

Hello B40 Parents and Guardians - I hope you are enjoying the last of our longer days before the time changes, and hopefully some fall and winter rains come soon! I have completed my first eight weeks at Branciforte Middle and have loved every day of it! The staff, students, parents and guardians have been a true pleasure to get to know and I am honored to work for you all everyday. Please read below for a few late October updates.

Weigh in on Technology in SCCS - As part of our efforts to improve our students use of technology, SCCS is doing a family survey with help from the local non-profit ETR. This is an opportunity for you to have a voice in how computers are used at school. The surveys are in English and Spanish, anonymous, and include questions about technology use and attitudes toward computer science. It should take about 10 to 15 minutes to complete. Please complete the survey by November 7th. The survey links are below:

<https://tinyurl.com/FamilyTechSurveyEnglish>

<https://tinyurl.com/FamilyTechSurveySpanish>

Dress Up Guidelines for Halloween - If your student is planning on dressing up for school on Halloween, please be aware of our guidelines. Students are asked not to wear costumes with masks that fully cover their face, not to bring any sort of make-believe weapons, not to wear any costume that may be considered offensive by others, or has reference to drugs and/or alcohol.

Important Information - Minimum Days on November 1st and 2nd - On both of these days students will have the same minimum day schedule as we typically have on Wednesdays. The purpose of these early release days are to hold parent-staff conferences for some of our students. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause for your family.

Athletics Reminder - Sign up for the next session of after school sports now! Boys Basketball and Girls Soccer start this week. Please register online with FamilyID (you can find this on our website in the Athletics Department drop-down menu). Wednesday, Oct 31st we will have doctor physicals - they are \$15. Students must have doctor's clearance in order to participate in school sports. If you just finished a sport, please drop off your uniform in the office! Contact our Athletic Director Dusten Dennis with questions at ddennis@sccs.net.

Parking and Student Pick-Up Reminder - It is clear that student pick-up and drop off time can be hectic, stressful and potentially dangerous for parent drivers, students, staff, and even our neighbors. Thank you for driving very slowly, for being respectful of other drivers, and for parking in areas that are legal and as out of the way of traffic as possible. Neighbors have requested that drivers do not turn around using their driveways and that parents turn their cars off while waiting for students so that emissions don't float into their windows or pollute our air. We have received multiple concerns and phone calls from neighbors since the start of school so we appreciate that you acknowledge these requests and take action on them. We all want to do our part to be good neighbors.

Please keep your eyes on the B40 Calendar of Events on the website at <http://b40.sccs.net/>

Upcoming Events at B40:

- 10/29 School Site Council - 3:15-4:15 pm, B40 library - all parents/guardians welcome
- 11/1 & 11/2 Minimum Days (students out at 1:05pm)
- 11/7 Home and School Club Mtg, 6-7pm in room 17 - all parents/guardians welcome
- 11/14 Noche de Ciencia y Matematicas (ELAC sponsored event in Spanish only)

Thank you for reading and Goooooo Bees!

Casey O'Brien - Principal, Branciforte Middle School