

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

A message from Mr. Miller

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome back to another edition of the Principal's Newsletter. It is hard to believe that a quarter of the school year has already been completed and so many major events have come and gone.

I know that this time of year can be some of the most hectic for our students and their families. With two major holiday breaks on the horizon and the start of a new quarter just a week ago, it is easy for small items to fall through the cracks and be overlooked. The students have been encouraged to stay focused on the tasks in front of them and to keep a good balance in managing all of the activities, school work, and events that are happening now and that are on the way. If you haven't done so already, please make sure your contact information in BlackBoard Connect is as up to date as possible. We will continue to send out important updates and notifications through BlackBoard Connect, especially over the next couple of weeks, and this is a great way to help support your student in managing all that is to come.

In closing, I am looking forward to another great quarter with all of the students and cannot wait to see what they will accomplish. As always, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Sincerely,



Joshua C. Miller, Principal

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2
SEPTEMBER 2022

Inside this issue

<i>Mark your calendar</i>	2
<i>Student Recognition</i>	2
<i>Fall Sports Recognition</i>	3
<i>From the office of: Guidance</i>	4
<i>The Spartan Life</i>	4
<i>No Cost Breakfast</i>	4
<i>Parent Teacher Conferences</i>	5
<i>Winter Keystone Retakes</i>	6
<i>After School Labs</i>	6-7
<i>Transportation Update</i>	7

*Do not let what you cannot do interfere with
what you can do. – John Wooden*

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

IMPORTANT DATES:

- 11/9 – 11/12 – Fall Play *Mother Hicks*
- 11/11 – Report Cards released on Sapphire
- 11/22 – Club Photo Day (Specifics will come from Club Advisors)
- 11/22 – Parent/Teacher Conferences 5-8 pm
- 11/23 – Early Dismissal @ 11:30 am
- 11/24 – 11/28 Fall Break
- 12/5 – 12/16 Winter Keystone Retakes
- 12/21 – Winter Music Concert @ Zoellner Arts Center (12/22 is inclement weather date)
- 12/24 – 1/2 Winter Break
- 1/5 – 1/12 Winter Keystone Retakes
- 1/13 – No School for Students
- 1/16 – MLK Jr. Holiday – All Schools closed
- 1/19 – End of 2nd Quarter
- 2/9 – 8th to 9th Grade Parent Meeting
- 2/20 – President's Day Holiday – All Schools Closed



*“Learning never exhausts the mind.”
–Leonardo Da Vinci.*

STUDENT RECOGNITION



This past month we have two very special student groups being recognized for their work in connecting and aspiring young students of SLSD and for their amazing charity work.

On November 4, members of the boys and girls basketball team traveled to JPLIS to help kickoff their Tournament of Books. These young men and women had a great time working with the 4th, 5th, and 6th graders and getting them all fired to read some great books.

On Halloween, our girl's volleyball got in the holiday spirit at practice! They also found out that they raised over \$7,000 at Dig Pink to be split between The Sassy Massey Foundation and The Sideout Foundation! Great job ladies!



What an Unbelievable Fall Sports Season!

The Fall 2022 Sports Seasons are wrapping up and overall it was a great season for all of our teams. Our sports teams captured multiple Colonial League Titles, made district playoff runs, won district gold, and even competed in states. Here are the accomplishments of all of our teams. Everyone at SLHS is proud of all of our student athletes for representing our school and district in such a positive manner all season long.

Cheerleading – Colonial League Champions!

Boys Soccer – Colonial League and District XI Champions and competed in first round of state playoffs!

Girls Soccer – District XI Silver Medalist!

Girls Cross Country – Regular Season Co-Champions, Colonial League Meet Silver Medalists, District XI Silver Medalist, and Finished 16th overall at PIAA State Meet!

Boys Cross Country – Colonial League Meet Bronze Medalists!

Football – Competing for a District XI title on Friday, November 11th against Whitehall!

Field Hockey – Colonial League Champions and District XI Silver Medalists!

Girls Tennis – Great Team Season and Evelyn Wang and Katilyn Howie earned District XI Silver Medals in Doubles play!

Golf – 13-1 regular season and 3rd place finish at Colonial League Match!

Volleyball – Colonial League Champions!



COUNSELING

AP

The AP Exam Registration deadline is quickly approaching! Students taking an AP Course must indicate in College Board if they are taking an AP exam by November 14th. If they are taking an exam, they must follow the instructions on the [School Counseling website](#) to sign up and pay for the exam. All payments must be received by November 14th. Any questions can be directed to Mrs. Trachtman at trachtmans@slsd.org

NHS Tutoring

The National Honors Society is offering tutoring sessions for all core subjects during Spartan periods and some study halls.

We will do our best to accommodate all requests. Study hall sessions will be held in the guidance office or library due to the need for a common quiet area during the school day.

Spartan period tutoring sessions will be held on day 3,4,6 in various teachers' rooms.

Please encourage your students who are in need of tutoring to register using this following link.

[2023-23 NHS Tutoring](#)

Applications will be processed as soon as possible. If you have any questions, please reach out to

SLHS Cares

Please click [HERE](#) if you would like to request food and/or holiday support for your family, particularly during the upcoming holiday seasons.

This link is confidential and is only viewable by your school counselor and the district social worker. We will contact you shortly after receiving your response to discuss.

SPECIAL REMINDERS



The Spartan Life

The Spartan Life podcast is up and running! Mr. Castagna and Mr. Haupt have released two new episodes, a special Homecoming episode and the November episode. Tune in to hear all about special items happening at SLHS.

