Dear 7th Grade Students and Parents,

Welcome to 7th grade! We are looking forward to seeing you make yourself more at home in the MS addition next year after getting a taste of the space through your World Language classes.

As you may be aware, 7th and 8th grade students do not have lockers in the addition. Students will be allowed and encouraged to carry their backpacks to their classes. This change has also resulted in a change to our Supply List and we did away with the SchoolPak orders last year.

We are asking that you use the list below to have supplies ready at some point during the first week of school. As with this most recent year, the first week is a short one, so you could also use that first weekend after school begins to purchase supplies if your child wants to wait. We think this will actually SAVE you money and eliminate waste--that’s a win for all!

Suggested List (based on our test students!):

- A well-fitting (using both straps), lightweight backpack with lots of pockets
- Pocket/accordion organizer to collect/store papers
- Pouch for holding pens and pencils
- Pens and pencils of your choice (you can never have too many pencils!)
- Two composition notebooks
- 50 - 75 sheets of notebook paper
- Graph paper or graph paper notebook/composition book, 4 squares per inch
- Calculator (a Cloud-based calculator on their Chromebook will get kids through the first weeks of school, but there are times when students will not be able to use Chromebooks. The 8th grade calculator will be used throughout Upper School and even college, so it is worth the investment!)
  - TI 84+ calculator (for 8th grade only, and for 7th grade Algebra)
  - TI 30X calculator (for 7th grade Pre-Algebra - same one they used in 6th)
- Small earbuds to be used with iPads (please leave Beats and larger headphones at home, as students need to hear teacher instructions)

We suggest that you keep the supplies in backpacks to a minimum, replenishing regularly from home as needed. Less is more! (You wouldn’t believe the amount of supplies we donate at the end of the year with our current program!)
If you have a rising JrK - 6th grader, too, you can go to the Back to School page on the Cannon School website and download the supply list or you can use the following link to order online.

https://www.write-stuff.com/storefront/school/cannonschool

We as teachers commit to minimizing the number of heavy items that get transported back and forth, and we know we may have to store journals or hard copy texts in our classrooms. We have also purchased furniture with backpack shelves on the bottom of the chairs so that students can have their belongings nearby. Additionally, the Drop Zone (at the corner as you enter the Addition from the 5th /6th grade hallway) is available as a storage room for items such as sports bags and equipment, lunch boxes, large coats, etc. (Instruments will continue to be stored in music classes.) Students will not be assigned individual spaces in this area. It will be important that all coats and bags are clearly labeled to avoid mix-ups.

We realize that students who own cell phones will no longer be able to store them in their lockers. We have not had an issue with inappropriate phone use, and we are expecting that this will continue. Students may have electronics turned OFF in their backpacks throughout the day. We will handle inappropriate use just as we would have prior to this.

Many other schools have moved toward this way of thinking regarding lockers. For now, we are keeping lockers in 5th and 6th grades, as they are still learning organizational skills. As with any change, there will be an adjustment period. We hope the students will come to appreciate having everything they need at their fingertips.

Please email me (cholyer@cannonschool.org) if you have any questions!

Christiana Holyer
Dean of Students, 7th and 8th grades