

# CARMEL



COUGARS

# CARMEL MIDDLE SCHOOL

## 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Cougar Update — 1/27/2023

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**Jonathon Welsh, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Administrator**

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Happy Friday Cougar Families,

Our focus remains to cultivate a positive climate and create a learning environment that enables your child to thrive above expectations. High quality instruction and student learning are always the highest priorities at Carmel. As the year progresses, students will continue to learn in all areas and be set to succeed well beyond their time in middle school. With that being said, it is important that you and your child remain informed about High School Registration and End of Year Celebrations. The next few newsletters will have this information. If you have any questions, please reach out. Enjoy your weekend!

### 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Lockouts

Since we returned from Holiday Break, students have been constantly late for class. Teachers have been instructed to close their doors immediately after the bell rings. If students are “locked out” they will be swept to Mr. Welsh and/or Mr. Hartage. Multiple infractions will result in consequences assigned by administration.

### Myers Park High School Rising 9th Grade & New-to-CMS Program & Tour!

Wednesday, March 8, 2023, 5:00-6:45 pm

MPHS will be hosting a Prospective Families Program on March 8<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM to 6:45 PM for students and parents! You are invited to begin the evening with an abbreviated tour of the school which will start at the picnic tables in the main quad, from 5:00-5:45 PM. This will be followed by an informational session held in the auditorium from 6:00-6:45 PM to learn about MPHS programs, meet administration, and hear from a student panel. Allow extra time to park so that you have ample time to get to the quad by 5:00 PM. You do not need to sign-up, just show up! Additional details and other tour information can be viewed via the Prospective Family QR code.



### 2023 Comprehensive Review

Phase II community engagement sessions are being held for the 2023 Comprehensive Review. The district is seeking feedback from the community on proposed projects as it plans for programs, boundaries and facilities. [Phase II meetings](#) began this week and continue through Feb. 2. A [Hello CMS podcast](#) also is available with more information on the review process.

### Spring Sports Registration/Tryout Information

Please visit the [Carmel MS athletic page](#) for information concerning spring sports registration and tryouts. All registration paperwork must be completed in [DragonFly](#) by 2/6!

### Carpool Update

To ensure all students are safe during dismissal, please cease parking in the neighborhood to pick up your child. Often, you are picking up your student after they would be picked up using our [established carpool pattern](#). CMPD will be alerted going

forward for cars blocking neighborhood driveways. Those not using our established carpool pattern are putting their own kids and others at risk when students are walking in high traffic unnecessarily. Students will be held back at school for parents to come pick up if you are creating an unsafe dismissal. This is in the best interest of our students' safety.

### Yearbooks

The Carmel Yearbook Staff is proud to announce that Carmel's *best* yearbook ever is now in production. We are working hard to create a lasting memory for all Carmel students, so don't miss your chance to own it! For just \$21 plus tax, you get 96 pages of full-color photos, and it includes all of the Carmel sports, clubs, and organizations you're involved in! [Click here](#) to order before it's too late! If you have any questions, please email Mr. Mahoney at [adam.mahoney@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:adam.mahoney@cms.k12.nc.us)!

### Daily Attendance Matters!

Consistent student attendance is critical to students' learning. We are making a concentrated effort this school year to encourage our students to be present every day. Please remember to contact Ms. Royston, our attendance secretary, whenever your child is out of school and complete the on-line attendance form. Her email is [tanya1.royston@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:tanya1.royston@cms.k12.nc.us)

### Curriculum Updates:

**English Language Arts** – In ELA, the students have been becoming masters of figurative language and the deeper meaning of poetic devices. They've read multiple poems and song lyrics, deciphering how authors use their words to express their thoughts and ideas in a more exact way.

Next week, to prepare for our third Module, the students will read about and discuss information about the Holocaust. This background knowledge will strengthen their understanding of the setting of the Module's focus novel, *Maus I* and how it impacts the development of plot, character, theme, and more!

**Math 8** – Students will begin Unit 6: Associations in Data. They will explore scatterplots and two-way tables. The first half of the unit is scatterplots, and students will discover what a point means in context on a scatterplot. They will also learn how to predict and notice trends on a scatterplot.

Assessments: Tuesday, January 31 - Volume

**Math I** - Math 1 students have just finished up their study of functions (unit 5) and have taken their unit test. We are now beginning unit 6, which is all about Exponential Functions. Students will be learning how to simplify monomials using exponent rules. We will spend about a week on this, with lots of practice (as these rules can be tricky). Once students have mastered these rules of exponents, they will begin to study how exponential equations are graphed and the type of pattern they make in their outputs.