The Spartan Life podcast is available on all major podcast platforms. Simply search for "The Spartan Life," like and subscribe on your device.

No Cost Breakfast

SLHS is still running the No Cost Breakfast program every morning from 7:15 to 7:30.

Students do not need to register and menus can be seen on school district website. Students will get an entrée item, fruit or fruit juice, and milk (a fruit or fruit juice must be taken to receive a no-cost breakfast meal. For more information please visit the district website.

FROM THE OFFICE OF:



To Our Southern Lehigh High School Families,

With the end of the first marking period on Tuesday, November 1st, parent-teacher conferences are fast approaching. Conferences will only be in-person this year. Links for individual teachers will be available on the Sign-Up Genius link that will be sent out on November 14th. For all conferences, we strongly encourage the high school student to attend and participate in the conferences that pertain to them.

Conferences will be held on the following dates and times:

Tuesday, November 22, 2022 5:00 - 8:00 pm

In an effort to better support you and all of our students, we will have the following guidelines in place.

- All conferences for students will be 10 minutes in length with the individual teacher.
- Parents who are scheduling more than one teacher conference must leave a 10-minute space between conferences to allow for travel time. (I.e. If you select a 5 pm conference slot, your next conference slot must be 5:20 pm or later)
- Please take the time prior to your conferences to review your student's grades. The goal of these conferences is not to receive a synopsis of your student, but to develop a plan with the teacher to support your student and help them succeed in high school.

We encourage all parents and high school students to participate in conferences. The window to sign up for conferences will run from **November 14th to November 18th**. **To sign up for a conference** all parents will use the Signup Genius link that will be released on November 14th. Please make sure that you are reviewing the tabs at the top of the sign-up genius page to schedule a conference with the appropriate teacher when the window opens. **Conference sign-up ends at 3 pm on Friday, November 18th, 2022.**

Due to conferences being only one night, some parents will receive individual requests to schedule a conference prior to November 14th. Additionally, parents may have to contact a teacher directly if they could not get a conference on Nov. 22nd in order to set up an alternate time to meet. If you are a parent who schedules alternate conferences due to a conflict, please note that the 10 minute window will be the time expectation for the alternate meeting. We hope to see many of you at parent-teacher conferences this year!

"The key to success is action, and the essential action is perseverance."

-Sun Yat-sen

Winter Keystone Retake Updates

For the 2022-2023 school year, SLHS will be running Winter Keystone Retakes. This will be the first time that we will run Winter Retakes since 2019. In the upcoming weeks, students will receive individual notification if they are scheduled to retake any of the Keystone Exams. Retaking the Keystone exams allows students to meet pathways to graduation that align with Act 158 of 2018. Below is a synopsis of the Act 158 and the Keystone Graduation Pathways.

In accordance with Act 158 of 2018, beginning with the graduating Class of 2023, students must meet statewide graduation requirements in one of five ways.

Options 1 and 2 - Keystone Pathways:

- **Option 1** - Keystone Proficiency Pathway: Scoring proficient or advanced on each Keystone Exam - Algebra 1, Literature, and Biology.
- **Option 2** - Keystone Composite Pathway: Earning a composite score of 4452 on the three Keystone Exams, while achieving at least a proficient score on at least one of the three exams and no less than a basic score on the remaining two.

While there are many pathways to graduation under Act 158 of 2018, the Keystone Pathways are the simplest and most concise in guaranteeing students have met the requirement for graduation. Students who receive retake notification letters should make sure to read them in their entirety to know important testing information and what days they will be testing.

The dates for Winter Keystone Testing are as follows:

- 12/5 & 12/6 - Algebra 1 Retakes
- 12/8 & 12/9 - Literature Retakes
- 1/11 & 1/12 - Biology Retakes

Any questions about Keystone Retesting should be held until retesting letters are received. All Keystone Retesting Letters will be received by November 29th at the latest.

After School Labs Returning

We are happy to announce that beginning in December, SLHS will be running before and after school labs for students in multiple content areas. The three labs that will be running are Biology, Math, and Writing.

- The Biology teachers will run an 8-day after-school Biology Lab to help students prepare for the 2022 Winter Keystone Exams. The sessions will run on the following days December 7, 8, 15, 16, 21, 22, 2022, and January 4, 5, 2023.
- The Math department will run a 6 month before and after-school Math Lab to provide students additional instruction in math courses, offer a make-up assessment window, help students prepare for the SAT Exam, and/or help students prepare for the 2022 Spring Keystone Exams.

Continued on page 7

Math Lab after-school sessions will run every Tuesday and Thursday from December 6th through May 25th. Before-school sessions will run every Wednesday morning from 6:45 through 7:15 am and students who wish to participate in the Wednesday morning session must sign up prior to the session so the lab teacher is aware of who will be attending.

- The English department will run a 6 month after-school Writing Lab program to provide students additional instruction in English courses, offer a make-up assessment window, help students prepare for the SAT Exam, and/or help students prepare for the 2022 Spring Keystone Exams. After-school sessions will run every Wednesday and Thursday from December 6th through May 25th.

Specifics about each lab program will be shared in classes with students and in separate communications. Each program's lab will run a minimum of 1 hour and students' must provide their own transportation.



Transportation Update

Beginning November 29th, SLHS will be reaccepting Green Bus Slips. The exact process for using green slips and qualifying to use them will be forthcoming in a separate communication.

Any questions about transportation that do not pertain to green slips should still be directed to the transportation department.

Transportation Hotline

610-282-5589

RideWithUs@slsd.org

Learning. Serving. Leading
One interaction at a time.

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