



SHERIDAN TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL NEWS



Vol. 3, No. 6

February 1, 2017

Special Note from the Administration

Greetings **STHS families!**

As we roll into February, we have some exciting events taking place at the high school. Our tenth grade students will be sitting for their TABE test as they begin the first stages of planning which technical program they will choose for their junior and senior years.

How about this **AMAZING news?** We are hosting a College Fair on Tuesday, February 14th, from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. here at the high school. There will be over **20 major colleges and universities** in attendance for you to meet. I will be sending home the list of colleges to allow you to prepare your questions in advance. This is a wonderful opportunity for a Q & A without having to travel the globe! I hope you will put this in your calendar to attend.

Our outstanding Drama and Geek Out clubs will be attending the school day event at the Renaissance Festival this month as they learn about this fascinating period in history, when Europe made the transition from the Dark Ages into the modern era.

Just a note of thanks to parents who get your child to school on time. Every minute late is a minute lost. They will not get that educational moment back. We really need students here on time as well as in attendance every day.

Thanks for all that you do. Have a Happy February and remember to book the STHS College Fair on February 14th.

Mary Barba,
Assistant Director



Dates to Remember:

Honor Roll Awards – Feb. 3rd
Magnet Applications Due – Feb. 8th
STHS College Fair - Feb. 14th
School Closed – Feb. 20th
Early Release– Feb. 23rd



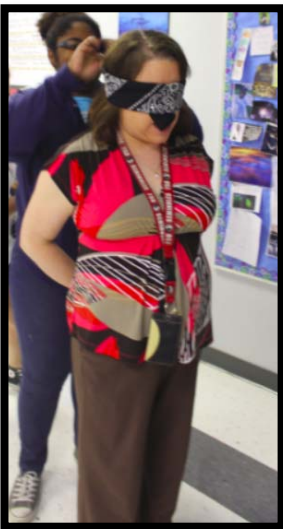
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STUDENT CLUBS AND ORGANIZATIONS

“Kidnap a Teacher” Fundraiser

A favorite fundraiser of the year, “Kidnap-A-Teacher,” was held the week of January 16th. Students were able to contribute towards one or more of their teachers to be kidnapped for a day of relaxation and luxury.

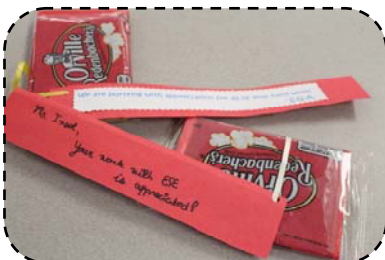


Mrs. Payne was our lucky winner with the most money and won a day watching her favorite movies and eating her favorite foods, secluded in a room decorated and furnished just for her!



This teacher kidnaping project proved to be fun as well as financially productive for the Class of 2018, raising approximately \$140 that will go towards next year’s prom.

S.G.A.’s Department of the Month



Big shout out to January’s Department of the month: our Support Staff which included Technical, ESE, and ILC support!

Awards Assembly

Congratulations to those students who made the Honor Roll last term!



Friday, February 3rd, STHS Cafeteria, 1:50-3:15 PM

Please **RSVP** if you received an invitation and plan on attending!

S.G.A. Raises Money to Honor Flight



Valentine's Day is just around the corner and S.G.A. has plenty planned. From Monday, Feb. 6 through Friday, Feb. 10, students

will be able to order a special Valentine's Day gift for their friends and sweethearts. And a very special treat is planned for Valentine's Day itself - a karaoke contest that will benefit Honor Flight.

Spoken Word

Ms. Z., Club Sponsor

Our poets are honing their craft and stage presence preparing for the Poetry Leadership Conference, February 18th at Hollywood Hills High School & Louder Than A Bomb poetry slam (March 27 – April 8th). All who may be interested are welcome to our Spoken Word meetings Thursdays 1:45 – 3:15P in room 125 with Miss Z.



Florida’s 2016-2017
ESE Parent Survey

Parents!

