



# C a m e r o n C h r o n i c l e

2009-2010

## Change of Date

### Cameron Middle School has changed the Open House date to Wednesday, September 16, 2009

#### Open House – Wednesday, Sept. 16 from 6:30 pm-8: 15 pm.

All parents/ guardians are invited to the first **Open House of the year on Wednesday, September 16th at 6:30 pm.** The program will begin in the school cafeteria and then parents will follow their student's schedule and meet all their teachers. Please mark your calendar with this important date so you will be sure to attend. It is an opportunity to meet teachers, learn about the curriculum and instructional strategies and meet the administration. We hope you will join us!

#### **From the Principal's Desk**

The school has been cleaned, the floors waxed and the grass mowed. We are ready to embark on the 10<sup>th</sup> year the new and improved Cameron Middle School has been open. We welcome the new sixth graders, the returning 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and all the staff members. A special thanks goes to the Buildings and Grounds for all their hard work and to the office staff, Mrs. Pagano and Mrs. Gallagher for their hard work

all summer long. We are ready to commence the year and we are looking forward to it.

This year the hours for Cameron will be 9:00 to 3:10. The bus schedule will be posted soon on [www.framingham.k12.ma](http://www.framingham.k12.ma). Please be sure to check the schedule so you know when your child should be at the bus stop and where your child will be dropped off at the end of the day. We will be serving breakfast from 8:45 to 9:00 and expect all students to be in homeroom promptly at 9:00. Please call the school if you expect your child to be late or absent. If you are dismissing your son or daughter please have them bring a note in the morning to the office telling us the time of the dismissal and whether they will be returning to school or not.

Cameron was earmarked as an exemplary school by 21<sup>st</sup> Century and because of this prestigious distinction we will once again be given a grant to run C-Camp. We are very excited about this opportunity. In the afternoon we will have a variety of enrichment activities that will run four days a week, Monday through Thursday from 3:15 to 5:00pm. We are also offering some math and English MCAS Academies and homework help preceding the enrichment clubs. Applications will be accepted through September 25. The first C-Camp session will run from October 5<sup>th</sup> to December 17<sup>th</sup>.

We have been recruited by Harvard University to take part in a study that looks at student and teacher relationships. Assistant Professor of Education, Dr. Hunter Gehlbach, will assist us in

this exploration. Surveys will be given to staff members, students and parents. More specific information will be sent home for you to better understand the research and to volunteer to have your student participate in this worthwhile endeavor. This partnership with Harvard is a rare opportunity and we are thrilled to have them select our school.

This year we would like to send information home to parents through e-mail. If you have an e-mail address we would like you to e-mail us and let us know how we can contact you. Please forward your e-mail address to [jkelly@framingham.k12.ma.us](mailto:jkelly@framingham.k12.ma.us).

In all of our newsletters we ask teachers to write and tell what curriculum is being taught. It is a great way to keep you informed. We also ask our teachers to post their homework and projects on [www.yourhomework.com](http://www.yourhomework.com). We want you involved in your child's education even though they attend middle school. Always feel free to contact a teacher and learn more about the curriculum. Also ask your child what he or she is learning and ask them to explain the work to you. This year we are giving homework that has meaning. Ensure that your child has a place to do the work and takes the time to do a good job. "Busy work" is not assigned but rather information that needs to be learned and retained. We want to partner with you and your child and make learning enjoyable and enlightening.

I hope your summer has been a good one. Be sure your child has read a minimum of two books off the short and long list. If you have any questions, always feel free to call. Looking forward to a great school year!

**Students in all grades report to  
Cameron Middle School on  
Wednesday, September 2 at 9:00  
AM. Breakfast will be served**

**from 8:45- 9:00. Students must be  
in their homeroom at 9:00!**

**New Staff Members for 2009-2010:**

**Linda Sapol-** French teacher-Ms. Sapol studied in Paris, France and received her Master's degree from New York University. She has taught French for many years. She has been a translator in both Spanish and French and recently taught in a private school.

**Lynne Pelletier-** 8<sup>th</sup> grade special education teacher for English and math- Ms. Pelletier has a Master's degree from Bridgewater State College and recently taught in the Mansfield Public School system.

