

SGSC PARENT NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 18TH-22ND, 2023

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Hello Everyone,

We are excited to see all of our Aggie Achievers tomorrow on 9/18/23! We are ready for Homecoming Week and another exciting week of instruction!

Parents - There have been many changes to the athletic schedules with reasons beyond our control. Please make note that we will have Homecoming Week during the week of September 18th-22nd. The Homecoming game will be played on Friday, September 22nd, and we will have Homecoming Court representatives on the field that night. We will also name a Homecoming Queen - how exciting! The Homecoming Dance will be held the following Saturday on September 30th because there is a scheduled Bass Fishing Tournament on the Saturday following the Homecoming Game - September 23rd - and we do not want our Bass Fishermen to miss their Homecoming Dance. So, again, **the Homecoming Game will be played on September 22nd, but the Homecoming Dance will not take place until Saturday, September 30th - in Parrot Ga from 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm.**

We are having so many Achievers that are being checked out early throughout the week - especially on Fridays. Please remember - EARLY CHECKOUTS ARE DISCOURAGED AFTER 2:30 PM. Early checkouts after 2:30 PM are discouraged due to ongoing instructional practices that include remedial and acceleration opportunities for Achievers. In addition, students are also transitioning to various areas to prepare for dismissal. Please remember that unexcused 5 unexcused tardies and early checkouts will be counted as an absence as well. Although early checkouts are discouraged, we do realize that extenuating circumstances such as doctor's appointments and family emergencies will occur. We will make every effort to accommodate, but **please do not come to check your child out to simply avoid waiting in the car rider line.**

If you need a change in transportation, you must provide this IN WRITING. This can be through a note sent to school with your child or you can email transportation@sowegastemcharter.org

to request the change. These requests should be in place no later than 1:30 pm on the day of the request.

Cell phones are not allowed to be used at school. They must remain in your child's backpack or bag. Please see information below. On the buses, your child may use his/her cell phone if they follow these rules: No pictures or videos should be made on the bus, no pictures or videos should be uploaded to social media on the bus, no loud noises from phones - must have ear buds or headphones. IF our Achievers can follow those rules, cell phones will be permitted on the bus. IF our Achievers cannot follow those rules, we will not allow cell phones on the bus. So, please encourage your child to follow the bus rules regarding cell phone usage. Thank you!

Attendance - We are beginning our new attendance policy this year. The basics from this policy are as follows:

- 5 unexcused absences - you will receive a letter and attend a conference about attendance
- 7 unexcused absences - you will receive a letter with a reminder that your child can only miss 3 more days before he/she may be withdrawn from the school
- 10 unexcused absences - your child may be withdrawn from Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School

Reminders:

- If your child is absent, he/she will have 3 days to bring in their excuse after returning to school
- You may write up to 3 parent notes during the school year
- Your child will have 3 days to make up any missing assignments while he/she was absent from school

RECOGNIZE YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER(S): If you or your child would like to SHOUT OUT any staff member, please feel free by using the link: <https://forms.gle/BxUiUi5vjRDb92sj9>. It is important that we recognize those staff members that are such an important part of your child's life - it makes them feel special as well!

Parents - I want you all to know that we value your ideas and thoughts at SGSC. If you, at any time, feel that you could provide information or ideas about ways to improve SGSC, please click here - <https://forms.gle/JiFECdiizhq7YSdj9> - and share. We may not be able to do everything that is recommended, but know that we will be open and listen. Thanks!

Below, I have included an image of our adopted Vision and Mission Statements for SGSC. We are so excited to be able to work with you all to accomplish both the vision and mission for our school!

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to send me an email at galmon@sowegastemcharter.org.

Sincerely,
Ginger Almon

SGSC Elementary School PBIS Matrix				
	Bathrooms	Hallways	Classroom	Bus
S Be Safe Make decisions that ensure the safety of our community.	These are public places. Please do not use the bathroom for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the hallway for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the classroom for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the bus for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.
P Be Responsible Be polite and use the restroom/hallway/classroom/bus appropriately.	These are public places. Please do not use the bathroom for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the hallway for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the classroom for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the bus for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.
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SGSC Middle/High School PBIS Matrix			
	Bathrooms	Hallways	Classroom
S Be Safe Make decisions that ensure the safety of our community and physical safety of our community.	These are public places. Please do not use the bathroom for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the hallway for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.	These are public places. Please do not use the classroom for anything other than its intended purpose. Report any unsafe behavior to an adult.
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SGSC Vision
A focused, competitive, hands-on, and joyful learning environment for all students that will prepare them to become successful, gracious, scholarly citizens.

