



# Sac News You Can Use

## Nov. 2018

Edition #3 ~ Thank You Veterans !!!!

Visit our Website

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## Calendar of Events

**November 5 - SAC GIVES Campaign starts. Please click here. Make a donation TODAY to support a SAC family in need.**

**November 8 - Veteran's Day Con**

November 9 - Peer Professional Learning Day - Early Release @2:15

**November 12 - Veteran's Day - No School**

**November 13 - Check those back packs!!! 1st Quarter grades come home today.**

**November 22, 23 - Thanksgiving Break**

December 5 - SAC GIVES wrapping party.

**December 7 - 2nd Mid-Quarter today. Check PowerSchool!!**

December 13 - 8th Grade Band and Orchestra Concert @ 7 pm.

**December 14 - Holiday Con**

December 20 - Locker Clean up.

December 21 - Ugly Holiday Sweater day. Have a wonderful break!!!

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## Message from the Principal



November 2018

**Wow**, it is amazing to think that 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Grades have already been posted and we are into November. Did you know that our failure rates are the lowest we have seen in recent memory? Over 88% of our students are passing classes with a C or better. We have more students on Honor Roll than ever before. Our Parent Teacher Group will be handing out donuts and juice this month as a recognition for the hard work and dedication our Honor Roll students are exhibiting.

November is an exciting month at Sacajawea. It is filled with activities and opportunity for our young people to showcase their talents. Our volleyball players are learning the value of teamwork, participation and competition. Our wrestlers are showing the "never quit" attitude that reflects our school and our grit. Our musicians are front and center visiting the Spokane Veteran's home, performing in their first official concert and hosting distinguished guests at our Veteran's Day Convocation.

The month of November is all about "Gratitude" at Sacajawea. Our students are reading articles on gratitude, our staff is modeling and teaching lessons on the importance of giving back and saying thanks. You may have seen the recent news story on KXLY outlining our letter writing campaign this month. Our school partnered with Fairchild Air Force Base. Students spent two mornings writing letters of gratitude directly to Airmen who are currently deployed or who have recently been deployed. Our students and staff are so gracious and thankful for the sacrifice our military make every day. A few of these letters will be shared at our Veteran's Day Convocation on November 8<sup>th</sup>. We will spend the morning honoring and giving thanks to grandpas, grandmas, moms, dads and loved ones who serve. We are honored to have our very own Brian Newberry, Spokane School Board member and past Wing Commander at Fairchild as our featured speaker.

Keeping with the theme of gratitude and thanks, you should have seen an email from me outlining our annual **SAC Gives** program. This program was spearheaded by our Parent Teacher Group. Staff and community members partner together to adopt students and families in need and provide a holiday season filled with joy. If you did not see this email, please read the details in the NEWS/INFO section of this issue of Sacajawea News You Can Use. Once again, it is all about gratitude, thanks and giving. Thanks for partnering with our school. Thanks for allowing us to serve and teach such a wonderful student body. Thanks for helping Sacajawea continue to be the flagship middle school in Spokane and in our region. Thanks for your commitment and support.

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## News/Info

### SAC GIVES



A long time ago in the best middle school in all of Washington, a team of counselors learned of a few students whose families were struggling during the holiday season. This amazing team of counselors talked to an equally amazing group of teachers who together pooled their resources, dug into their own pockets and bought turkeys, presents, xmas trees, decorations etc.

AND...just like that SAC GIVES was born.

We are so thankful for our amazing PTG for taking this idea and running with it.

And we are so thankful for the SAC families who choose to make THIS their donation of choice during the holidays.

[CLICK HERE TO MAKE A DONATION.](#)

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**Studies show that students involved in after school activities are happier, healthier and get better grades!! See the updated list by clicking below...**



[Click here to see all the great sport and club opportunities that are available.](#)

**Chess Club** is starting up at SAC!!!

Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 in room 188.

Registration forms for Chess Club can be picked up in the bookroom. There is a fee but scholarships are available to take care of the cost. Please join us!!!

**Under Water Robotics** is meeting every Wednesday after school. There is still room for interested students. Please see Mrs. Taylor or Mr. Krestian for information.

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## A message from our Counselors....

### Understanding Technology and Social Media at School.

There's no doubt about it that technology can be a powerful tool used to enhance our lives BUT there's also no doubt that here at school this same technology can be disruptive to the learning

#### WHEN TO TELL

\*If you encounter someone or something online that makes you



environment and a distraction for kids.

### **Sacajawea's Cell Phone and Technology policy matches school board policy.**

1. Cell phones are not allowed during the school day. **Exceptions** – students are allowed to use their phones/electronics at lunch time. Students are also allowed to use them if there is an emergency situation or the teacher expressly authorizes using the device for educational purposes.
2. Cell phones are to be **turned off**.
3. During class students are **required** to store them (powered off!!) in the cell phone holders OR they can choose to leave it in their locked locker OR turn them in to the office for the day.

