

# Fatima Monthly Newsletter

September 25, 2018

**The End of the First Quarter** is already upon us. On Oct 19, one-fourth of the school year is already over! **Grade cards will be delivered soon thereafter.** Make sure you ask to see your child's progress.

**An Explanation of the Grading System:** Some parents seem a little confused about our grading system, so let me explain. Fatima has two semesters: one ends on the last day before Christmas break and the other at the end of the school year (May). Each semester is divided into two quarters. At the end of each quarter, grade reports will be distributed. Between each quarter, a mid-term report will be sent to the home if your child is earning below a "C" in any class. So in an average semester, mid-terms are sent at 4 weeks, grade reports are handed to the kids at 8 weeks (the end of the first quarter), mid-terms are sent at 12 weeks, and the final grade report for the semester is sent at 16 weeks (the end of the second quarter and the end of the semester).

The only grades that go on a child's permanent record and count towards GPA and class rank are the ones at the END of each semester (Christmas and May). The other grades are simply indicator grades of your child's progress at that time.

We completed the first mid-term the middle of September. If a class had 100 points during this four weeks, your child's grade was based on the number of points earned out of 100. During the next four weeks, the grade will continue to grow. If in the next four weeks the class again has 100 points, the first quarter grade will be the number of total points earned out of the 200 total points, and so on for the next mid-term and then for the semester.

I know this gets confusing, and if you have any questions, feel free to talk to any of the teachers or call me at (573) 455-2375 ext. 118.

**Remember: you can check on your child's current grade, assignments, lunch account funds, absentees, etc. from home:** Fatima uses the Lumen student accounts system. Through this system, parents will be able to log on and check on their child's current grade and see exactly the score the child received on all assignments. Also, you will be able to see how much is in your child's lunch account and what the child has spent the money for. There will also be information on their discipline, tardies, attendance, etc.

If you are on the system, please feel free to "click away!" If you bring up the child's grades, and your child has a grade of 85%, **you can click on the 85% to see the exact**

**gradebook that shows how the 85% was figured.** Please note in the center of the page is a bunch of I's and N's. "I" means the assignment is figured in the grade. "N" means the assignment hasn't been graded yet and therefore isn't included.

**IF you need to sign up for Lumen** go to the homepage ([fatimacomets.org](http://fatimacomets.org)) and scroll down. You will see a "Parent Portal Sign Up" explanation that will tell you how to get enrolled.

**Parent/Teacher Conferences** will be held October 11<sup>th</sup> from 1-7 in the school gym. All the teachers will be in the gym, and we will have a map to let you know where you can find them. You can then go to their table and discuss your child's progress. Mueller will have copies of all the student schedules so you will know which teachers to see!

This year students will be out of classes both Thursday and Friday. Teachers will have an in-service on Thursday and will recuperate on Friday! We encourage all parents to come to meet the teachers and discuss your child's progress. The school will work best if we all work together.

**Parents of Students who are turning 18:** Because of federal regulations, when a child turns 18 we are not allowed to discuss information with parents unless the child gives us permission. So if your child has NOT completed this form and has already turned 18, your Lumen account will be locked and we will not be able to discuss grades or anything else with you until the child signs it, giving us permission to disclose information to parents. If your child is 17 and has not completed the form, we will close the Lumen account and not disclose information starting with their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.

So if your child is 17 or 18, ask him or her if he or she has completed the form. If it hasn't been signed, extra copies can be picked up from Judy Eichholz in the office.

By the way, this will also be true of their medical records and any college/tech school records.

**Students planning to play a winter sport:** Please remember that students must have a physical each year to be eligible to play a sport. So if your child has not played a fall sport, get that physical taken. Also, parents are asked to set up a Privit account and upload the physical there. If you have any questions about this, you can contact our athletic director assistant, Lisa Neuner at (573) 455-2375 ext. 142.

Also remember our Activity Participation policy regarding failing grades. If a student has failing grades this term but none last term, he must attend tutoring to be eligible to play. If a student has failing grades for two consecutive grading periods, the child must attend tutoring and is suspended from participation during the term.

**SENIORS:** Jostens will be here October 10 to go over graduation orders. They will be back on the Oct 18 during lunch shifts to take orders.

