

Sanford Middle School

Family News



October 30, 2020



Important notices:

- ~ Grades close for the first quarter on November 6th. **Report cards** will be issued on November 16th.
- ~**Parent/teacher conferences** will be Tuesday 11/17 from 2:30 to 4:30, and on Wednesday 11/18 from 3:30 to 7:30. Teachers will be reaching out to schedule conferences with you via Zoom.
- ~**Picture make-ups** will be Thursday and Friday mornings, November 12th and 13th for any Group A or B students who missed having their picture taken last week.
- ~**Food Distribution** will take place at dismissal on Thursdays and Fridays. Bags will be packed for a grab-and-go system.
- ~The weather is getting cooler. Please encourage your child(ren) to dress warmly as we will continue with **outdoor mask breaks**.

~Remember **Veterans Day**, November 11th is not a school day, and the school will also be closed on November 25, 26th and 27th for **Thanksgiving**.

Our Annual Pie Fundraiser is almost over!!

Here is the link for the online pie ordering and payment system. <http://www.piefundraisers.com>. Once you have filled your cart and proceed to checkout, be sure to choose Sanford Middle School...

The pies need to be ordered by 10/31 for online. Pick-up will be prior to Thanksgiving, at a date and time to be announced soon.



Lanterns of Light



On Friday, October 30th and Saturday October 31st, a section of Number One Pond will be lit up with over a quarter mile of lanterns!! Drive through after dark to see the Lanterns of Light, organized by the Jobs for Maine Graduates to celebrate our strong Sanford community.

SAFETY ISSUE

We ask that all parents please adhere to the rules of a rotary/roundabout. Recently, vehicles have been dropping off students and stopping in the rotary/roundabout in front of the school making for very unsafe situations. Please remember to drop off and

pick up at safe locations. Please see the next page for Maine Department of Transportation information about roundabouts.

ROUNDABOUTS: YOU CAN GET THERE FROM HERE

What is a roundabout?

A roundabout is a type of circular intersection that eliminates left turn movements, reduces potential conflict between vehicles and improves the efficiency of the intersection. Roundabouts are gaining greater acceptance across the country as a solution. A roundabout differs from older style traffic circles in its design features, and provides better control of vehicle speeds and movements through the intersection.

What are the benefits of a roundabout?

- Improvement of intersection capacity
- Reduction of angled and head-on crashes
- Reduction of crash severity
- Aesthetic improvements
- Traffic calming

How do I get where I want to go?

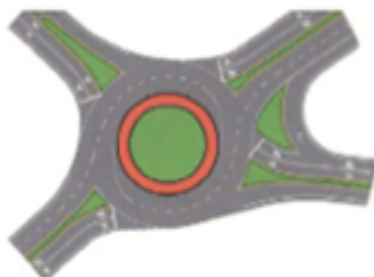
- In approaching a roundabout, **SLOW DOWN**. A roundabout is designed to be driven at a low speed.
- Pay attention to visual cues. On high-speed roads, the roadway may narrow and short curves may be added to encourage you to reduce speed. You will encounter raised "splitter" islands separating you from opposing traffic as you get close to the roundabout itself. Keep to the right of all islands.
- Observe approaching signage. On major approaches, guide signs may be provided to direct you to the appropriate exits from the roundabout.



MaineDOT



- Observe pavement markings. If your approach has more than one lane, or if the roundabout has more than one circulating lane, special markings will be provided to guide you to the appropriate lane.
- Get in the appropriate lane before entering the roundabout and **STAY IN YOUR LANE** following the markings to your exit.



- Yield at the entry to the roundabout. Circulating traffic in the roundabout has the right of way.
- Look to the left before entering the roundabout.
- Make only right turns as you enter and exit the roundabout.
- Travel counterclockwise around the central island.



- Do not stop in the circulating roadway.
- Do not pass other vehicles in the roundabout.
- Signal for a right turn at your exit.
- Check your rearview and right-side mirrors before exiting the roundabout.
- Watch out for bicycles and motorcycles. They might be less visible, but they have the same rights and responsibilities on the road as you do.
- **ALWAYS** yield to pedestrians crossing approaches to or exits from the roundabout.

What do I do if I am walking?

- In areas with sidewalks, marked crosswalks will be located one car length back from the yield lines at the roundabout entry points. Only cross at marked crosswalks, and look for approaching traffic before crossing.



