



# DANIEL J. SAVAGE MIDDLE SCHOOL

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## **Eighth Grade Eligibility and Promotion News For Students and Parents**

Our 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Promotion Ceremony will be held here at Savage Middle School. The ceremony will be on Friday, May 25th at 6:30pm. It will be held outside, behind the Gym. Eligible students may pick up their diplomas in the breezeway between the Office Building and the Gym immediately after the ceremony. Activities that occur at the end of the eighth grade year are very important to students. The Daniel J. Savage faculty wishes to have as many students involved as possible, and that these activities are positive experiences. For eighth grade students, end-of-the-year activities include an eighth grade dance, an eighth grade trip, an eighth grade activity day and the eighth grade Promotion Ceremony. Qualified students can choose to participate in as many of the activities of their choice. ***The eligibility cut off date for the trip and the dance is Friday, May 4th. Students not eligible on that date will not be permitted to attend the dance or the trip.*** If students become eligible after May 4<sup>th</sup>, they will be allowed to participate in the promotion ceremony and the 8<sup>th</sup> grade activity day. Eligible students who choose not to participate in the Promotion Ceremony may pick up their diplomas on Friday, May 25th at 1:10 pm. With these objectives in mind, students and their families are being reminded of some of the guidelines that govern participation and behavior.

**ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS FOR PROMOTION:** Eighth grade students must have a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of at least 1.5 and earned a minimum of 2 points in each subject in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Please note that the 1.5 GPA is lower than the eligibility requirement up to this point. This change allows all students who qualify for Promotion to participate in the social activities. The cumulative GPA is calculated using all grades earned by a student during their 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade school years. Students who fail to qualify for Promotion will not be included in the Promotion ceremony or any of the social activities.

**Even if students are academically eligible, they may become INELIGIBLE for the activities (excluding the Promotion Ceremony) for any of the following during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:**

- 2 or more incidents of Truancy
- 2 or more “U” Unsatisfactory Citizenship marks
- Debts owed to the School (Library, Cafeteria, Technology, Returned Checks, etc)

**Even if students are academically eligible, they become ineligible for all activities AND the Promotion Ceremony for any of the following during the 3<sup>rd</sup> Trimester:**

- Attendance at school is a requirement of state law regardless of eligibility for extra-curricular (social) activities taking place. Please note that the Middle School Conduct Code specifies (page 19) that "Eighth grade students who have ten or more unexcused absences during the third trimester may not be included in Promotion ceremonies or related activities."
- 2 or more suspensions
- One 5-day suspension
- Any offense involving a controlled substance (alcohol, tobacco, drugs)

It is essential that Savage Middle School maintain its standards of behavior, including our commitment that there will not be drugs, alcohol, tobacco, violence, disruptions, truancy, or defiance on this campus or at school related activities. Eighth grade students who violate these standards must understand that they jeopardize their participation in Promotion exercises.

## More 2018 Eighth Grade News

**PAYMENTS** made after April 13<sup>th</sup> for any activities, trips or yearbooks will be accepted by cash, debit, credit card or money orders. *Checks will not be accepted after April 13<sup>th</sup>.* Payments can be made in Student Services.

**PROMOTION** will be held at Savage Middle School on Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm. 8<sup>th</sup> Graders are required to be in the Savage Gym by 6:00 for the 6:30pm ceremony.

**GOWNS** will be worn by all graduates. Gowns may be purchased for \$20.00 in the Student Services Office starting March 5, 2018. The gowns will be distributed on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Any student still owing for their gown can pay for it at that time. **CASH ONLY** will be accepted then. All girls will be wearing **white** gowns and all boys will be wearing **blue** gowns. Students not eligible for promotion will not be allowed to purchase a gown. Refunds for gowns may be requested if a gown is paid for and the student becomes ineligible.

**PROMOTION CEREMONY TICKETS** 2 general seating tickets per **eligible** student will be issued on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, along with their gowns, to eligible students who have no outstanding debts with the school. The general seating area for the ceremony will require these tickets. Only students eligible to attend the Promotion Ceremony will receive the 2 tickets. *There will be room outside of the general seating area for other family and friends to watch the ceremony either by standing or by bringing their own chairs.* The ceremony will last about an hour. Security provided by Modesto Police, as has been the case at all promotion ceremonies, will be present.

**PROMOTION PRACTICE** will be held Friday morning, May 25<sup>th</sup>.

**PROMOTION PHOTOS** will be taken at the Promotion ceremony. Tim Banks of “Banks Photography” will take a photo of your graduate directly after they have received their diploma and they have exited the stage. The photographs will be available on the Banks & Co. web-site should you choose to purchase that particular moment in picture following the event. Their website is [www.bncimages.com](http://www.bncimages.com)

**THE EIGHTH GRADE DANCE** will be held on Friday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$10.00. Wristbands will be sold April 26<sup>th</sup> – May 16<sup>th</sup> in Student Services. Wristbands will **not** be sold at the door.

**THE EIGHTH GRADE TRIP** will be held at Paramount’s Great America, Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup>. Buses will leave the Savage parking lot at 8:00 a.m. and will return at approximately 7:00 p.m. Trip Information and Parent permission forms will be distributed in April. The student cost for this trip is \$65.00. Trip ticket sales will be from April 26<sup>th</sup> – May 16<sup>th</sup>. **The parent-signed permission slip must be turned in with the payment.**

**SAVAGE YEARBOOKS** will be distributed to eighth graders during their lunchtime on Tuesday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The school cannot be responsible for the care and safety of the yearbooks.

**THE EIGHTH GRADE ACTIVITY DAY** will be held on Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup> from 10:00am – 1:10pm. Only eligible 8<sup>th</sup> graders will be allowed to attend this event.

**DIPLOMA DISTRIBUTION** will be immediately following the Promotion Ceremony. Diplomas are not handed out during the ceremony. Only students may pick up their diplomas at the designated location between the Gym and the Office Building. Diplomas will not be given to parents. **Only students eligible for Promotion will receive diplomas.** Students owing money to the school will not receive their diploma until all fines are cleared.