



ULMS CONNECTION

Connecting Staff, Students, and Parents
Fall, 2016



From the Principal's Desk

We want you to know how much we appreciate your support and partnership in the education of your child. October is the National Month of the Adolescent, and at ULMS, we strive to create a program that is balanced with academic excellence, social equity, and developmental responsiveness. We are celebrating National Month of the Adolescent with Red Ribbon Week, and our usual calendar of events.

I hope you had a relaxing, fun-filled fall break with your families.

Rhonda Hulley

Yearbooks are currently on sale at a cost of \$32. They will be available at that price until Dec. 16, 2016. After this date the cost will increase to \$37 until Feb. 15, 2016. Yearbooks may also be purchased online at www.jostensyearbook.com. Online purchases will be available until March 31, 2017, but the price will continue to increase to \$40.



ULMS Teacher of the Year Melissa Bedford

Mrs. Bedford is an 8th grade English/Language Arts teacher at ULMS. She attended Georgia Southwestern and received a Bachelor's degree in Interrelated Special Education, a Master's degree in Curriculum and Instruction with emphasis in special education, and a Specialist degree in Learning and Leading in special education. Mrs. Bedford has been teaching for 9 years, all of which have been at ULMS. Congratulations, Mrs. Bedford!



October/November Events:

- 10/20: Report Cards
- 10/24-28: Red Ribbon/Bully Prevention Week
- 10/24-27: Wrestling Tryouts
- 10/26-11/4: Book Fair
- 10/27: Talent Search-Bullying Workshop
- 10/31-11/1: Girl's Basketball Tryouts
- 10/31-11/4: Boy's Basketball Tryouts
- 10/31-11/2: Basketball Cheerleading Tryouts (Cafeteria)
- 11/9: Club Pictures
- 11/10: Progress Reports
- 11/21-11/25: Thanksgiving Break
- 11/28: ULMS Band Concert
- 11/29: ULMS Chorus Concert
ULMS Basketball @ Kennedy Road

When Should I Call the Parent Mentor for Special Education?

Taimie Hoffman,

Special Education- Parent Mentor

- If you need information on community resources.
- If you need information about Katie Beckett Waivers, SSI, NOW/COMP Waivers.
- If you need to confidentially with another parent about your concerns.

The Parent Mentor works with families of students with disabilities on a daily basis, providing them with tools, resources, and strategies that they can use to support their children at home, school, and in the community. As a parent of a child with disabilities myself, I'm committed to providing parents with timely access to information and family friendly resources on a variety of topics and issues. If you have questions about the special education process, please contact Mrs. Hoffman at 706-646-3199 (office) or 706-601-1638 (work cell) or thoffman@upson.k12.ga.us.



ULMS BULLYING PREVENTION AND RED RIBBON WEEK

OCTOBER 24-28, 2016



THEME: *YOLO(You Only live Once): Be Bullying and Drug Free*

Monday: UNITED WE STAND AGAINST BULLYING AND DRUGS

Dress in red, white and blue. Please send 1 student to the front to the school to represent each homebase to release blue and red balloons to kick off the week. Ribbons will be given in homebase to wear for the day.

Tuesday: HAVE THE SUPER POWER TO BE DRUG AND BULLY FREE

Dress like a superhero. Tattoos will be given in homebase to wear for the day.

Wednesday: JOIN THE FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS

Dress in camouflage. Pencils will be given in homebase.

Thursday: OUR SCHOOL ROCKS BEING DRUG AND BULLY FREE

Dress like a Rock star. Bracelets will be given in homebase to wear for the day.

Friday: HATS OFF TO Bullying and DRUGS

Wear your favorite hat/cap. Stickers will be given in homebase to wear for the day.

Bullying — Any pattern of written or verbal expression or any physical act or gesture that is intended to ridicule, humiliate, intimidate, isolate, or cause measureable physical or emotional distress upon one or more students in the school, on the school grounds, in school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school activities or sanctioned events.

Cyber-bullying — When a student is tormented, threatened, harassed, humiliated, embarrassed, or otherwise targeted by another student/ students using the Internet, interactive and digital technologies, or mobile phones in the school, on the school grounds, in school vehicles, at designated school bus stops, or at school activities or sanctioned events.

PARENT TIP

DeAnn Hopkins, Parent Coordinator

STAY INVOLVED!

Parents often think they don't need to be involved at school with their middle school children. **WRONG!** Yes, it is a time when children are trying to establish some independence, but it is also a time when children need their parents more than ever. Outside forces like peers, fashion, quest for coolness, etc. begin to dominate decisions and time. All parents must stay involved.

WHY? When parents are involved with learning, student achievement soars. Middle schoolers score higher on tests, turn in better projects, read and study more, and participate more in class when they know their parents care.

WHEN? Discuss homework, tests, projects, papers, etc. at any time. Talk about homework while preparing supper or riding in the car. You don't have to know how to do their homework, just be sure they are doing it. Keep communication open by listening to your child without being too judgmental. Check their agendas daily and look for information from the school. Pay attention to school reach (phone calls). It will relay to you important information and upcoming opportunities that will help you keep up with your child.

WHERE? Teachers want and appreciate your commitment to your child's education. Establish a relationship with your child's teachers before there might be a problem and stay in touch. Attend the open houses, student lead conferences, and special programs at school. If you can't get to the school, support them at home. Infinite Campus Parent Portal is now available to you where you can check your child's grades and assignments. Listen to your child's friends about school work and happenings if your own child is not cooperative. (I often relied on my sons' best girl friends for information. They talked more!) With diligence and calmness, stay "on top" of what your child is doing in and out of school. Your child will be better for it.

YOUR MIDDLE SCHOOL CHILD NEEDS YOU. STAY CONNECTED AND INVOLVED!

Call me, DeAnn Hopkins, at 706-646-9405 if I can help you in anyway.

NOVEMBER IS PARENT ENGAGEMENT MONTH.

CELEBRATE AND PLAY A ROLE IN YOUR CHILD'S LEARNING! HIGH EXPECTATIONS PROMOTE BETTER RESULTS!