February 1 – May 31

We need your help to make Florida’s 2016-2017 ESE Parent Survey a record success

See enclosed flyer.

Teaching & Learning Spotlight



~ Mrs. Friedman, Speech & Debate Teacher/Coach

Congratulations to the STHS Howlers on their big win at the after-school debate tournament this month. **Olivia Zuniga** placed in Dramatic Interpretation, **Lorena Manasturen** placed in Original Oratory, **Joann Massena** and **Jasmine Sanchez** both placed in Impromptu Speaking, and Sierra Duvall and Jasmine Lora placed in Duo Interpretation. The Howlers are doing great things and hope to keep up the momentum for the remaining Debate Season.



L to R: Jasmine S., Jasmine L., Lorena M., Olivia Z., and Sierra D.

Tech Studies, Mr. Fisher, Teacher

Our Tech Studies course introduces students to the technical programs available at Sheridan Technical College, through a hands-on, project-based approach! Witness the engagement and fun students have as they explore such fields as Culinary Arts, Cosmetology and Barbering, Personal Fitness, Health Sciences, Graphics and IT, Early Childhood Education, and Construction Trades in this awe-inspiring video at: <http://tinyurl.com/zv3rfst>.

NEW AP Computer Science Course

STHS has kicked off its first AP Computer Science course with Mr. Decker & Miss Z.

Mr. Decker has attended seminars with the movers & shakers; Code.org & KahnAcademy.org.



We are making histo-

ry being the progressive school that we are, having one the highest ratio of females & minorities enrolled in AP Computer Science Principals nationally!

Computer science is all about being innovative—finding ways to solve problems. We will discover lots of connections between people and computing, explore how technology impacts absolutely everything in your life, and work with others in fun and creative ways. This class is Inquiry Based which is a teaching method that focuses on student investigation and hands-on learning. In this method the teacher's primary role is that of the facilitator, providing guidance and support for students through the learning process. Inquiry based learning falls under the student centered approach, that the students play an active and participatory role in their own learning process.

Presently we are working on block programming, binary messages and learning Java via scratch.mit.edu & codecademy.com.

Tech Studies, December 2016



Teaching & Learning Spotlight

Emerging Technology in Business with Mr. Decker & Miss Z

Mr. Decker & Miss Z welcomed 71 new students this second half of the year. They are optimistic to witness even more of their students earn Microsoft Industry Certifications (Word, PowerPoint, Excel, OneNote, Outlook) and add to the 170 already achieved.



* Note pink represents trifecta as

World History with Ms. Fort



Students in Ms. Fort's World History Honors class explore the concept of CULTURE through research, family interviews and a variety of other experiences that help them discover ways history has influenced their own family's way of life, values and traditions. Students will then produce a digital presentation via Prezi or SWAY to tell their stories.

As part of Ms. Fort's introduction to the Culture Project, Mrs. Rivera, the digital learning specialist, provided a refresher (or in some cases, an introduction) on the basics of SWAY (part of Microsoft Office's suite of apps) and the advantages for using this app to share their stories. Regardless of the presentation medium, students were reminded that the most important part of the process is focusing on the content and telling their story. This happens to be one of the advantages for using SWAY – where students can easily focus on their story line while SWAY converts and formats information in a visually, and appealing way using rich media – text, pictures, video and audio!

Stay tuned – next month – when finished products will be posted for all to enjoy!

Website of the Month

Noredink is a new site created by a teacher for students to practice grammar using interactive exercises. It's a nicely designed site, and students can pick choose the topics that they are most interested in — the NFL, NBA, specific TV shows, etc. STHS has adopted this tool in an effort to strengthen student writing and grammar skills!

“We believe that “playing with language” is an essential part of learning to write. That's why we have students drag in commas, click words to capitalize them, throw out unwanted punctuation, and edit parts of sentences directly whenever possible. We also design exercises that have multiple correct answers, as there's more than one way to write a sentence.” ~ Jeff Scheur, Creator



noredink

Lifeline to Literacy

~ Esther Charles, Literacy Coach

Our countdown to testing has officially begun. With the FSA Writing Assessment right around the corner, we are hard at work in preparing our students. We recently took our mid-year MAP diagnostic test. The purpose of the assessment was to monitor student growth since the beginning of the school year. We are utilizing the data to determine areas of strength and areas where students need to grow. The information will give us a better view of where to lead our instruction.