**Cameras are to be disabled during school hours. Videotaping/taking pictures is not allowed at school.**

**We want what you want - for your child to be successful and ready for high school. With every opportunity available...no doors closed.**

## **TIPS FOR STUDENTS**

### **NOTHING IS PRIVATE**

\*Think about what you type or send. Guard your personal information, such as name, address, phone number. REMEMBER – anything you put on the internet or send off is out there for good!! We've seen "pictures of regret" still circulating 3 and 4 years later.

### **BE SMART**

\*Never make plans to meet an online "friend" in person without first checking with your parent/guardian.

\***Your online behavior is your responsibility.** Don't harass or bully, and don't respond when someone else tries to pick an online fight. If someone is bullying you or your friends electronically, tell your parent, an adult at school, or a person you trust. **Online harassment and bullying is illegal.** In most cases it takes minutes for law enforcement to find addresses and names. No-one is anonymous.

uncomfortable, tell a trusted adult right away! The adult can view the information on the monitor and decide whether to report to law enforcement.

\*"Grooming" is when an adult goes online to meet young people with the intention of establishing an inappropriate relationship. TELL someone if you suspect this.

\*If something you see online seems "too good to be true," it probably is. If you receive any offers that involve going to a meeting, having someone visit your house, or sending money or credit card information, tell your parent or guardian.

## **TIPS FOR PARENTS**

### **TEACH**

\*Create a written Internet safety plan. Set rules for Internet and email use. Include specific strategies for what your teen will do if they are troubled by an online encounter. Sign the plan and post it near the computer.

\*Remind your teen not to disclose personal information online.

\*Draft a list together of what not to share, including name, age, school, phone number, home address, and photos.

\*Talk frequently to your teen. Discuss their online friends just as you would talk about their other friends

### **MONITOR, MONITOR and then MONITOR some more!!!!**

\*Keep the computer in a common area of the house. Require that all devices be placed on charges in a common room of the house at night, rather than your teen's bedroom. This makes it easier to monitor computer/device use.

\*Ask your teen to tell you right away about any uncomfortable online experience, with assurances that you will not be angry if he or she confides in you.

\*Consider filtering or monitoring software. While they can help you control your teen's online use, these devices are no substitute for parental involvement and supervision.

\*Be aware. Your teen might be using computers at school, public libraries, and friends' homes.



## **Music Notes**

Sac's musicians are looking forward to a busy December full of performances.

- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands, Orchestras, and Choir  
Dec. 5-6 Annual tour of Elementary schools
- 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands and Orchestras  
Dec. 11 Winter Concert @ SAC 7 PM
- 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Bands and Orchestras  
Dec. 13 Winter Concert @ SAC 7 PM
- Combined Music Dept  
Holiday Convocation @ SAC 9 AM



### Kickoff Event!

**When:** November 16th 6-8 p.m. \*Doors open at 5:45

**Where:** At LC

**What's happening:** Performances from Girls and Boys Basketball Teams, Cheerleaders, Band and More!

**How much:** Free but donations accepted! We'll also be taking donations of hats/gloves/scarves for our LC Tiger

Closet. Free throw, 3 point, half court contests and concessions open!



This morning we had a visit from the deaf and hard of hearing students from **Franklin Elementary**. Mrs. Montgomery's 8th graders played for them and taught them to play a little song, AND they got to feel all of the orchestra instruments playing. It was a neat experience for them and our Sac students!

## PTG Corner

**Get Involved.** Please join the Sacajawea PTG. This parent group helps support Sacajawea students and staff. Honor Roll Celebrations, supporting needy students, 8th grade fun day, and more are all examples of the way our PTG supports our learning community. **Our next meeting will be Oct. 17th.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR and plan to attend Scheduled Meetings for 2018/19...**

Nov 21  
Jan 16  
Feb 20  
Mar 20  
Apr 17  
May 15

\* all meeting start at 1:45 pm in Room 124 at SAC.

### Donate.

We strive to provide the BEST middle school experience for your child. Many of the activities we offer here at SAC are unfunded and don't happen at other middle schools. This is because of YOUR PTG. Sacajawea PTG is solely funded by your direct donation. Parents tell us that they don't want to sell cookie dough, wrapping paper, chocolates, etc..... If every parent donated a minimum of 20.00 our PTG would net 16000.00 to support student activities and events. Funds are getting low...[CLICK HERE and donate today!!!](#) Or [pick up an envelope in the main office. Please make checks payable to Sacajawea PTG.](#)

Volunteers are needed. Please volunteer your time. Contact our office to get in touch with our volunteer coordinator at 509-354-5500.



## CAN YOU HELP?

The **Thunderbird Closet** is up and running. The goal is to create a resource for students who might need clothing or other personal care items. Students grow so much at this age it is often difficult for families to keep up financially.

**Donations of gently used or new clothes (all sizes) for teens and LAUNDRY SOAP!!** can be dropped off in the

main office. A big thank you to Mrs. Cole-Way's class and Erika Leland for managing the operation



of Thunderbird Closet and everyone who has donated and offered to volunteer their time. We REALLY appreciate it!

*Overheard in the hall....."Thank you Sacajawea...Thank you for my clothes."*

\*\*\*Our counselors and teachers will help identify and connect students to this resource.

