day for Students (Dismissed at 11:48 a.m.)
- 2/29 S.C.M.S. Wrestling at Ft. Gratiot 4:15 p.m.
- 2/29 Girls' Basketball home vs. Ft. Gratiot 4:15 p.m.



Studio 1219 will be hosting an East China Art Exhibit in February. The opening reception will be on February 14th from 4:30 - 6 p.m. The exhibit will be on display until March 11th. Studio 1219 is at 1219 Military St. in Port Huron. It is always a pleasure to see parents and students come out to view the awesome variety of art work from East China Schools. St. Clair Middle School will exhibit about 30 different pieces of art.

Another large art exhibit happening at the same time is at the St. Clair County Community College Art Gallery. Starting March 1st an opening reception for SCMS artists will be at the SC4 Art Galleries in Port Huron from 4 - 6 p.m. This will exhibit art works from middle and high schools in St. Clair County. The art will be on display from the 1st through the 22nd. Come on out and see the unique abilities of our

Bus Transportation & School Closing Information

As always, winter storms put transportation concerns in the forefront. It is important for parents and students to be aware of the procedures that should be followed in the event of hazardous road conditions. School "cancellations" and "transportation delay" announcements will be made on the following radio stations: **WJR-AM 760, WHLS-AM 1450, WPHS-AM 1380, WGRT - FM 102.3, and WSAQ-FM 107.1; and television stations Channels 2, 4, and 7.** Information regarding school closing or transportation delays can also be accessed through the East China School District website at www.ecsd.us, click on 'School Closings'. **The "Weather Advisory/School Closing Line" is 676.1101** for up-to-date transportation delays due to existing weather conditions. This line is available 24 hours a day and updates will be made by 5:00 a.m. on those days when weather will cause delays/cancellations in transportation service. Please **DO NOT** phone the transportation department office lines to request this information, as these lines need to be kept free for emergencies.

As a reminder, electronic communication devices such as cell phones cannot be used on any school bus. Any questions regarding transportation issues, should be directed to the Transportation Office at **676.1100**.

ROBOFEST

St. Clair Middle School will be hosting a Robofest Robotics Competition on March 17th. Eight teams each at the junior and senior levels will be competing for the opportunity to advance to the Michigan Regional competition. Robofest is an autonomous robotics competition designed to promote and support STEM (Science, Engineering, Technology and Math) and Computer Science while challenging teams of students to design, build, and program robots to compete in a friendly atmosphere. Developed by Dr. Chung at Lawrence Technological University, Robofest is in its 13th year. The St. Clair qualifying competition runs from 9 a.m. until 1 p.m. and is open to the public. For more information visit www.robofest.net or call **Mr. Eisele at 676-1835**

Parent Connect!

Parents are encouraged to continue checking Parent Connect often. The "news" link lists homework and the "assignment" link lists student assignments and grades.

District 16 Honors Band

Six SCMS Band members were selected to participate in the MSBOA District 16 Middle School 2011 Honors Bands in a concert held at Warren Lincoln HS on Tuesday, January 10th. SCMS 8th Graders **Emily Russell** (clarinet), **Kate Beauchamp** (alto saxophone) and **Adam George** (trombone) performed in the 8th/9th Grade Honors Band which was directed by Mr. Jeffrey Bennett, retired Director of Bands from Harbor Springs, MI. SCMS 7th Graders **Mikayla Burke** (flute), **Joey DeVolder** (clarinet) and **Chad Cousino** (baritone) performed in the 7th Grade Honors Band which was directed by Ms. Shelley Roland, Director of Bands at Clarkston Sashabaw Middle School. Out of the nearly 700 students nominated by their respective Band directors, 237 students from 42 middle schools in St. Clair, Macomb and Oakland counties were selected this year. Congratulations to these students for their hard work!

MSBOA All-State Middle School Band

SCMS 8th Grade Band member **Eli George** (trumpet) was selected by audition to perform in the MSBOA All-State Middle School Band at the Michigan Music Conference in Grand Rapids MI on Saturday, January 21. Over 1,200 seventh and eighth grade students from the entire state prepared a live audition in October to be considered for membership in this ensemble, and Eli was the only student from St. Clair County that was selected this year. The ninety-nine member All-State Middle School Band was conducted by Mrs. Mary Land, Director of Bands at Young Harris College in Georgia. Congratulations to Eli on this outstanding accomplishment!

District 16 Solo & Ensemble

Seventeen of our 7th and 8th Grade Band members participated in the MSBOA District 16 Middle School Solo & Ensemble Festival at Rochester HS on Saturday, January 14. Our students prepared thirteen events (nine solos, three duets and a quartet) for the music adjudicators and every student earned a medal, for a total of 18 “blue” First Divisions and 1 “red” Second Division. Congratulations to these students on their excellent performances!

Kate Beauchamp & Sarah Smith – alto saxophone duet, First Division

Jean Darga & Lauryn Trombley – flute duet, First Division

Adam George – trombone solo, First Division

Eli George – trumpet solo, First Division

Brenden Hurttgam – clarinet solo, First Division

Morgan Kronner – baritone solo, First Division

Morgan Kronner – piano solo, First Division

John Staiger – snare drum solo, First Division

AJ Urban – piano solo, First Division

James Brenner – snare drum solo, Second Division

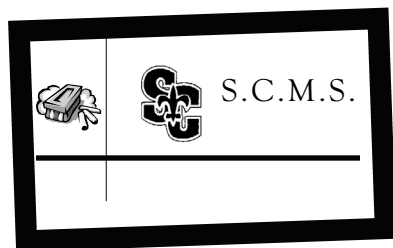
Hannah Dunsmore – clarinet solo, First Division

Samantha Redinger & Mikayla Burke – cornet/flute duet, First Division

Mikayla Burke, Aubrey Grevemeyer, Kaitlin Howell & Kaylin Zajac – flute quartet, First Division

District 16 Band Festival

The SCMS 7th Grade and 8th Grade Bands will be participating in the **MSBOA District 16 Middle School Band Festival** to be held this year on Saturday, March 10 at Algonquin Middle School. The specific performance times will be available soon. The Festivals are free and open to the public - come out and support our student musicians!



The East China School District complies with all federal laws and regulations of the U.S. Department of Education. No person shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program or activity in the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, sex, age, marital status or handicap.

President - Michael P. McCartan

Vice-President - James R. Biewer

Secretary - Roy W. Klecha, Jr.

Treasurer - John E. Folske

Trustees

Glenn R. Koenigbauer

Michael J. McNamee

Allen Reichle

Superintendent - Rodney P. Green, Ph.D.

Contact:

Central Administration:

1585 Meisner Road, East China, MI 48054 (810)676.1000

Transportation:

Mrs. Hilda Livingston (810)676.1100

Inclement Weather Line:

(810)676.1101



*NOTICE TO ALL GUESTS AT

ST. CLAIR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Please remember S.C.M.S. is a drug free school zone!

NO SMOKING ON SCHOOL

GROUNDS PLEASE!

East China School District

1585 Meisner Road

East China, MI 48054

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION

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