The school as a whole has adopted the new program *NoRedInk.com*. This site allows students to focus on specific grammar skills and the opportunity to work towards mastery. In addition to the new grammar component of our literacy program, we are continuing our bi-weekly reading focus skills. These skills are incorporated into content area teacher's curriculum in order to provide students with well-rounded instruction.

A friendly reminder that our *Success in English Language Arts* tutoring program for 9th and 10th grade is underway. We are using this 5th block of instruction to prepare students for the upcoming state assessments. Students are receiving assistance with writing, reading, and comprehension skills.

- **Reading Instructional Focus:**

- Paraphrase
- Making Inferences
- Text Features

- **Grammar Focus**

- Punctuations with conjunctions
- Colons, semicolons, and commas
- Adjectives/Adverbs

Book Bytes & More

~ Michele Rivera, Digital Learning Specialist

Twitter: @STHSReads



Teachers as Learners!



Tech Tuesdays in the ILC is an opportunity for teachers to further develop and refine their craft using the suite of apps within Office 365. Like our students, teachers must also become proficient in their application of digital tools and strategies that propel teaching and learning.

Each month focuses on a different app along with strategies for integrating them into the classroom to enhance teacher productivity, inspire engaging ways in-
struction can delivered/received, and create a personalized learning environment that meets the needs of each student.



Collaborative Conversations

The month of January focused on the use of Office Mix, an add-in to PowerPoint. *Office Mix* is great for teachers who want to create instructional videos for their students, adding recording and interactive elements to engage and assess students.



Learning the "Mechanics" of Office Mix

Coffee and conversations ... *What a MIX!*



Counselor's Corner with "Guidance Gurus" - Mrs. Rattray (Gr. 11), Mrs. Schiling (Gr. 10), and Mrs. Segal (Gr. 9)

T is for Testing!

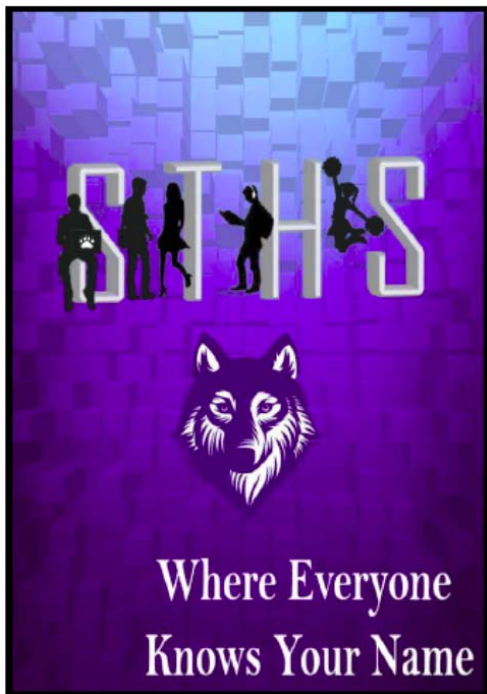
Parents and students, it's time to get prepared for the upcoming ELA Writing Exam again. Get Ready, Get Set, Go! Information and details can be found in the ***Parent Letter about TESTING*** on page 7.

Calvin Coolidge Presidential Foundation Scholarship

The Calvin Coolidge "full ride" merit/academic scholarship is available to 11th grade students only. There is a Feb. 22, 2017 deadline. It is for entry into any accredited American University beginning FALL 2018. ***See attached flyer for detailed information.***



Your 2016-2017 STHS memories are just \$40 away! See enclosed flyer for details.



The 7th Annual Federal Service Language Academy this summer at the University of North Georgia. Registration is now open and applications are due April 1st.

