

# Concord Middle School

## *Community • Achievement • Lifelong Learning*

835 Old Marlboro Road, Concord, MA 01742

Phone: 978.318.1380 FAX: 978.318.1392

<http://cms.colonial.net>

October 2016

Dear Eighth Grade Students and Families,

Throughout the school year, eighth grade students have several off-campus opportunities available to them. These include the end-of-the-year activities such as Canobie Lake Park, and the eighth grade dinner dance. And as you know, the greatly anticipated annual eighth grade trip to Washington, D.C. is scheduled for June 6 – June 9, 2017. We look forward to an exciting as well as educational experience.

To ensure the most positive experience for all of our students, we hold them to high standards of behavior. At school we model and reinforce the importance of appropriate student behavior necessary not only in our classes and hallways, but also on field trips and on the bus. As a safety measure, we make provisions for those rare circumstances in which a student's inappropriate behavior over a period of time causes us to consider that occurrence of such behavior on an off-campus trip would jeopardize its success. Examples are:

- a. A student who is suspended from school for disciplinary reasons
- b. A student who does not respond appropriately to requests made by staff, including staff with whom they may not be familiar, such as a substitute teacher
- c. A student who frequently disrupts the educational process

Although students may be given three “strikes” before being precluded from participating in the Washington D.C. or other off-campus trip, more egregious behavior could result in immediate dismissal from a trip. We firmly believe that the three-strike process allows students to demonstrate that they have learned from their actions. The three-strike policy is outlined below:

First strike – The student will meet with the House and Principal and will receive verbal notification of this first strike and the reason(s) it is being issued. Parents will be notified by telephone or email prior to the student meeting.

Second strike – The student and parent(s) will meet with the House Leader and Principal and will receive written notification of this second strike and the reason(s) for it.

Third strike – The student and parent(s) will meet with the House Leader and Principal. At this stage, the student will receive written notification that s/he has been removed from participation in the Washington, D.C. or other off-campus trip.

Please note that once a third strike has been issued, the decision is final and the student will not attend the Washington D.C. or other off-campus trip. Also, for the safety of our staff and other students, extreme behavior may result in immediate removal from a trip without a three-strike process. Finally, it must be understood that, during the Washington D.C. trip, if a student's behavior jeopardizes the safety of anyone on this trip, the offending student will be sent home immediately, at the expense of the parent/guardian.

We believe in the importance of high expectations for student behavior and in our students' ability to meet those expectations. We expect that all of our students will be in attendance and experience the fullest opportunities we offer.

Sincerely,

Drew Rosenshine, Interim Principal