

# SMITHTON TIGER Announcer

Smithton R-VI School District

Back to School 2017, Volume 17, Issue 1

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Smithton Elementary  
and Middle School  
Facebook pages.

## Smithton SCHOOL at its Best!

The Board of Education would like to welcome **Mr. David Bray** to the Smithton community. We are confident Mr. Bray will value our rural school community, provide outstanding leadership throughout the school building, and ensure all our students are provided with exceptional educational opportunities. Our community has shown a commitment to supporting the school and Mr. Bray will continue to provide the leadership to carry on that trust within our community.

Please join us in welcoming Mr. Bray and his family to the  
Smithton R-VI School District.

---Jason Brown, President, Smithton Board of Education 17-18

## *A Note from Mr. Bray*

*I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone in Smithton for their hospitality during my family's first month here. It has been an exciting month as we enjoyed time at the Smithton Town and Country Fair and registered our four children for the upcoming school year.*

*All of the members of the Board of Education have been helpful during our transition and I look forward to working with them and the community to create the best learning experiences for the children of the Smithton R-VI School District. The school is looking great as our dedicated custodians have worked tirelessly cleaning, painting and restoring our beautiful facilities. The sports complex is taking shape although progress is slow as weather conditions and asphalt plant schedules have changed the timeline for our other contractors.*

*I look forward to seeing everyone throughout this school year at events supporting the children of our district.*

Sincerely, David Bray

Excellence in Action!

# Welcoming a New School Year



## Open House - Monday, August 21 3:30-7:00pm

Smithton School will welcome the new 2017-2018 school year with Open House on Monday, August 21. A hot dog dinner will be provided from 4:00-6:00pm in the cafeteria. Teachers will be available in their rooms. Grades 7-12 schedules will be available in the high school gym. Informational tables will be in the multi including bus drivers, SIS, lunch payments, the school nurse, and more. Please plan to attend Open House to receive all of the information you and your student(s) need to begin a successful school year!



### Bus Routes

The route schedules for this school year will be approximately the same as last year. All bus drivers will be available at Open House in the multi with updated schedules. If you have questions concerning your child's route, contact Nan Boles at 573-789-5859.



### Health Information

Mindy Beebe, the school nurse, will be available in the multi during Open House for all health related information.



### School Lunch Information/Parent Portal Access

Kenda Maples, Linda Barnes, and Valarie Schultz (Food Service Director) will be available in the multi at Open House to check meal account balances, collect lunch money and distribute information forms regarding the Parent Portal and Meal Application forms.

### Meal Prices

<b>Students</b>		<b>Adults</b>	
Breakfast	\$1.40	Breakfast	\$1.65
K-4 Lunch	\$1.90	Lunch	\$2.40
5-12 Lunch	\$2.15		

Free and Reduced Meal Applications are currently available in the high school office, elementary office, and central offices, and on the school website (<http://smithton.k12.mo.us>) under the Cafeteria tab. The form will also be available to complete at Open House. Each family is encouraged to fill out an application. The information provided is kept confidential with only 1 staff person in the central office having access to the application information provided. The meal program is supported with federal reimbursement dollars! These are your tax dollars at work! Take advantage and complete an application!

The Parent Portal allows parents to access their student's information including grades, meal account balances, and deposit money in student meal accounts or pay for club fees, t-shirts, and misc. fines and fees on-line. PayPal does charge a small fee to make the payments on-line. Access to the portal will also allow parents to submit family data changes through the parent portal. You may submit changes such as address, phone number, work information and emergency contacts for your students. You can do this by clicking on the "Home" tab and choose "family data". The screen will refresh and you click on the edit button and fill in your information to change and then click on the "Submit changes for school to update their records." See Linda or Kenda to sign up for the parent portal at Open House.

# *Smithton School District Happenings*

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## **Thank You...**

I want to thank everyone for their hospitality as my family and I get adjusted to life in Smithton. July is an exciting time in Smithton as the Smithton Town and Country Fair was in full swing when we arrived. We were able to take part in the community fair and it was a great way to "get our feet wet." Especially for me, as Mr. Jonathan Petersen and Mr. Greg Wehrman and I entered the pig dressing competition. It is great to see the community and the school working together to support and entertain the citizens of Smithton.