- If there are no sidewalks, walk on the outside of an external truck apron, watch out for large trucks that might track onto the apron, and use extreme caution in crossing. Truck aprons, both around the central island and externally around the outside of the curves of the roundabout, are not sidewalks. They are not safe for pedestrians. Always cross traffic at the entry and exit lanes of the roundabout, and look for approaching traffic before crossing. **NEVER** cross the circulating roadway to the central island of the roundabout.

How do I drive a large truck in a roundabout?

- It is especially important for large trucks to reduce speed in approaching and driving through a roundabout. At higher speeds, load shifting can occur that may cause loss of control of your vehicle. It is up to you to pay attention to warning signs, pavement markings and other visual cues, to reduce your speed, and to drive safely and responsibly.
- Roundabouts are designed to be wide enough to carry passenger cars and small trucks within the paved circulating lanes, but not large trucks. For long-wheelbase vehicles, "truck aprons" may be constructed to provide for off-tracking of the rear axles of your vehicle. These typically will be a colored concrete ring around the landscaped center island. For some roundabouts without sidewalks, there also may be external truck aprons provided on the outside corners at entries to the roundabout. Do not drive across the landscaped central island.
- In all other respects, follow the same rules and guidelines that apply to smaller vehicles.

Reminders from last week's newsletter:



SMS Virtual Open House

Hello, Sanford Middle School Families!

At long last and after a LOT of work, we are finally ready to show you our new space! The not-so-great news? Due to COVID, we can't have you come into the building, which would of course be our first choice. The better news? We have a solution! Below is the link to our open house video, which premiered Wednesday, October 21st. The best news? You're not committed to watching it at a particular time; families can take a look at our new home once you have a time that is convenient for you! We hope you enjoy seeing the building, and on behalf of our entire faculty and staff, WELCOME TO SANFORD MIDDLE SCHOOL!

<https://youtu.be/HTg7dNmxnsQ>

BOOK FAIR!



A MESSAGE FROM THE SANFORD BACKPACK PROGRAM:



🍎 The Sanford Backpack Program has bags of pantry goods and dry nutrient rich foods for your student to take home each week. These bags have canned tuna or chicken, pasta or rice, canned veggies and fruits as well as pasta sauce, breakfast items and more. This definitely helps with bridging that meal gap over the weekends when school meals are not available. Nothing to sign up for and no qualifications to be met. Just let your school nurse, counselor or teacher know you want to participate in this program, or email

lori@strongersanford.org <<mailto:lori@strongersanford.org>> Like their facebook page to stay up to date, get recipe ideas, and see where and when their next fresh food distribution will be. They are also holding a

Halloween Decoration contest hosted by The Paranormal Five. Here is a link to check it out. <https://www.mightycause.com/story/Sbphalloween> <https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.mightycause.com%2Fstory%2FSbphalloween%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR2oKiE0-NOOn_DpzbZ05g7fvTrkDxjslEnnjLACZme109mp5ddQ06LWGhjw&h=AT2XsKRrfuwyls3VdYayR7P0Hta5_prv-dRz_L0f5yMrFzulY4GlgznRz0WVMi_rrRc0XdBjvLm9KZ7wLhGpea10_gq8-TVTT9X2RCDpq6vGPibS9yPtHRkD8HsblRzhnA&_tn_=-UK-R&c%5B0%5D=AT2nkLDbnaKdBCI4o10qbASLslk87Um6Osx--_mFonewjjvLkUl7B66AD5ga6taFzKLVAH2f-S-CL6EQlfQfTe0Pg2dFvC7JMva2WnjyFF8bQXlpXI_akZH86DJfjOAMFG5Mua31Le3DGA5Yeu0zjHy0RUrvE14w0LCAng3JPbQkm_0h9bnNnRU6glWcwkVcYbZz6hAqhzWJ_UPW4> 🍎

Please return all beginning-of -the year paperwork.

Now that classes have begun, we need all students to have up-to-date information in their files in order to best communicate with parents and guardians, and to ensure the health, safety, and security of all our students.



A friendly reminder: For the safety of all students, those walking or waiting for rides at the end of the school day will be dismissed at approximately 2:15. If parents need to make any changes to this schedule, please call the office at 324-3114.

Having trouble navigating all the district platforms? Try this Padlet link for trainings:

<https://padlet.com/ccrowley9/w5l5kiz2haact6tn>