**Tell Your Kids To Find Their Cowboy Boots!** The annual Barnwarming dance will be held in the multipurpose room on Friday, Oct 19. This is a very casual and enjoyable dance, one that everyone seems to have some fun with. So encourage your child to join in this event and meet some new people.

**Dual Credit:** If your child is taking a dual credit class **through Lincoln University**, he or she should have set up a portal. This will give your child an email address that should be checked regularly. If you are having difficulty setting up the portal, contact the Help Desk at **678-581-5888** or **helpdesk@lincolnu.edu**. Your child received a note on in his or her locker to help with this process.

You may begin paying for your tuition by either mailing in a check, paying online through WebAdvisor, or calling the Cashier's Office for credit card payments. Phone: (573) 681-5085. You can pay by credit card on the WebAdvisor Account or by phone.

If paying by mailing a check, address the envelope to Lincoln University, Attn: Office of the CFO, P.O. Box 29, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0029. Make sure you put your child's name and number on the check.

### **THESE NEED TO BE PAID IMMEDIATELY!**

If your child is taking **Chemistry through Missouri State**, they will be sending you a bill in the mail soon.

**Nichols** will be out of school Oct 8 and 26 but must attend Oct 11 and 12.

**Join those clubs and organizations:** students need to be "padding their resume" now for scholarships and applications later. Encourage your child to join some organizations

**Spanish Club** – Students may join the Spanish Club! A student that is currently enrolled in Spanish I or 2 can join the club. Also, any student that has successfully completed Spanish may join. Dues will be \$20 and will be collected Thursday, September 13 – Friday, September 28. The T-shirt is included.

**Flu Shots** - The Osage County Health Department is offering to administer optional vaccinations at our straggler flu clinic October 15. There are a few chicken pox vaccines available that aren't required for high school but can provide extra coverage for high school and going in to college. Many prefer to have the additional dose on board. They can also bring the optional Hepatitis A vaccination and the HPV vaccination. **High schoolers are also required to have a second meningitis shot after their 16<sup>th</sup> birthday and before their Senior year of high school.** The Health Department can

bring these along to administer as well to help save you the hassle of getting that last mandatory vaccination later.

If you'd like for your child to receive any of these or if you have any questions, please send a note to school with them to bring to the nurse's office or call (573)455-2375 Ext 181. We will then send consents home for you to sign if they aren't yet 18 years old. Thanks!

### **School Calendar**

Sept 27 – MSU rep at Fatima  
Sept 28 – Last day to register for the Oct 27 ACT  
Oct 8 –Columbia College Rep at School  
Oct 8 – No Nichols  
Oct 10 – Senior Meeting with Jostens to order graduations supplies  
Oct 10 – PSAT Test for select sophomores and juniors  
Oct 11 – No School - Nichols will attend– Parent-Teacher Conferences 1-7 p.m.  
Oct 12 – No School – Nichols will attend  
Oct 16 - MS & T Rolla Rep at School  
Oct 17 – Board of Education  
Oct 17 – College/Career Fair at Helias for juniors/seniors  
Oct 18 -Seniors order graduations supplies at lunch  
Oct 19 – Barnwarming Dance  
Oct 22 – Mu Rep at Fatima  
Oct 26 – No Nichols – UMSL Rep at Fatima  
Oct 30 – Blood Drive  
Nov 2 – Last day to register for the Dec 8 ACT test

### **Counselor's Corner**

**What an exciting beginning of the year.** It has been fun meeting all the new students and teachers and seeing our school develop into an exciting working environment. I am exceptionally pleased with all the new people. I know it will be a great year!

**Missouri Connections:** Missouri connections is a careers research website where students can take assessments and search for careers and jobs. Students can find careers, find colleges that offer the training, and research all about any field.

On Sept 12 I met with all **freshmen** so they could take an inventory and get started in the program. I will start meeting with all of them individually to work on five-year plans of classes and to talk about their life goals. The first week in October I will meet with **all juniors** to take some inventories and reacquaint themselves with this program.

I encourage you to go to [www.missouriconnections.com](http://www.missouriconnections.com) and check out your child's progress at this website. Make sure the students keep the resumes updated. This will be very helpful in the future.

**Senior Meetings:** This month I have been meeting individually with each senior to discuss what they plan to do after high school and the process they must follow to apply for colleges and scholarships. Most seem to be on track, but it would be helpful if you asked them how they are doing with the process. **All seniors need to have applications for schools in to me by Oct 1.** They also need to be on the various websites (fastweb.com, missouriconnections, etc) to do scholarship searches.

