

2017 Tailings Staff Application

Name: _____

Advisory/Teacher: _____ Current Grade Level: _____

What is Yearbook? It's a journalism class. SMS students are responsible for creating the yearbook, *Tailings*, for Sutter Middle School. As a *Tailings* staff member, students learn about and develop skills in writing, layout design, photography, technology, business, organization, communication, management and leadership.

**This is a journalism class.
If you're looking for a scrapbooking class, this is NOT it.**

The *Tailings* staff is a group of 7th and 8th graders who follow the Cougar Character Pillars. Since *Tailings* is primarily a memory book for students and a review of the school year, members of *Tailings* staff must be willing to promote Sutter Middle School and all of its programs.

Staff members are expected to:

- Plan each page, including headlines and other graphic elements.
- Write a story and use photos to help tell the story of the year, which are also appropriate for the theme.
- Edit copy, captions, headlines and other page elements. Check names for spelling accuracy.
- Be responsible for deadlines that correspond with their assignment.
- Oversee production of pages and meet deadlines with accuracy.
- Attend lunchtime and after school events as a photographer/reporter.

Much of the time spent in class is working independently to complete an assigned task, whether it is researching a topic, composing interview questions, writing a story or designing a page. As a result, students must be self-motivated to complete their assignments on or before the deadline. Although, the editors and I are always available to help, we won't be standing by to watch over students. Please remind your student that Yearbook is a unique opportunity and with it comes extra responsibilities to which they will be held accountable.

*If you are interested in becoming a member of the 2016-17 Tailings Staff, please fill out this application (see next page) and **attach** it to your **Course Selection** form.*

Study the picture. **Write a title and a caption for the picture.**

The caption should include: Who? What? Where and/or When? Why? How? Make up all the information you need and write complete, present-tense sentences. You can be creative, but it should make sense, too. This assignment will be used as part of selection process. Do your best work *before* you turn in the application. (Attach your caption to this application and return it with your registration form.)



Please answer the following questions and initial:

Am I willing to learn about journalism, photography, graphic design, sales and marketing and put those skills to work in the real world?

Yes No Student initial: _____ Parent initial: _____

Am I willing to work before/after school and during lunch?

Yes No Student initial: _____ Parent initial: _____

Am I willing to attend after school, and evening, events as needed?

Yes No Student initial: _____ Parent initial: _____

References: Have two teachers sign below to vouch for your great Character:

1. _____ 2. _____

I understand the extra responsibilities involved with being a member of the Tailings Staff for the 2017-18 school year.

Student signature _____ Date _____

Parent signature _____ Date _____