Our **Benevolent Fund** is getting very low....this fund ensures that no student goes hungry.

**Please consider donating to either one of these necessary programs that help so many of our kids!! Thank you.**

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## LOST AND FOUND

Our lost and found shelf (outside of the business office) is overflowing. Stop by and check it out...especially if you are missing something!! Items not claimed will be donated at the end of each month to a local charity.

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**WWII in Europe Summer 2019 Tour!:** Sacajawea 8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to join LC on an exciting travel adventure taking us from the bustling metropolis of **London**, to the historic beaches of **Normandy**, and into the heart of **Germany**. Our adventure will take us to the great cities of London, Portsmouth, Normandy, Bastogne, Cologne, Nuremburg, Munich, and Verchtesgaden (in the Alps) and sites including Buckingham Palace, a West End Theatre show, the Imperial War Museum, a ferry ride across the English Channel, the D-Day Beaches of Normandy, the Rhine River, Dachau Concentration Camp, Nyphenburg Palace, and the Berghof (the Eagle's Nest). Get your passports in order and start packing because this trip departs **July 2019!**

LC Theatre Teacher Greg Pschirrer & LC Assistant Principal Theresa Meyer have been leading student and parent (yes, parents are welcome to come!) travel tours since 2007 with WorldStrides. You can see our tour itinerary and details at: [educationaltravel.com/Meyer-8870](http://educationaltravel.com/Meyer-8870). The cost of the 11-day trip includes round-trip airfare, a full-time Tour Director, deluxe hotel accommodations, daily European breakfasts and gourmet dinners, entrance fees to select attractions, a private tour bus, and professionally guided sightseeing tours. All you are responsible for on tour are lunches and souvenirs! This trip is not an LC or SPS sponsored event. If you are interested or if you have questions, please email [theresam@spokaneschools.org](mailto:theresam@spokaneschools.org) or visit [www.tigertravel.info](http://www.tigertravel.info). Come fly away with us for an adventure of a lifetime!!

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### Heads UP.....1st Quarter Grades come home on Nov. 13.

Please check your students grades this week. Call us if you need help logging on. Throughout the year you can use PowerSchool to check grades and attendance. You can even set PowerSchool to email you real time progress reports on a daily or weekly basis to help you stay connected to what is happening at school.

**If you have questions about your child's grade, your first step is to contact the teacher directly as soon as you have a concern so they can partner with you to help your child be successful.**

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**FREE Microsoft 365 Office Suite Software for Home Use:** All SAC students have access to the full suite of Microsoft Office's newest software both online and for home download. This \$99/year value is free for all of our students. Visit:



<http://www.spokaneschools.org/Page/23164> to learn how to log in and download your software.

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## Congratulations/Good News/Celebrations

**Congratulations:** Share your good news with us! We love to feature the incredible things our students are doing inside and outside of school. If you have good news to share, please send it to Tracey Leyde ([traceyl@spokaneschools.org](mailto:traceyl@spokaneschools.org)) to be included in the SacNYCU

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We have quite the little superstars on our hands.....  
[Check out Spokane Public School's Instagram Video](#) AND

[Read today's story at KREM 2 News](#)

about our **THUNDERBEAN COFFEE COMPANY**.  
Close to 100 cups of coffee are made and delivered each week.



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Your **Sacajawea Cyber Patriots team** competed Friday November 2nd for the first competition of the year and while the official scores are not in yet, unofficially they are the **Number 1 Middle School team in the State of Washington**.

Their next competition is December 7th and we have high expectations for another strong performance.



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**SAC STAFF**.....Thanks again for supporting the performances our students do out in the community! Our visit to the Spokane Veteran's Home was a highlight of the year so far . The Veteran's LOVED hearing and seeing the kids.

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Our 10<sup>th</sup> Annual **Fund Run** was a huge success. It was a beautiful day and everyone had blast

running around the track. All Fund Run donations benefits 8th grade Fun Day, athletics, band, orchestra, choir, and other ASB approved clubs. **Thank you** so much for your donations and support!

## Community Partners

About our Community Partner's Program ..... We would appreciate you partnering with us in supporting the PBIS program at Sacajawea.

There are 2 ways to participate and help the Sacajawea community.

1. We ask that businesses pick one month of the school year to sponsor our PBIS program, with a suggested donation of \$75. When your business sponsors a month of PBIS, it will be recognized in Sacajawea "News You Can Use" email with a link to your businesses' website. This email gives your business exposure to the families of the 800+ students enrolled at Sacajawea. We will also advertise your business for the entire month on our brand new Sacajawea Middle School electronic reader board, located on Grand Blvd. at 32nd Ave.
2. Other businesses provide us with rewards and tangible goods for students and staff.

If you are a business owner and would like to partner with us by contributing to our Sacajawea family with donations of time or resources please email [hollyki@spokaneschools.org](mailto:hollyki@spokaneschools.org)



STAY CONNECTED

Sacajawea Middle School | 509-354-5500 | 509-354-5505 | [traceyl@spokaneschools.org](mailto:traceyl@spokaneschools.org) | [www.sachunderbirds.com](http://www.sachunderbirds.com)