**Junior Meetings:** I have met with all juniors to discuss the college search. All juniors must have their college selection narrowed to about 3-5 choices by the beginning of their senior year, or their senior year will be CRAZY. At the beginning of the year I gave them a packet on what to look for in a college and how to compare them. .

**PSAT/NMSQT for Juniors:** On the morning of Oct 10 the PSAT/NMSQT will be administered to the junior students who signed up. This is a practice SAT exam. Students take it to practice test-taking skills and to possibly qualify for the National Merit Scholars Program. Also, if your child plans to attend a college at a coastal school (California, New York, etc.), he or she will want to take the SAT, and this test will help him or her prepare. There is also a scholarship through a factory in Jefferson City that requires this test.

**Senior Jobs:** I have told all seniors to have their applications to the colleges by Oct 1. They really are not due on that day, but the earlier you get them in the better chance for scholarships. So encourage your students to get those application filled out and sent.

Also, I have given seniors a list of websites to look at for scholarship searches. It is imperative that students start doing this NOW!

Most people recommend that a student spend about an hour a week on scholarship searches and applications! We are 4 weeks into school. Has your senior been on the internet for 4 hours yet for scholarships?

**Transcript Forms:** Almost every college also wants a transcript sent. I can't send a student's transcript without permission, so tell your child to go to Mueller and pick up a Transcript Request Form. As soon as that is completed, I will send an official transcript to all the schools the child is interested in applying to.

**College Rep Visits:**

**MSU – Sept 2**  
**Columbia College – Oct 8**  
**MS & T – Oct 16**  
**MU – Oct 22**  
**UMSL – Oct 26**

**Juniors:** This is the time for you to be researching the different colleges and determining which ones fit your personality. Sign up for these representative visits so you can learn more about the schools. Start touring the different schools. Just call the admissions office and set up a visit.

Many schools also offer group tour days. The list of the schools and their specific days can be found on any school's website. You can also look on the wall by Mueller's bulletin boards for a list of special visit days at the various campuses.

**YOU MUST PICK UP AND COMPLETE A FORM IF YOU GO ON A COLLEGE VISIT AND DON'T WANT IT TO COUNT AGAINST YOUR ATTENDANCE!** All juniors and seniors can attend two college visit days a year. Pick up the form from the high school office or from Mueller.

### **The Joke's On You**

With my daughter's wedding coming up, I thought I would include some jokes related to marriage:

#### **Wedding joke in a church**

A little girl finally got to attend a wedding for the first time. While in the church, the girl asked her mother: "why is the bride dressed in white?" The mother replied to the girl: "because white is the color of happiness and it's the happiest day of her life today."

After a little bit, the girl looks up at her mother and says: "But, then why is the groom wearing black?"

#### **2. Marriage and Coffee**

Shortly after tying the knot, a young married couple started arguing over who should make the coffee. Being a good Christian woman, the wife went to the scriptures for her answer. She said that the Bible specifically stated that men should be the ones to make the coffee.

Puzzled, the husband asked her where in the Bible it said that. Very confidently, the wife opened up her Bible and said: "It's right here—HEBREWS."

#### **4. Adam & Eve**

After having children, Adam and Eve started getting a lot of questions from their kids about why they no longer lived in Eden. Adam has a simple answer for this: "Your mother ate us out of house and home."

#### **5. The Sunday School Lesson**

During a Sunday school lesson, a child learned about how God created human beings. The child became especially focused when the teacher explained how Eve was created from Adam's ribs. Later on in the week, the boy's mother saw him lying down on the floor, so she asked him what was wrong. His reply was priceless: "Mom, I have a pain in my side—I think I'm getting a wife."

## **6. Boaz joke**

What kind of man was Boaz before he married Ruth? Answer: He was Ruthless. (side note: this one is my favorite!)

## **7. The Kindergartener**

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom as the children drew pictures. The teacher would occasionally walk around and see each child's artwork. As she approached one little girl who was working especially hard, she asked what the drawing was.

The little girl told her: "I'm drawing God!"

"But sweetie," the teacher replied, "no one actually knows what God looks like."

Automatically, the little girl continued drawing and said "well, they certainly will in a minute!"