



350 W. Sahuarita Road, Building 18
Sahuarita, AZ 85629-9000
Ph: (520)625-3502, ext. 1400
Fax: (520) 620-9761
Mrs. Stephanie Silman, Principal
Mr. Robert Beachy, Assistant Principal



Home of the Jaguars

January 14, 2021

Dear SMS 8th Grade Families,

Welcome to a new year and congratulations on completing the first semester of 8th grade! As your child embarks on their final semester of middle school, we look forward to working with you to make sure they have the most successful semester yet! Although we are in the middle of a pandemic, we still want to find a creative and safe way to celebrate your child's culmination of their K-8 experience.

Due to COVID restrictions, we will not have an 8th grade promotion ceremony. Instead, each of the middle schools in the district has decided to celebrate our 8th graders with a Drive-Through Promotion Car Parade. During the promotion parade, certificates of promotion and achievement will be presented. Please review the following important dates as we commence your child's final semester at SMS while preparing him/her for their successful transition to high school.

- **Middle School Final Exams:** May 10 - May 17, 2021
- **Last Day of School for 8th Graders:** Monday, May 17, 2021
- **8th Grade Promotion Car Parade:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021, from 5:00-7:00 PM on the Bus Loop Road north of campus (8th graders **do not** report to school on this day.)

*In keeping with our district goal of raising expectations, 8th grade students who fail a core content course and/or have repetitive behavioral concerns in the second semester **will not** be permitted to participate in the promotion parade. (*Individual COVID-related circumstances will be addressed on a case by case basis). Lastly, if any student behaves inappropriately or is disruptive during the parade, he/she may be asked to leave.*

The Drive-Through Promotion Car Parade is designated to recognize the academic achievements and celebrate the success of our 8th grade students. We thank you in advance for your support and flexibility as we continue to make revisions to our 8th grade promotion celebration during this most unique year in our history. Our ultimate goal is to recognize each child on their promotion safely. The promotion parade route and map are on the following page. I sincerely hope that you will be able to join us for this celebration. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at ssilman@sahuarita.net or 520-625-3502, ext. 1402.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Stephanie Silman, Principal

SMS 8th Grade Promotion Drive-Through Car Parade Route 5:00-7:00 PM, Tuesday, May 18, 2021

1. Families will enter the Bus Loop Road from the SHS student parking lot entrance off of Sahuarita Road, which is east of the SHS campus and west of La Villita Road.
2. Families will travel north then west along the Bus Loop Road until arriving behind the Cafeteria.
3. Families will turn left (south) at the drive that connects the Bus Loop Road to the SMS parking lot drive. The gate between the Cafeteria and the SMS parking lot drive will be open.
4. Near the SMS parking lot entrance, staff will be present waving signs and cheering for our 8th graders. At this point, your child will get out of the car to get his/her certificate on a small stage. There will be a red carpet photo opportunity, so please have your cell phone ready. The SMS Jaguar mascot, Jazz, will also be present.

In order to maintain social distancing guidelines, we regret that we will not be able to shake hands with your child. We also encourage your child to wear a cloth face covering, as recommended by the CDC and Pima County when six feet of social distancing cannot be maintained.

5. After your child returns to your car, families will exit onto Sahuarita Road at traffic light at the SMS drive entrance/exit, concluding the celebration.