Important Dates:

- Tue. Feb. 7 - Rules of Exponents Quiz (perform grade - on paper, no calculators)
- Fri. Feb. 17 - Unit 6 Test

**Science** – In science classes, we have just finished our study of microbes and disease, with the unit test having been administered on January 24th and 26th. We are now at the midpoint of the school year, so we will have our Science District Midterm Exam on January 31<sup>st</sup> and February 1<sup>st</sup>. Midterm scores will be incorporated into students' third quarter grades. After the midterm, we will jump into our study of Ecology. We will explore organisms, their environments, and the interactions they all share. Weather-permitting, we will have an opportunity for students to explore an ecosystem here on campus, which will give students invaluable real-world experience as they prepare to make the jump to high school. As always, if you have any questions, please email Mr. Mahoney, Ms. Carter, or Ms. Shurig directly.

**Social Studies** – Our Social Studies team is excited and ready for the 3rd quarter. We have begun the first lessons on Unit 5 covering the Civil War and Reconstruction. So far, your students have learned about the significant events leading to the start of the Civil War. Upcoming lessons will include a deliberation on the secession of the South from the Union, major battles of the Civil War, and the success of the efforts of Reconstruction following the end of the Civil War.

Furthermore, the start of the new semester is a great time for students and parents to take a moment to reflect on the successes and weaknesses of the first semester! Below are some tips for managing success in the second semester for Social Studies:

1. Make sure your student has a method for storing classwork (worksheets and notes from class). Each teacher has a specific organization routine, but your student should have easy access to their class materials and can show you their completed work regularly.
2. Students should check Canvas any day they are absent. Each Social Studies teacher posts the daily activities on Canvas even if there is not an assignment for them to complete directly online. Many times, we complete activities in class on paper, but students can keep up with the missed content by checking in on Canvas.
3. Check announcements in Canvas regularly for review materials and other helpful tools!

### Important Updates:

1/30-2/10	ACCESS testing for multilingual learner students
2/8:	Early Release Day (1:15pm dismissal)
2/13	Second ACE intervention cycle begins (8-weeks)
2/17	School Improvement Team meeting, 8:00am
2/20	Holiday, no school
3/8	Early release day (1:15pm dismissal)
3/17	Last Day for students to submit Quarter 3 assignments
3/27	Teacher workday

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## Counselor Connection

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Be on the lookout *soon* for rising 9<sup>th</sup> grade registration information from our feeder high schools!

### Current & Prospective CMS Families, Save the Date!

The CMS School Choice Magnet Office invites you to attend this year's in-person CMS School Choice Magnet Fair! This event will offer you the opportunity to meet school and district staff and gather information about the school options CMS has to offer.

Date: Saturday, February 4, 2023

Time: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Location: Innovation Park, 7201 IBM Drive, Charlotte, NC 28262

For more information, please visit: <https://cmschoice.org/fair/>

**More Info....**Please visit Carmel's [Student Support Services Website](#) learn more about our Comprehensive School Counseling Program

## PTSA News & Announcements

Join the renowned [Carmel PTSA](#) to stay engaged and informed on what's going on at Carmel Middle. To receive the weekly Cougar News please [sign-up here!](#) The Cougar News is our weekly publication of all school-wide updates, announcements, and celebrations.

[PTSA Membership & Volunteer Form](#)

[Invest for Success Donation Form](#)

Join the PRIDE and donate to the Carmel PTSA Invest for Success annual fundraising campaign! Our goal is to raise \$40,000 to fund the PTSA operating budget for the 2022-2023 school year. This money is essential to addressing targeted student and staff needs not funded by CMS. We thank those who have already donated. If you haven't done so yet, please make a donation today. Donate here: <http://www.carmelptsa.org/invest-for-success.html>

Your tax deductible donations directly impact the students and staff at Carmel. This year, funds raised will specifically go toward:

- 🐾 Science Lab Equipment
- 🐾 Fine Arts Department Performance Equipment
- 🐾 Supplemental Instructional Resources
- 🐾 Staff Appreciation and Staff Retention Events
- 🐾 Student Recognition
- 🐾 Cougar Cares Program
- 🐾 Counseling Programs
- 🐾 Tutoring

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**Thank you!**

**Next Cougar Update: February 10<sup>th</sup> 2023**

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