

May 8, 2017

Dear Middle School Families:

On Saturday, May 20th, the annual Middle School Dance will take place in the Heritage House Gym at Friends School Haverford from 7:00 - 8:30 pm. All Middle School students in grades 5-8 are invited to attend at no charge. **If your child is planning to attend the dance, please fill out the attached form so that we can plan accordingly; if your child plans to bring a guest (see details below), please complete the “guest section” of the form.**

The Middle School Dance is a chance for students to be together as a community and to enjoy one other's company. All middle school students are invited to come and participate. It is not a prom, and students need not have “a date” to attend. This year's dance will be underwater- themed, as chosen by students. FSH parent Bob Helverson will serve as our DJ for the evening.

Students are encouraged to dress up a bit and to wear something a little special for the occasion: a nice dress, skirt, or pants for the girls, and collared shirts and nice pants (or a suit, if anyone feels so inclined) for the boys. We ask that students dress modestly and comfortably so that they can focus on enjoying the dance and festivities.

The school will provide pizza and bottled water as refreshments during the dance. **We are looking for parents who would be willing to contribute one large bag of chips or to bake or buy a dozen cookies or brownies for the refreshments table.** We are requesting finger-desserts only--nothing that requires a fork, please! Please e-mail me if you are able to help with this: lewen@friendshaverford.org. Leftover snacks will be kept on hand to share with MS students in the final days of the school year.

Students have been told that they may bring one guest from another school if they so choose. There will be no charge for their guest to attend the dance. **Please note that if your child does plan to bring a guest from another school, we will need to have the name of the guest, a parent's/guardian's name, and a phone number where that adult can be reached. Please also note that we'll need to know the specific transportation plans for how the guest will get home after the dance.** We prefer that you submit a guest form by Monday, May 15. Michael Zimmerman will be at the entrance of the gym to check in guests as they arrive. If you bring a guest without advance notice, please come to the dance prepared with the guest information requested above so that we avoid any embarrassing situations at the door.

Other guidelines we have put in place to ensure a safe and fun evening for all are as follows:

- Students may not bring backpacks or bags of any sort into the dance. All bags and phones will be turned in at the front door of the gym before students may enter the dance. A teacher will store each cell phone in a bag that is marked with each student's name. These cell phones/bags will be kept safe in the gym office during the dance and will be returned at the end of the evening when the dance is over.
- Students will stay in the gym for the duration of the dance 7:00 - 8:30. No one will be allowed to leave the building while the dance is going on.
- We respectfully request that parents arrive promptly by 8:30 pm for pickup. Please do not get out of your car to come inside the gym. The plan is to dismiss students in a way similar to afternoon car line pickup. The students' names will be called out as their family's car arrives. The middle school teachers and I hope to dismiss the group in a speedy and efficient manner. Thank you so much in advance for your cooperation with our plan!

We look forward to a safe and fun-filled evening in celebration of this full and rewarding year in our Middle School!

Sincerely,
Tr. Liza