

# STUDENT AMBASSADORS



## **What are Student Ambassadors?**

The SMS Student Ambassadors are a group of students who are dedicated to the positive promotion of Stanton Middle School. These students specifically serve as leaders and ambassadors from the current SMS student body to students and families new to the building and/or new to the district. The Student Ambassadors help improve student transitions as the program is designed to aid those new students in becoming more comfortable with their surroundings.

Student Ambassadors report directly to the school counselors at SMS. There are an unlimited number of Support Student Ambassadors in each grade at SMS. There will be a limited number of Lead Ambassadors in each grade. Both Lead Ambassadors and Support Ambassadors are trained to help make the school environment as comfortable as possible for new students. Lead Ambassadors may be used more frequently than support ambassadors.

## **What is the purpose of the Student Ambassadors program?**

Moving to a new city and starting in a new school is difficult. Moving during adolescence is particularly difficult, posing challenges that most teenagers have never had to face. We believe that if students can feel welcomed at their new destination before they arrive, or immediately upon arrival, then their move will be more successful and their experience at Stanton Middle School will be more productive.

## **What are the qualifications to become a Student Ambassador?**

- a positive attitude
- a strong work ethic
- a strong potential for leadership
- a willingness to develop speaking skills
- an ability to start conversations with new students and parents
- an ability to take initiative
- a desire to meet and help new and future students
- an ability to balance academic responsibilities with extra curricular activities

### **What are the requirements of a Student Ambassador?**

To remain an active Student Ambassador you must attend all meetings/training sessions (sometimes after school), actively participate in transition events (such as 6<sup>th</sup> grade orientation and 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary visits), conduct all Ambassador business in a professional manner, and **maintain a strong academic standing** (especially as a Lead Ambassador). Helping students to feel comfortable during the day is also important. Student Ambassadors must commit to helping with

- ◆ 6<sup>th</sup> grade Back to School Night in the fall.
- ◆ 5<sup>th</sup> grade elementary school visits (some class time will be missed).
- ◆ Sitting with new students at lunch time.
- ◆ Helping new students to classes during the school day.

### **How are Support Ambassadors and Lead Ambassadors selected?**

The Student Ambassador program, by necessity, is selective. We often have many applications and only a few events to staff that are spread throughout the year. When we select Ambassadors and Lead Ambassadors, we will balance the many personal qualities that individuals bring with the need to form a well-rounded team. **Lead Ambassadors must be very articulate and strong academically.** The school counselors at SMS make the final decisions about which individuals to accept for the available spots. All Student Ambassador positions are filled on a year-to-year basis. If a current Ambassador would like to remain a member of the team for the following year, he or she must reapply the next year. **Students interested in a Lead Ambassador position may be interviewed as a part of the selection process.** Feedback from your teachers may be solicited.

### **Who should I ask about Student Ambassadors if I have a question?**

The Student Ambassadors program is coordinated out of the SMS School Counselor's office by the School Counselors. Contact the grade level counselor for information regarding Student Ambassadors in that grade.

