

Welcome First Avenue Families!

Dear Parents and Students:

Welcome to First Avenue for the 2017-2018 school year! We are looking forward to a wonderful school year filled with many exciting events and activities. Our first event of the year is Spartan Day – registration day for all First Avenue students. Spartan Day will be held on Monday, August 14th for all grade levels – 6th, 7th and 8th graders (see schedule attached). **Additionally**, all **6th grade** students are invited (and highly encouraged) to attend a WEB Orientation on Wednesday, August 16th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (More information about this event will be available on our website.)

This letter explains the documents you will need to go through Spartan Day. Please look through the registration documents on the website. Before Spartan Day, please complete, print and bring the documents with you to Spartan Day.

At Spartan Day students will:

- Return required forms
- Check-out textbooks
- Have their school photos taken
- Receive their student agendas and class schedule.

You will also have the opportunity to:

- Purchase PE uniforms
- Make 6th Grade Exploratory Wheel donations
- Pay for 6th & 8th grade school year events
- Order Yearbooks
- Join our PTSA and Music Club

(Please note: You will need separate checks for payments to PTSA and Music Club.)

Important Information! Please make note of the following:

Documents noted below are **REQUIRED**; if not completed, students will not be allowed to continue through the registration process:

Emergency/Health Form – In a separate mailing from our District Office in early-August, you will receive a form with instructions and a password for completing your child's online AUSD Emergency Health Office Form. Once you have updated your information, please print your confirmation sheet and bring it with you to Spartan Day. **You will be REQUIRED to have this signed confirmation sheet to continue the Spartan Day registration process.**

After you have completed the online Emergency Health Office form, you will be prompted to continue to the **Annual Notification to Parent/Guardian** booklet; please read through the entire booklet. On the last page you will be asked to print the signature page. Please print the page, sign it and bring it with you to Spartan Day. **You will be REQUIRED to have this signed confirmation sheet to continue the Spartan Day registration process.**

If you do not have access to a computer, or cannot print the two required forms prior to Spartan Day, there will be a computer station available during Spartan Day to update this information. *****PLEASE NOTE: there may be a wait at the printing station.*****

T-Dap Vaccination Verification – All 7th grade students are required to show proof of the T-Dap vaccination. Please provide proof of T-Dap to our Health Aide prior to Spartan Day. Exemptions are no longer allowed by the state of California. **Proof of this vaccination is REQUIRED for your child to be able to go through the Spartan Day process.**

Parents & Students: Owed library books, textbooks or science CDs, or dues from last school year (e.g. lost book, lost PE lock, bounced checks, music transportation, drill team, uniforms, etc.), must be cleared before going through Spartan Day. Students currently attending First Avenue on a permit and have not yet submitted all of the required paperwork, will not be allowed to continue until all documents have been completed and received in the First Avenue office.

Spartan Day will be held according to the schedule listed below:

MONDAY, AUGUST 14th, 2016

<u>6th GRADE STUDENTS</u>	Last Names A-L	8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
	Last Names M-Z	9:30 – 10:45 a.m.
<u>7th GRADE STUDENTS</u>	Last Names A-L	1:00 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.
	Last Names M-Z	1:45 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
<u>8th GRADE STUDENTS</u>	Last Names A-L	2:15 p.m. – 2:45 p.m.
	Last Names M-Z	2:45 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Where to Go on Spartan Day Monday, August 14th

- Enter the school from the California (north) side of the campus.
- Station 1 pick up your **Clearance Form**.
 - Volunteer will confirm your address
 - Determine if fees/fines are owed (pay at office)
 - Confirm proof of your TDAP (if not done, send to health office)
 - Follow map to next station

PARENTS PLEASE NOTE:

- Students and parents must have all forms signed in order to complete registration
- If you cannot attend Spartan Day on August 14th, make-up registration will take place at 7:45 a.m. on the first day of school. Tables will be set up in front of the school
 - Students may not receive a schedule until they have cleared all holds

All students first day of school Thursday, August 17th

- We will be on our regular Thursday rotation schedule on opening day
- School begins at 8:15 a.m.
- School is dismissed at 2:15 p.m.

If you will be picking up your child after school that day, please make sure that he or she knows where to meet you. Traffic around the school immediately after dismissal is always very congested, **so please use caution and make sure you observe all traffic and safety laws.** The best way to avoid traffic is to come 15 minutes after dismissal. The safety of our students is our number one concern.