**Erika Zipse-** 6<sup>th</sup> grade special education teacher for science and social studies- Ms. Carlson holds a Master's degree from Framingham State College and taught last year in the Natick Public Schools.

**Ashley Walecka-** 7<sup>th</sup> grade inclusion teacher for math and science- With a Master's degree from Boston University, Ms. Walecka, recently student taught in Cambridge and Brockton. She also studied abroad in London in 2007.

**Derek Neveu-** 7<sup>th</sup> grade inclusion teacher for English and social studies- Mr. Neveu received his Master's degree from Columbia University and taught at Cameron two years ago when another teacher took a maternity leave. We are thrilled to have him back in the school once again teaching seventh grade.

**PTO and School Council**

The PTO of Cameron Middle School is an active group of concerned and interested parents who meet usually **the first Tuesday** of each month. This group is extremely supportive of Cameron students and staff members. We invite all parents/guardians to attend these meetings at **7:00 pm in the library.**

**PTO dates for the 2009-2010 school year:**

September 8, 2009  
October 6, 2009  
November 3, 2009  
No December  
January 5, 2010  
February 2, 2010  
March 2, 2010  
April 6, 2010  
May 4, 2010

The School Council is comprised of parents, community members, a school committee liaison, the school administration, and teachers. They too meet the first Tuesday of each month at 5:00pm in the school library.

Any parent who wishes to join the School Council needs to inform Principal Kelly by September 11th in order to have your name placed on a ballot. At the Open House on September **16th** parents will vote for those individuals who will serve on the School Council this year.

One area that the PTO supports the students of Cameron MS is the fundraising efforts they run throughout the year. This is just one area that the PTO assists the school in providing a wonderful experience for all students. Money raised in the fundraising efforts helps with field trips and experiential adventures such as canoe trips, to the space center at Framingham State College and the end of the year trip for eighth graders. The first fundraiser of the year is the Yankee Candle items that will be on sale from September 11- 25. If you wish to just make a contribution, checks can be made out to Cameron MS PTO. Yankee Candle brochures will be given to students on September 11th. We ask students to only sell items to individuals they personally know and we do not want them selling to strangers. Thank you in advance for your support.

***Sixth Grade has a half-day of school from 8:00 to 10:00 on September 1st!!!***

Sixth grade students will begin school at **8:00 in the morning on September 1st**. They do NOT need to bring any school materials such as pens or notebooks on this day. Sixth graders should come with their schedule in hand and nothing else! We will be introducing them to some of their teachers, assigning lockers, helping them open and close their locker combinations, and getting them acclimated to the building.

The following day, September 2, students from all three grades will be coming to school at the regular time, 9:00, and on this day students should bring school supplies that are listed below. School will be dismissed at 3:10.

**LIST of MATERIALS and SUPPLIES for ALL Grades:**

Pencils/pens  
Colored markers and pencils with erasers  
Notebook books with three holes to fit into notebooks  
Three-ringed notebooks  
Folders with pockets  
Book covers  
Ruler with standard and metric measurements

**BUS PASSES:**

All students who ride the bus should register for a bus pass. This can be done online using the Parent Information Center (PIC), the FPS transportation web page or you can visit the PIC Center. If you are a seventh or eighth grader who rides the bus, you must register for a pass. Sixth graders ride for free. Feel free to call the Parent Information Center (PIC) at 508-424-3420 if you wish additional information. It is located on Water Street in the King Building.

**SCHOOL PICTURES:**

Your student will have a school picture taken in early September. Presently we have book marked **September 16, 2009**. More information

will be sent home. At that time you will be asked to fill out an appropriate form and include a check. On the day of the pictures your student must bring the form and check to the auditorium and give it to the photographer before having a picture taken. The photographer will return at a later date and do retakes if for some reason your son or daughter is absent that day or you are not satisfied with the first picture.

### **HOMEWORK , AGENDA BOOKS AND HOMEWORK FOLDERS:**

Each student during the first week of classes receives a **FREE** Agenda book and a **FREE** Homework folder. These should be used daily and are meant to make students responsible for their own work. In addition, most teachers at CMS have an account at [www.yourhomework.com](http://www.yourhomework.com). Please feel free to check work posted on this web page. Students are responsible for writing assignments in their agenda books. All homework is printed on boards in each classroom every day! In addition always feel free to call the office if you have any questions at 508-879-2290.