Students have a choice of learning Arabic, Chinese, Russian, German, Korean, French, Japanese or Portuguese. They will also learn about federal service careers where knowing a critical foreign language and culture is important, such as the FBI, Department of State, CIA, the military, and more. For three weeks, rising high school sophomores, juniors and seniors will live in a modern residence hall on UNG's scenic campus in Dahlonega, Georgia, site of the first major gold rush in the U.S. They will be taught by highly trained instructors using communicative language teaching methods.

Rising high school juniors also have an opportunity to study abroad in France or Germany if they have at least two years of high school French or German.

Detailed information may be at: <http://ung.edu/global-engagement/fsla/index.php> .



Please also be sure to check out "***Guidance Gurus***" on D2L. There is a load of important and useful information pertaining to graduation requirements, community service hours, driver's education, grade calculations, and much more! We will be consistently updating D2L to keep you up-to-date with the most current guidance news. Enjoy!

Dear Parent/Guardian,

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your student will take the computer-based Florida Standards Assessments English Language Arts (ELA) Writing on March 8, 2017 or the ELA Writing Retakes on March 8, 2017. The FSA ELA Writing & Retake consists of one 120-minute writing session. For the ELA Writing Retake, any student who has not completed a session by the end of the allotted time may continue working up to half the length of a typical school day for that session. For the ELA Writing, the session ends at the 120 minute end time.

Your student will have or has had an opportunity to participate in a practice test to become familiar with the computer-based testing platform, item types, and response formats he or she will see on the FSA assessment(s). If you or your student would like to review the computer-based practice test at home, the practice tests and answer keys are available at <http://www.FSAssessments.org/students-and-families/practice-tests/>.

Please review the following policies with your student before testing:

- **Electronic Devices**—Students are not permitted to have any electronic devices, including, but not limited to, cell phones, smartphones, and smartwatches, at any time during testing OR during breaks (e.g., restroom), **even if they are turned off or students do not use them**. If your student is found with an electronic device, his or her test will be invalidated.
- **Calculators**—For EOC assessments, **approved handheld calculators may be used during SESSION 2 ONLY**. If students have handheld calculators during Session 1, their tests will be invalidated.
- **Testing Rules Acknowledgment**—All FSA tests include a Testing Rules Acknowledgment that reads: “I understand the testing rules that were just read to me. If I do not follow these rules, my test score may be invalidated.” Prior to testing, test administrators read the rules to students, and students acknowledge that they understand the testing rules by signing below the statement on their work folders.
- **Discussing Test Content after Testing**—The last portion of the testing rules read to students before they sign below the Testing Rules Acknowledgment states: “Because the content in all statewide assessments is secure, you may not discuss or reveal details about the test items after the test. This includes any type of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting online, for example, on websites like Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram.” Please make sure your student understands that “discussing” test content includes any kind of electronic communication, such as texting, emailing, or posting to blogs or social media websites, etc. **While students may not share information about secure test content after testing, this policy is not intended to prevent students from discussing their testing experiences with their parents/families.**
- **Working Independently**—Students are responsible for doing their own work during the test and for protecting their answers from being seen by others. If students are caught cheating during testing, their tests will be invalidated. In addition, FDOE employs Caveon Test Security to analyze student test results to detect unusually similar answer patterns. Student tests within a school that are found to have extremely similar answer patterns will be invalidated.
- **Leaving Campus**—If your student begins a test session and leaves campus before completing it (for lunch, an appointment or illness, etc.), he or she **WILL NOT** be allowed to return to that test session. If your student does not feel well on the day of testing, it may be best for him or her to wait and be tested on a make-up day. Please remember not to schedule appointments on testing days.
- **Testing Accommodations**—If your student has an Individual Education Plan (IEP) or Section 504 plan, please contact the school to discuss the testing accommodations that will be provided for your student.

If you have any questions related to this test administration, you may contact Felicia Rattray at 754-321-7450. For more information about the FSA program, please visit the FSA Portal at www.FSAssessments.org.

Thank you for supporting your student and encouraging him or her to do his or her best during this test administration.