## **Strategic Plan Update...**

In school business, under the guidance of the district's Strategic Plan staff worked on mathematics and English Language Arts (ELA) curriculum in June prior to my arrival. During the summer months many staff members take the opportunity to attend professional development sessions throughout the state sharpening their skills as educators, while others reflect upon the year's work and improve their instructional plans in order to give our young learners the best opportunities for success. Thanks to all of our wonderful staff for making Smithton a place where we can always find, "Excellence in Action." If you have any questions about the Strategic Plan, please give us a call at 343-5316.

## **Excellence in Action...**

So much of the summer in schools is spent in getting ready for the new school year. All of our custodians deserve a thank you for all of their hard work. They have all been working diligently to improve the appearance of the school and prepare classrooms, restrooms and hallways for our students in the upcoming 2017-18 school year. Great job everyone.

## **Welcome New Staff...**

David Bray – Superintendent

Deserea Nau – High School Science

Tera Thomas – Middle School Science

Mary Jane Owen – Librarian

Lindsey Blaylock – 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Math

Karla Riggs – Ag Education

Heather Martin – High School Counselor

Bobbi Dittmer – High School Science

Alyssa Gerke – Middle School English

Amanda Trelow – Elementary Art

Tina Rodriguez – 1<sup>st</sup> Grade

Joseph Gorman – Special Education

Robert Langert – Custodian

## **Lil' Tigers Learning Center (Early Childhood Center)...**

One of our Strategic Plan objectives is our low-cost Early Childhood Center.

The Pre-School Program will be 8-11 AM for 3-year-olds, Monday through Thursday & 12-3 PM for 4-year-olds Monday through Friday. The cost will be \$80 per child per month (in district) for 3 year olds and \$100 per child per month (in district) for 4-year-olds. We currently have around 20 students enrolled and are accepting more. Please call Mrs. Dawn McNeeley, Pre-K through 4th Grade Principal, at 660-343-5317 for additional information.

We look forward to seeing everyone at the Open House (August 21, 3:30-7:00pm) and beginning the school year on Wednesday, August 23. The excitement for this year is unbelievable and we look forward to serving the students of our AWESOME district!

It Pays to be Positive!

*Mr. David Bray*  
District Superintendent

# Board of Education Updates



## Strategic Plan...

In order to support the staff at Smithton R-VI Schools and to honor the district's commitment to Focus Area 2 in the strategic plan the board approved a \$200.00 increase to the base salary for certified staff members and a \$.10 increase to the base hourly wage for classified staff members. The goal is to be in the top 1/3 among conference schools in staff compensation and to retain quality staff.

## Excellence in Action...

I was very pleased to honor Mr. Jim Carson for an Excellence in Action Award at the July board meeting on the 17th. Jim received the award for his hard work and dedication and for always having a positive attitude while performing his custodial duties. As a newcomer to Smithton R-VI Jim has made me feel welcome and is always friendly even when on a hot roof or working with drywall in the new building at the sports complex. Great job Jim for showing everyone what "excellence in action" looks like.

## New District Logo...

This spring the board also approved the new logo for Smithton R-VI and we will begin a campaign highlighting the logo during the 2017-18 school year. The board also approved the tuition amount of \$8,917.35 for nonresident students attending Smithton R-VI Schools. Thank you to the Smithton R-VI Board of Education for their support and dedication to the district.



## Sports Complex...

If you have driven by the site of the Smithton R-VI School District Sports Complex you may be wondering where the track is. The timelines for completion have shifted dramatically as the original schedule was to be completed prior to my arrival on July 1st. This change in timeline is primarily due to unforeseen issues for subcontractors at other worksites in the state. The crews are scheduled to begin the week of the 24th and they have already begun to move equipment in. Once the pavement is laid on the track the rest of the work will be done rather quickly, so please watch for that site to change over the next 2 weeks. Here is a tentative timeline for the complex:

July 28th - completion of the concessions stand.

August 2nd - completion of hard surface on track

August 4th - completion of low-visibility fencing around track and soccer field

Please note: within this timeline some contractors will be finishing their part of the complex on a schedule that is dependent on work completed by other contractors \* all work is dependent on weather. There are many other jobs that will be completed within the next few weeks once the large equipment from the asphalt crews are off the complex. We appreciate all of our project managers for their flexibility in scheduling and look forward to a completed project soon.