We are committed to providing the best possible learning environment for our young people, their parents, our community and our teachers. We're looking forward to a great school year – see you soon!

Sincerely,

Semeen Issa, Ed. D., Principal
& the Faculty and Staff of First Avenue Middle School

Additional Helpful Information

Student Agenda Students will receive an agenda at Spartan Day. The purpose of the student agenda is for students to make note of homework assignments and important information given in each class. It's also an excellent communication tool for teachers and parents. Agendas are provided courtesy of the PTSA.

Student Handbook The handbook is provided in the Student Agenda for reference. It contains very important information about school rules, grading policies and schedules, student attendance and much, much more. It is the student's and parent's responsibility to understand the policies and rules delineated in the student handbook. The Student Handbook is available online at the First Avenue website. **We ask that, sometime before school begins, you sit down with your student and carefully read all of the information in the handbook.**

Student Class Schedules

- Will be handed out at Spartan Day
- Unless there is an error on the schedule (such as two periods of math and no science), **schedule changes will not be made – *this includes elective classes.***
- Do not lose your class schedule! A replacement copy will not be provided for you. If your schedule is lost, students are responsible for logging on to PowerSchool to print another copy of their schedule

6th Grade Electives All incoming sixth graders will participate in the **6th Grade Exploratory Wheel**, which includes a variety of classes including Art, Drama, Home Economics and Industrial Technology. These classes are on the quarter system which means that sixth graders will be assigned a different class each quarter. A one time \$15.00 materials donation is requested for wheel classes. This donation will cover the cost of consumable materials for products made in the classes that students eat or take home to keep.

PE All students are required to change for PE. PE uniforms will be sold at Spartan Day at a cost of \$25.00. If uniforms are in good condition, returning 7th and 8th grade students do not need to purchase new uniforms. In lieu of a PE uniform, students may wear gray T-shirts and blue shorts.

PTSA We encourage all parents and students to join **PTSA**. Membership to this fine organization is just \$7.00 per person. Our PTSA supports our school myriad ways. Our goal is to keep our record of 100% membership going! **Please make checks payable to: First Avenue PTSA and hand them in at the PTSA/ASB station.**

Music Club All parents involved in our music program are invited and encouraged to join **Music Club**. Please make checks payable to: **First Avenue Music Club**. **Additionally**, there are **Music Transportation Donations** for all 7th and 8th grade music students, and Drill Team students. The amount for Orchestra is \$40.00; the amount for band, drumline, and drill team is \$75.00. Payment for the transportation donations are on the ASB order form.

Pictures & Student ID's Every student is required to take a photo (photos will be used for Student ID cards); however, you are not required to purchase a photo package. If you would like to purchase a package, an informational flyer and order form are included on our website under "Registration Forms". If paying by check at Spartan Day, please make checks payable to: **Lifetouch**, and hand them in at the photo station at the time the student's photo is taken.

Lunch Guidelines In an effort to create safer schools for all children, to help students develop an increased awareness of their own responsibility in making healthy nutritional choices, and to meet state and Federal mandates to school districts regarding nutrition, the PTSA and the Arcadia Unified School District has adopted the following **lunch guidelines** for grades kindergarten through eight:

- Parents are not to bring a lunch to their children during the school day
- Students may not have lunch delivered to school by outside vendors
- Students may not share any food items with other students
- Students may not provide food to other students

No child will be allowed to go hungry. If children forget their lunch, they shall be provided with a lunch by the school and be given the opportunity to pay for it at a later time. Free and reduced lunch applications are available online.

Items to Bring with you to Spartan Day:

- Printed, signed Emergency/Health signature page that you printed at home.
- Printed, signed Annual Notification to Parents signature page that you printed at home.
- Payment form for: ASB Yearbook purchase and Drill Team donation, 6th Grade Wheel Lab, Music & Drill Team Transportation, and PE Clothes. Checks for these items are made payable to First Avenue Middle School.
- PTSA Membership, Direct Donation, and Volunteer forms and a separate check to pay for PTSA Membership made payable to FA PTSA.
- Music Club Membership form and a separate check made payable to FA Music Club.
- Payment to LifeTouch if you'd like to purchase a photo packet.
- Backpack for carrying text books home.

SAVE THE DATE!!

**FIRST AVENUE MIDDLE SCHOOL
BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT EVENT**

**THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2017
6:30-8:00 PM**