Let’s **Be the Good, SoJo!**

**Message From the Administration**

Dear SOJO Nation,

The school year is off to a great start. Students are working hard, striving to get to class on time, and completing their work, projects, and activities in a timely fashion. We appreciate their efforts.

School safety is important at SOJO Middle, and we will be conducting at least 6 emergency drills over the course of this school year. We have already held one fire drill with an evacuation, and one Lock Out drill. A Lock Out drill is for schools to lock all exterior doors to keep outside of the school trouble from getting inside our building. Our students remain inside their classrooms and we continue the school day "business as usual." We will not allow anyone to exit our building while in a Lock Out situation. We will not unlock our exterior doors until the danger is gone and our school has been told by local law enforcement, that the danger is gone and we can unlock our doors again. Only then will we allow anyone to enter or exit our building.

Continued on page 2
Message From the Administration Continued...

We will continue to help discuss and talk about safety with our students and staff, and continue to find opportunities to practice other emergency drill situations.

Every student at SOJO Middle is assigned a Gmail account though Jordan District. This allows them to be able to email communicate with all of their teachers and with each other. It also allows them a log in account for Google Classroom, where much of their classwork is tracked. Your students are able to access their Google Classrooms from home so that they can continue to work on classroom work, at home. Ask your students to show you their Google classrooms and see the great learning activities that are happening on a daily basis in their classes.

Canvas is another online program that some classes use to interact with their students. It is similar to Google classroom, in that it is a location that can organize student work, allow students to remotely work in groups, and submit work to the teacher. Teacher feedback can also be input so that teacher and student are interacting about the assignment or activity. It is another great way for students to practice schoolwork from home. Ask your student to show you their Canvas account.

We thank you for the opportunity to teach and interact with your child. Our teachers are committed to being prepared to teach each and every day. They are committed to creating curriculum that your student needs in order to progress in their knowledge to advance to the next course. When you have an opportunity to thank a teacher, I hope you thank them. They work hard to provide excellent learning opportunities each day here at SOJO Middle. The Best Middle School in the State of Utah!!!!!!

Principal McLeod
WELCOME NEW SOJO Snow Leopard Teachers for 2019-2020:

Graham Bany - Language Arts
Mallory Birch - Language Arts
Steve Carlson - Reading
Carly Coles - Art/Ceramics
Amy Gibson - Guidance Counselor
Ashley Fenwick - Science
Danielle Humphreys - PE/Health
Tara Meredith - Dance
Sabryna Parker - Art
Tricia Rojas - Science
Officer Zack Coy - School Resource Officer SJPD
Clint Curry - Speech Language Pathologist
Kit Curtis - Health and Mental Wellness Support Staff
**Attendance at School**

We are excited to be working with your student this year and want each student to be successful now and in the future. Attendance is a key factor in influencing whether or not a student is successful.

Regular school attendance is associated with higher standardized test scores and better grades. _Good attendance predicts better outcomes in later life_, including children’s success in language, social, and work-related domains. Therefore, it is essential that students be at school to place them on the path for future success.

Let’s work together to help your student reach his or her full potential and achieve success. The following are some of the people available to help:

**School Administrators:**
Connie Bailey (A-K)
Josh Ricks (L-Z)

**School Counselors are available to help:**
Spencer Young (A-F)
Melanie Switzer (G-L)
Jake Nord (M-R)
Kelly Graham (S-Z)
Amy Gibson (E, F, G, N, O, S-Sh)

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**8th Grade Planning/PCCRs:**

Our school counselors will begin meeting with all 8th grade students and their parents for our yearly "Plan for College and Career Readiness" (PCCR) conferences starting October 30, 2019. These conferences last about 40 minutes and help students navigate the challenges of high school and college.

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**Looking Ahead ...**

**November**

Nov. 3 – Daylight Savings Ends (“Fall” back one hour)
Nov. 6 – Student of the Month Breakfast 7am
  - Reflections Open House 5:00 - 6:30pm, SoJo Media Center
Nov. 7 – Public “Say Boo to the Flu” Immunization Clinic 4:30-6:30pm, SoJo Main Office
Nov. 7, 8, & 9 - School Musical “Honk! Jr.” 7pm, Saturday Performances 2pm & 7pm
Nov. 11 – Veterans Day Flag Ceremony and Tribute 7:30am – 7:45am, Kiva
Nov. 18 – School Community Council Meeting 4:30-5:30pm, SoJo Media Center
Nov. 22 – MIDTERMS
Nov. 25 – PTSA SoJo Classic Skating Activity/Skate Night – Classic Skating 5:00 – 9:00pm
Nov. 27-29 – Thanksgiving Recess, No School

**December**

Dec. 21-Jan. 6 – Winter Recess, No School
Jordan Family Education Center, an extension of our school...

Jordan Family Education Center
Located at River's Edge School
319 West 11000 South
South Jordan, Utah 84095

Call for an Intake Appointment: (801) 565-7442

This program is available at \textit{no cost} to families!

We would love the opportunity to help!

JSD School Psychologists & School Counselors work at the JFEC in the evenings throughout the school year. We are open to any families who are seeking assistance. Classes like anger management are ongoing, and some are offered as a single session several times a year, or as a 6-week course.

\textbf{Middle School Classes...}

\begin{itemize}
  \item BLUES BUSTERS FOR TEENS: a class for teens who are sad or worried
  \item JUST BREATHE: Teens learning to live mindfully with stress and drama
  \item MS ANGER MANAGEMENT
  \item MIND SHIFT: Managing your anxiety instead of it managing you
  \item LIKING THE GIRL IN THE MIRROR: Self Esteem
  \item TRUANCY – a class for improving school attendance
\end{itemize}

For more information or to register for a class, please call JFEC at (801) 565-7442 or Sandra Jacobs at (801) 412-2945.
Spirit Night...

Skate Night at Classic Skating
Nov. 25 – PTSA Skate Night – Classic Skating
November 25th 5pm to 9pm

PTSA social media handles for Facebook and Instagram...
@sojomiddleptsa

"Be the Good!"
Immunizations

Remember that incoming 7th graders need the following immunizations:

TDAP booster AND 1 Meningococcal

Please “like” our pages and follow them to stay updated on what’s going on at school.

Thanks! 😊
Risk Factors – Things to be watching for and concerned about:
- Stress
- Depression
- Feeling there is no way out of the problems you are experiencing
- A sense of being weak and powerless, hopeless
- No longer enjoy doing the things that you normally like to do
- Have trouble concentrating
- Experience changes in appetite or sleep patterns
- Feel like hurting yourself

Remember: Every problem has a healthy solution!!! Talk to an adult!
1-800-273-TALK (8255) or 741741 to text – available to anyone who needs help
Talk to a parent, teacher, counselor, school psychologist, administrator, or a trusted adult.

Protective Factors – Things that help us:
- Ties to family
- Good relationships with peers/adults
- Participation in social activities
- Adequate care/treatment for emotional/mental/physical health issues.
- A sense of spirituality
- A sense of belonging
- An ability to be a friend
- A sense of confidence, self-worth, self-esteem

You are a good person; talk to someone!