### **CALLING STUDENTS IN ABSENT OR TARDY:**

It is important that parents/guardians call the school at **508-879-2290** and **press Option 4** where you can leave a message on the absentee line explaining if your student will be absent or tardy. We must know and we must hear from an adult. If your child is being dismissed please have him/her bring a note signed by a parent/guardian to the office on the day of the dismissal. PLEASE try and call the school as early as possible and leave a message letting us know if your son/daughter will be in school. If we do not hear from you, then a secretary in the office will be contacting you. Being present in school is so important! As I have said numerous times, students cannot learn if they are not in the classroom.

## **Tentative Activities for 2009-2010**

### **Cameron Middle School**

1. Open House Wednesday, Sept. 16 6:30 - 8:15PM
2. Halloween Haven Saturday, Oct. 24 5-6:30PM
3. Cameron Middle School Yard Sale Saturday, Nov. 14 8-12PM
4. Musical Thursday, Dec. 3 7-8:30PM
5. Musical Friday, Dec. 4 7-8:30PM
6. Spaghetti Dinner/Book Fair January 12, Tuesday, 5:30-6:45PM
7. Winter Concert, Jan 21, Thursday, 7-8PM
8. Fifth Grade Parent Orientation Thursday, March 4, 7-8:30PM
9. Literacy/Math/Visual Arts Nights Thursday, March 18, 7-8PM
10. Drama Thursday, April 8 7-8PM
11. Drama Friday, April 9, 7-8PM
12. Sixth Grade Concert Thursday, April 29 7-8PM
13. Pops Concert Thursday, June 3 7-8PM
14. Promotion Ceremony Wednesday, June 16 5-6:30PM
15. Student/Staff Basketball game Thursday, April 15 6-8PM- at FHS
16. Exhibition Night Thursday, Feb. 4 7-8PM
17. Sixth Grade Activity Night Thursday, Oct. 15 6-8PM
18. Seventh Grade Activity Night Thursday, Feb. 25 6:30-8:30PM
19. Eighth Grade Activity Night Thursday, Nov. 12 6:30-8:30PM
20. Staff/Student Variety Show Thursday, May 13 7-8PM

### **Term Schedule:**

First Trimester- 60 Days Sept. 2, 2009 – December 3, 2009

Mid-Trimester ends Wednesday, October 19, 2009

First Trimester closes Tuesday, December 3, 2009

Second Trimester-60 Days December 4, 2009 - March 16, 2010

Mid-Trimester ends Monday, January 26, 2010

Second Trimester closes Monday, March 16, 2010

Third Trimester- 60 Days March 17, 2010 - June 17, 2010

Mid-Trimester ends Tuesday, May 5, 2010

Third Trimester closes Wednesday, June 17, 2010

\* Third trimester report cards will be mailed home within two weeks of the close of school. Dates may change due to snow days.

**4:00PM Late Buses Not Running**

At this time there is no money for late buses. Although we will be running C-Camp with 21<sup>st</sup> Century grant money, we cannot provide 4:00 buses to students not in the C-Camp program. C-Camp runs until 5:00PM and more information will be sent home in early September.

# September

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
		<b>1</b> Grade 6 Transition Day – 8:20 – 10AM	<b>2</b> First Day of school for all grades – 9AM	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> Labor Day – No School	<b>8</b> PTO Meeting – 7PM	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Open House – 6:30 – 8:15PM School Picture Day	<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> Yom Kippur- No School	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>			

# CHANGE OF DATE

OPEN HOUSE/  
BACK-TO-SCHOOL NIGHT

at

**CAMERON MIDDLE  
SCHOOL**

**All parents/guardians are invited!!!**

**September 16, 2009 at 6:30 p.m.**

*The evening will begin in the cafeteria at 6:30 pm.*  
Judith S. Kelly, Principal, will give the opening address.

**Parents/Guardians will have the  
opportunity to meet all their students'  
teachers and the administration!**