## Schedule of Upcoming Board of Education Meetings...

2017	2018
August 21	January 15
September 18	February 26
October 23	March 26
November 20	April 16
December 18	May 14
**All meetings begin at 7:00pm	

## *Smithton High School Happenings*

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I CAN'T WAIT to see you back at school! Whether you were spending your time working hard and making that extra money we all like, traveling with family, just spending time with friends and relaxing or a little of everything like me, I hope everyone has truly enjoyed their summer break as I have. If you are anything like me, summer went by way too fast but, I am ready to be back in the building full of the amazing personalities that make up our student body. It is quiet here without you.

I look forward to seeing you at Open House on August 21 and if I do not see you then, I will see you bright and early on Wednesday, August 23!

*Jonathan Petersen*  
High School Principal

## *Smithton Middle School Happenings*

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Happy Back to School! We are looking forward to another great year at Smithton Middle School. I hope everyone had a great summer and took the time to read, play, and enjoy themselves. I have had a great summer but am looking forward to seeing everyone in the classrooms again. Our teachers are working hard to ensure a fantastic year of learning.

We have a couple of new, but familiar, faces in the middle school. Alyssa (Sena) Gerke will be teaching 7th/8th grade Communication Arts, and Tera (Pohl) Thomas will be our new 7th/8th grade science teacher. Both are Smithton graduates who are very happy to be back in our school district. We look forward to some great things happening in their classes. When you see them, please welcome Alyssa and Tera back to the Smithton family.

Once again, I hope everyone has recharged their batteries and are ready to start classes. Don't forget that Open House is August 21 from 3:30-7pm. Students are welcome to bring their school supplies and drop them off in their lockers. Schedules will be available along with the opportunity to meet their teachers.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and look forward to seeing you at Open House on August 21!

*Brandon Wallace*  
Middle School Principal

## *Smithton Elementary School Happenings*

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I am so excited for the 2017-18 school year to begin! I hope you have had a fun and restful summer so far and are gearing up for another great school year!

Did you know the Elementary School has a Facebook page? We will be sharing all of the exciting happenings and events throughout the year on this page as well as our district website. If you are on Facebook, please "like" us at Smithton Elementary.



Our theme this year is:

**Hear Us . . . .**

- Respect Others
- Own your Actions
- Act Safely
- Rise to the Challenge

The first day of school is August 23. Can't wait to see everyone at Open House on August 21!

*Dawn McNealey*  
PreK-4 Principal

# Smithton P.T.O.

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The 2017-2018 school year is about to begin. The Smithton PTO would like to welcome all new and returning students and families. Some of you may not know what the PTO (Parent Teacher Organization) is about. We are an organization comprised of any adult family member of a student currently enrolled in the Smithton School, as well as any staff, faculty or administration member of the school. The PTO consists of a board and the members. The board members this year are President – Terrinda Miller, Vice President – Samantha Bradley, Secretary – Angela DeHaven and Treasurer – Lori Holem.

The members are YOU! Without the members the PTO could not exist.

For the PTO to be effective and truly representative of the school, it is essential to have involvement from as many parents, staff, faculty, and administrators as possible. Many working parents feel that they cannot be included in the PTO because they cannot come to every meeting or be at the school during the day. Whatever your time allows, the Smithton PTO always appreciates your help. Keep in mind that, by volunteering, you will get to enjoy interacting with the kids, become friends with other parents, and accomplish things that truly make a difference.

Throughout the school year we have 4 fundraisers: Discount cards (available at the inside concession stand), Fall and Winter Concession Stand, Spring Carnival, and Box Tops (may be dropped off at any school office or the concession stand). These bring in the funds to help us provide necessary programs and support for the school. Last year we were able to help support and/or pay for Field Trips, all school access to BrainPop, Mark Twain Award nominee books for the 4th, 5th, & 6th grades, 4 Scholarships, Chromebooks, and much more. We are grateful for the extraordinary support of the Smithton community as we work together to provide experiences and equipment for the students of Smithton School.

The board would like to have activities throughout the year for the children and families. Without your help that won't be possible. Volunteering doesn't mean a huge time commitment. An hour or two here and there makes a big difference. And we have jobs to fit your time schedule and interest. We even have tasks that don't involve coming to the school at all.

The Smithton PTO conducts regular meetings on the second Thursday of each month and we invite you to join us. Updates and other pertinent information can be found on the school website ([www.smithton.k12.mo.us](http://www.smithton.k12.mo.us)) under the PARENTS tab. You may also email us or connect on Facebook (see information below) if you have any questions or suggestions to share.

