



March 28, 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians of SMS 8th Grade Students,

To motivate, encourage and inspire our rising 9th grade students to finish the year in excellence, we have planned extracurricular activities for our 8th grade students beginning **May 1-5, 2023**. These activities include Monday Mania Game Day (May 1), Block Party/Yearbook Signing Party (TBA), 8th Grade Outdoor Picnic (May 3) and then the HBCU Breakfast and the 8th Grade Extravaganza (Dance) on **Friday, May 5, 2023**. Students must be in attendance on Friday, May 5 to participate in the 8th Grade Extravaganza. However, they are allowed to check out at 11:30 am to prepare for the dance. Students can only be checked out by persons identified in Infinite Campus.

The culminating activity will be the 8th Grade Awards and Honors Program, by invitation only (TBA). In addition to the activities, each student will receive one 8th grade week t-shirt as memorabilia highlighting their years as a present and future Jaguar. Remember to include your child’s t-shirt size on page 3. These activities have been planned specifically to celebrate their years of growth and success and are all inclusive in respects to dues associated with 8th grade week. All 8th grade students are encouraged to participate and enjoy the activities; however, the student’s academic and behavioral status **must** maintain satisfactory to participate in 8th grade week.

All participating students will be **required to follow Stephenson Middle School’s established school rules, dress code policy, academic and behavior expectations**. Again, all activities are inclusive, and teachers must confirm that **ALL** content and connection classes are in satisfactory standing **prior** to the initial payment. **If you decide to allow your son and/or daughter to participate the first payment of \$75.00 is due Friday, April 14, 2023, and the last payment of \$75.00 is due Friday, April 28, 2023.** All payments should be submitted to Ms. James in Rm 105B. Payments will only be accepted in the form of cash; money orders or cashier’s check (payable to Stephenson Middle School) and receipts will be given as documentation of payment. **NO PERSONAL CHECKS or ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS ACCEPTED.** Money received for 8th Grade Activities will not be refunded (events are paid for in advance). **STUDENTS MUST** adhere to the DeKalb County Code of Student Conduct and stipulations to participate in the 8th Grade Activities. Information regarding professional pictures at the dance can be found on page 2 under “Activities at a Glance”.

Below are infractions that will lead to a student being unable to participate in 8th Grade Week activities:

- Repeated Rude/Disrespectful Behavior (not to exceed 1 referral)
- Repeatedly Disrupting the Learning Environment (not to exceed 1 ref.)
- School Disturbance (including fighting)
- Suspension

Please be advised that this list is NOT comprehensive and other infractions could prevent participation.

Building Principal and Grade-Level Administrator can use discretion.

In the event your child is in danger of not being able to participate in the designated activities, you will be notified immediately, REFUNDS WILL NOT BE ISSUED. Please remember that “excellence is a habit” and “failure is not an option” at the “Great” Stephenson Middle School and we look forward to your continued support as we celebrate the closing of your son and/or daughter’s middle school years. Please sign and return page 3 to Ms. James in Room 105B.

8th Grade Dues (Must be paid by Friday, April 28, 2023) Total: \$150.00

Installments	
Friday, April 14 th	\$75*
Friday, April 28 th	\$75

8TH GRADE ACTIVITIES 2022-2023

Parent Volunteers Information

Parent volunteers are needed for each of the activities. Parents must be on Ms. James' volunteer list to participate. If you would like to serve as a volunteer, please contact Ms. James at 678-676-448 or via email at Mildred_James@dekalbschoolsga.org (best method of contact). Please provide the following information:

- Student Name
- Parent Name (Guardians or parents only can serve as volunteers)
- Contact information (phone number and email)
- Activity in which you are volunteering
- All volunteers must follow the DCSD guidelines for volunteers

Activities at a Glance

<p style="text-align: center;">Monday Mania Game Day (5 on 5 Basketball, Tug of War, Scooter Races) When: May 1, 2023 Where: Gymnasium Time: 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">8th Grade Outdoor Picnic When: May 3, 2023 Where: Front Breezeway Time: 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Grade Extravaganza (Dance) When: Friday, May 5, 2023 Where: SMS Cafeteria /Atrium Time: 5:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HBCU Breakfast When: Friday, May 5, 2023 Where: SMS Cafeteria Time: 9:30 a.m.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Grade Academic Honors Awards Program When: May 22, 2023 Where: SMS Gymnasium Time: 10:15 a.m.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Eighth Grade Block Party/Yearbook Signing Party When: TBA Where: 8th Grade Hallway Time: 1:45 pm – 3:45 pm</p>
<p>Additional Eighth Grade Dance Information Attire: Age Appropriate Dressy/Semi Formal/Formal Students dressed inappropriately will not be allowed to enter the dance. Only students who are 8th grade Stephenson Middle School students are allowed. Students are not required to wear gowns, tuxedos, etc. Our only dance requirements are to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Dress appropriately 2. Look Great 3. Have Fun 4. Model Exemplary Behavior 5. Be picked up no later than 8:45 pm. 	
<p>Picture Package for the 8th Grade Dance Package includes two 5 x7 prints and four wallet prints. Cost: \$15.00 Additional 5 x 7 prints are \$5.00 each.</p>	
<p>Every student that walks the red carpet by 6:30 pm will receive a 5 x 7 print standing on the Red Carpet. Students must enter the dance by 6:30 pm to have their picture taken on the Red Carpet.</p>	

(Please sign and return this page)

2022-2023 EIGHTH GRADE ACTIVITIES PAYMENT FORM

Student Name _____ Team _____

Feel free to pay in full or installments. If you have any questions, please call Ms. James (678-676-4448) or email me at: Mildred_James@dekalbschoolsga.org. Last date to pay: April 28, 2023. **NO PERSONAL CHECKS or ELECTRONIC PAYMENTS ACCEPTED. CASH, MONEY ORDERS OR CASHIER'S CHECK.**

Payments

Installment #1 - Amount Paid \$ _____ Date _____ Balance \$ _____ Receipt # _____

Installment #2 - Amount Paid \$ _____ Date _____ Balance \$ _____ Receipt # _____

(Extra copies of the payment form is available in my office)

T-shirt Order Form (Circle One)

Small Medium Large X-Large 1X 2X

2022-2023 EIGHTH GRADE ACTIVITIES PARENT PERMISSION SLIP

As a parent/guardian of

PRINT Student's First Name and Last Name

I have read, understand, and agree to the terms listed on pages 1 and 2 for my child to participate in the 8th grade activities.

Parent Signature/Contact Number