Sincerely,
Mary Barba



Attention High School Seniors (and Parents) ...We are here to Educate & Motivate YOU! Questions about financial aid, online college portals, scholarships, bills, orientation, deadlines, college life, more? Join **Educate-Motivate-yoU (EMU)** College Academy!

Benefits of joining:

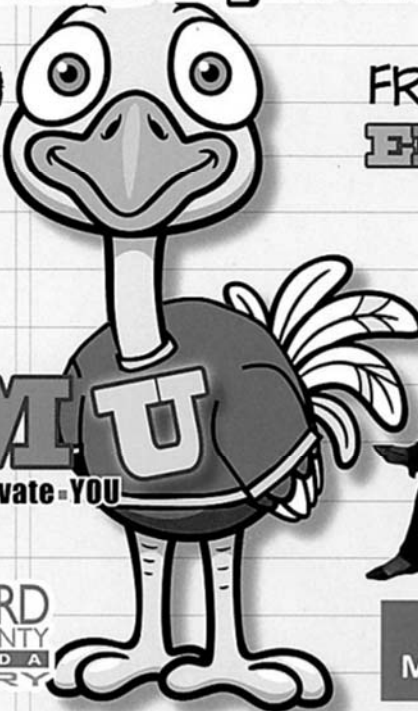
- ⇒ Weekly Meetings
- ⇒ Free Counseling (both 1-on-1 and group), [Make appointment](#)
- ⇒ Free Application Assistance
- ⇒ Free Access to Tutoring
- ⇒ Free Scholarship Assistance
- ⇒ Fun Activities, Events and Prizes



For details and registration information, log onto: <http://tinyurl.com/bcl-emu>

Attention: High School Juniors and Seniors

(and Parents!)



FREE COUNSELING SESSIONS

EMU College Academy

Tuesdays

Sunrise Dan Pearl Library
Lauderdale Lakes Library

Wednesdays

South Regional/BC Library
West Regional Library

Thursdays

Miramar Library
North Regional/BC Library



EMU
Educate-Motivate-YOU



Please call: Shedly 954-225-1019
Monique 954-681-8227 • Judy 954-338-8005

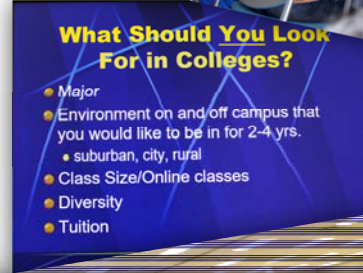
BRACE Yourself!

Barbara Sherman & Vanessa Longhi, BRACE Advisors

Pathway to College

Princeton Review held a "Tips on College" evening session on February 1st hosted by STHS. Parents and students were informed on topics such as shopping for the right college for your student; what colleges look for in applicants; key differences between the SAT and ACT; and the testing timeline, followed by questions and answers..

STHS will continue to provide additional opportunities for parents and students to become well equipped with strategies in college preparation. Be sure to attend our first annual college fair on February 14th. See below.



SHERIDAN TECHNICAL HIGH SCHOOL PRESENTS ITS 1st ANNUAL COLLEGE FAIR

FEBRUARY 14, 2017

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**3775 S.W. 16th STREET
FT. LAUDERDALE, FL**

754-321-7450

OVER TWENTY COLLEGES (IN STATE AND OUT OF STATE) WILL BE PRESENT TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE ABOUT YOUR CHILD'S NEXT BIG STEP IN THEIR EDUCATION

IT'S A MUST...DON'T MISS IT!

Art Logo Contest

Seasons of Learning II: *We are Blooming Year Round!*

The office of Professional Development Standards and Support (PDSS) is sponsoring a Logo Contest for the Summer Teacher Learning Institute -**Seasons of Learning II: We are Blooming Year-Round.**

The inaugural Seasons of Learning 2016 was a huge success and we are looking for an **original** and **creative** student creation that will best represent LEARNING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT as we all continuously strive to be life-long learners.

