Wednesday, 7 December 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians

Southport State High School is committed to providing the best opportunities for students as we prepare them for the future. One of the school’s responsibilities is the academic performance, health and welfare of all students.

Throughout this year we have done a thorough review and audit of our school’s systems, policies and procedures. We have employed outside agencies and have had teacher, parent, student and local business input on improving the teaching and learning at Southport State High School.

Our findings have been very important and as a result of this thorough review there will be some changes and improvements to our school in 2012 in order for us to ensure the success of all students.

I would like to thank the parents who attended our forums and meeting that we advertised in the school newsletter; your time and input was very much appreciated.

I understand that with these improved changes there will need to be adjustments made by our school community members and we will do all that we can to support families in ensuring the success of all students.

Please be advised that all changes will come into effect from the first day of school in 2012. This will give all school community members time to make the necessary adjustments for a smooth transition.

The following are the significant changes for 2012:

**UNIFORM**

**Footwear**
- Due to National Curriculum requirements and Workplace Health and Safety improvements, all students must wear black leather or leatherette shoes.
- All canvas, cotton, material shoes or coloured leather including white will not be permitted.
- White socks are only permitted.

**Jewellery**
- No facial piercings will be permitted at all. This includes, but is not limited to eye, nose and lip. No stretches will be permitted also.

**Please note:**
- All light blue uniform including girls skirt, old sports uniform, letterman jacket will not be permitted as they have now been phased out.
✓ All students will be required to have a day uniform and a sports uniform.

The Educational General Provision Act (2006) under section Dress code 360 states;
(1) A State school may develop a dress code for the school’s students that is to apply when the students are attending, or representing, the school.
(a) The school can enforce the standards of what is acceptable in relation to the clothing worn by the students, including headwear and footwear.

Student Resource Scheme Fee

• With the cost of resources increasing we have investigated at length our Student Resource Scheme Fee. These resources are needed where the core curriculum is extended through provision of practical learning experiences and materials, in excess of what is provided by school grants. Unfortunately we will be raising this fee payment to $250 for 2012. We understand that times are significantly hard on families so we have organised a discount to all students who can meet our deadlines.

• If the Student Resource Scheme payment is paid in full by 1st March OR a payment plan has been arranged with our Finance Department there will be a significant discount of $40, therefore Student Resource Scheme fees will be $210 per student for families who take up this offer.

Other General Information

Start Times for 2012

• Only Year 8 and Year 12 students will commence school on Monday 23rd January
  - Year 8 students to meet in the Sports Centre
  - Year 12 students to meet in the Creative Arts Theatre

• Years 9, 10 & 11 students will commence school on Tuesday 24th January
  - Year 9 students to meet in the Creative Arts Theatre
  - Years 10 & 11 students to meet in the Sports Centre
  - Years 8 & 12 students will meet in their Roll Mark classrooms

We know that these new school improvements will help us provide the best educational opportunities and outcomes for all students at Southport State High School. We thank you for continued support of our great school.

Yours sincerely

Steve McLuckie
Principal

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