Won't you join us? It's easy and it really makes a difference.

Terrinda Miller, PTO President

[SmithtonPTO@smithton.k12.mo.us](mailto:SmithtonPTO@smithton.k12.mo.us)

Smithton PTO on Facebook

**GET INVOLVED!**



**JOIN THE  
PTO**

# News-worthy Notes at Smithton School

## Mark Your Calendar



### OPEN HOUSE

August 21, 2017

3:30pm - 7:00pm

### Now Serving ALL Smithton R-VI Families with our Parents as Teachers Program!

If you have a child or know of someone who has a child who is birth through 5 years old and not in Kindergarten yet, please contact our office at 660-343-5316 and we will take names and provide information about our new program.



## BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Thank you for continuing to collect BoxTops throughout the summer! Every year PTO uses BoxTops for Education to purchase items for the school. Please continue to save BoxTops for our school!

## SCHOOL HOURS

**7:55AM – 2:51PM**

The Smithton School District will provide supervision of students from 7:35am to 3:00pm on a school day. Students should not arrive prior to 7:35am. Teacher supervision ends at 3:00pm. Any student not in a supervised after-school activity should not be on school grounds and will be asked to leave.

Thank you for your support.



FIRST DAY OF  
**SCHOOL**

**AUGUST 23**



## UPCOMING ATHLETIC SCHEDULE

DATE	SPORT	OPPONENT	HOME/AWAY	TIME
08/22	SOCCER	ROCK BRIDGE V	HOME	5:00PM
08/22	VOLLEYBALL	CREST RIDGE JV/V	AWAY	5:30PM
08/24	SOCCER	CALVARY LUTHERAN V	HOME	5:00PM
08/24	VOLLEYBALL	CONCORDIA JV/V	HOME	5:30PM
08/26	CROSS COUNTRY	SHERWOOD INVITATIONAL V	AWAY	9:00AM
08/28-09/01	SOCCER	OAK GROVE TOURNAMENT V	AWAY	TBA
08/29	VOLLEYBALL	CALVARY LUTHERAN JV/V	AWAY	5:00PM
08/31	VOLLEYBALL	OTTERVILLE JV/V	AWAY	5:30PM
09/02	CROSS COUNTRY	BELTON V	AWAY	9:00AM
09/05	SOCCER	COLUMBIA INDEPENDENT V	HOME	4:30PM
09/05	VOLLEYBALL	WARSAW JV/V	HOME	6:00PM
09/06	VOLLEYBALL	SWEET SPRINGS JV/V	AWAY	5:00PM
09/07	SOCCER	KNOB NOSTER JV/V	AWAY	5:00PM
09/07	VOLLEYBALL	KNOB NOSTER JV/V	HOME	5:00PM
09/09	CROSS COUNTRY	FATHER TOLTON JV/V	AWAY	9:00AM
09/11	SOCCER	GREEN RIDGE JH/JV/V	AWAY	4:30PM
09/12	VOLLEYBALL	WINDSOR JH/JV/V	HOME	5:00PM

--- Check out the Smithton School Website for the full Athletics Calendar ---





**Smithton R-VI School District**  
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*Excellence in Action!*

Encourage  Engage  Educate

For a full-color edition of the  
Announcer, please check the  
Smithton School website at  
<http://smithton.k12.mo.us>

*Excellence in Action!*



## SMITHTON R-VI 2017-2018 CALENDAR

### First Semester

OPEN HOUSE (3:30 TO 7:00PM) .....	AUGUST 21
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL .....	AUGUST 23
NO SCHOOL (TEACHER IN-SERVICE) .....	SEPTEMBER 1
NO SCHOOL (LABOR DAY) .....	SEPTEMBER 4
EARLY OUT (TEACHER IN-SERVICE) .....	OCTOBER 5
1 <sup>ST</sup> QUARTER ENDS .....	OCTOBER 20
EARLY OUT (PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES 1:30-7:00PM) .....	OCTOBER 26
NO SCHOOL .....	OCTOBER 27
LATE START (TEACHER IN-SERVICE) .....	NOVEMBER 1
THANKSGIVING BREAK .....	NOVEMBER 22-24
CHRISTMAS BREAK .....	DECEMBER 21 – JANUARY 2

**LATE START: 9:45AM**

**EARLY OUT: 12:42PM**

--- Check out the Smithton School Website for the Athletics Calendar ---