Logos should be:

- 2-dimensional medium-link, watercolors, crayons, or markers may be used
- Computer art is acceptable if the work is completely original
- Artwork must be in vertical format
- Original student work
- A representation of the institute theme-We are Blooming year Round

When - Now!

All entries must be received no later than 5pm on **Tuesday, February 28, 2017.**



See OFFICIAL RULES and CONTEST GUIDELINES *on the attached pages.*

2017 Teen Video Challenge

The 2017 Teen Video Challenge, a Collaborative Summer Library Program (CSLP) sponsored competition for teens, invites students to make videos that:

2017 Teen Video Challenge



- Encourage others to use public libraries
- Promote reading all summer long

This year's theme is **"Build a Better World."**



Teens can produce videos individually or as teams. The videos that do the best job of interpreting the theme will become official teen public service announcements for the national 2017 CSLP Summer Reading Program.

Teens can produce videos individually or as teams. The videos that do the best job of interpreting the theme will become official teen public service announcements for the national 2017 CSLP Summer Reading Program.

How great would that look on your college or work resume?

Please promote this exciting opportunity to teens in your community as well as to schools and other teen organizations. All entries will be posted on the Florida Teen Video Challenge [YouTube channel](#).

Check out the [Teen Video Challenge webpage](#) for more information and to download the application.

Deadline for entries is **March 1, 2017.**

Creative Opportunities



CharACTer Counts @ STHS



For the strength of the pack is the wolf ... and the strength of the wolf is the pack!

~ Rudyard Kipling



The Character Education recognition program is aligned to our fundamental belief in the ***Coalition of Essential School Principles***. When teachers and students work together based on common principles the learning environment is beneficial to all stakeholders.

Honesty

“Tell a lie once and all your truths become questionable.”

~ author unknown



What can YOU do to demonstrate honesty?

- ✓ Return anything you find to the person who lost it, or turn it into the proper authorities.
- ✓ Do all of your own work, unless collaborating on a group project.
- ✓ Remember that it is easier to tell the truth than to live a lie.
- ✓ Say what you mean and mean what you say.
- ✓ Hold people accountable when their words do not match their actions.
- ✓ Don't shoot the messenger when someone tells you the truth. Thank them for their honesty and treat the information provided as a gift.

The Coalition of Essential Schools: Common Principles

1. ***Learning to use one's mind well***
2. Less is more: depth over coverage
3. ***Goals apply to all students***
4. Personalization
5. Student as worker, teacher as coach
6. Demonstration of mastery
7. ***A tone of decency and trust***
8. ***Commitment to the entire school***
9. Resources dedicated to teaching and learning
10. ***Democracy and equity***

Yearbooks on SALE!

Your Friends ... Your School Your Story!
Where everyone knows your name! .

Order your yearbook today! Only \$40! Treasure your memories for a Lifetime!
Our yearbook is planned to include:

- All -color pages that vibrantly capture school memories
- Durable, long-lasting hard cover that protects treasured memories for a lifetime!

Cover Design by Dakota Valdes



Payment Method: Online or Cash

Broward Online eStore at:

<http://tinyurl.com/sthsyearbk17>

Cash payments can be made with Ms. Mulligan in the Office.



Florida's 2016-2017 ESE Parent Survey

Parents!

February 1 – May 31

We need your help to make Florida's 2016-2017
ESE Parent Survey a record success

Each year, the Florida Department of Education (FDOE) surveys parents of children with an individual educational plan (IEP) to determine how well your child's school is partnering with you and promoting your involvement in your child's education. All states must collect this data as part of their State Performance Plan, as required under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

**Make your voice
heard!**

The web-based survey will open **February 1, 2017**.

You can complete the survey online at <http://www.esesurvey.com>
or request a paper survey from your child's school.

Your feedback is important in helping the state and local school systems continue improving educational programs for children with special needs. **Thank you!**



For questions about the survey,
please contact **Carol Beitler, FDLRS
Program Specialist, 754.321.3400**
carol.beitler@browardschools.com



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION
fldoe.org

Bureau of Exceptional
Education and Student
Services