SGSC Mission
Provide distinguished and integrated instruction in an environment that cultivates respect, is inclusive of all, and lays the foundation for excellence and life-long learning.



Aggies are responsible, respectful, safe and perseverer.

AGGIES CELL PHONE POLICY

FROM BELL TO BELL - THERE IS NO CELL

- Students are not permitted to use cellular phones during school hours.
- Cell phones should be turned off upon school arrival and students should store cell phones in their locker or backpack upon arriving to homeroom. Cell phones may not be kept in clothing pockets.
- Phones must be turned off at all times while in the school building. If a phone rings during class, the teacher will handle the Call Phone Use Policy. "Tongling" to turn off the cell phone is not an excuse.
- Use of a cell phone during a test will be considered cheating and appropriate disciplinary action will be taken.
- Students are prohibited from using a cell phone to take photographs or record video at any time on school property. This includes taking photographs or video recordings in restrooms, locker room areas, etc.
- If a student violates the Call Phone Use Policy, the teacher or school staff member shall confiscate the cell phone and take it to the office.

First offense - the phone is taken away until the end of the day and kept in the lost office.
Second offense - the phone must be picked up by a parent or guardian.
Third offense - either the student is assigned to ISS for two days or the phone is taken away for ten school days to be kept at the school Security Office.

Additional offenses will result in the student not being allowed to have a cell phone on school property. Furthermore, students who do not adhere to these guidelines will be subject to other disciplinary actions.

- A student is required to hand over the cell phone and all its individual parts, including but not limited to the battery and memory cards, to a teacher or school staff member upon request. Failure to do so will result in ISS or OSS.
- The student assumes all risks in bringing such cell phones and other electronic devices onto school property or to school related functions.

www.sgscgeorgiaschoolcharter.com

23-24 SCHOOL CALENDAR

2023-24

July 2023						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 2023						
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27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2023						
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26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

February 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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25	26	27	28	29		

March 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

May 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Teacher Work Days		1st and Last Day of School		Holidays/Breaks	
Aug 4, 2023	1st Day of School	Nov 10, 2023	Veterans Day (obs.)	Feb 19, 2024	Presidents' Day
Sep 4, 2023	Labor Day	Nov 20-24, 2023	Thanksgiving Break	April 1-5, 2024	Spring Break
Oct 6-9	Fall Break/Columbus Day	Dec 18- Jan 2	Christmas Break	May 17, 2024	Last Day of School
Oct 9, 2023	Columbus Day	Jan 15, 2024	Martin L. King Day		

SGSC CAFETERIA INFORMATION

Please remember all students will receive a free lunch and breakfast this year!

SEPTEMBER 2023 Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School					BREAKFAST
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	

AGGIES SCHOOL FOODS MENU				
For the Week of September 18th-22nd, 2023				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
Strawberry Bagel or Honey Bun	Pancake or a stack of Super Donut	Ham and Cheese Bread or Omelet	Chick and Waffle or Flip Top	Common Bun or Omelet
Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
Juice & Milk	Juice & Milk	Juice & Milk	Juice & Milk	Juice & Milk
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Chicken Nuggets or PBJ	Meatball sub or PBJ	Hamburger Steak or PBJ	Pulled Pork BQ or PBJ	Pizza or PBJ
Mixed Veggies	Salad Plate	Green Beans	Baked Beans	Com.
Fruit	Fruit	Mashed potatoes	Salad Plate	Salad
Milk	Milk	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
		Milk	Milk	Milk

SEPTEMBER 2023 Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School					LUNCH
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Chicken Nuggets French Fries Macaroni & Cheese Salad Fruit Milk 	

BREAKFAST

LUNCH



FROM DR. SMITH...

Positive affirmations are powerful statements that can help anyone develop a growth mindset. Even our kids. There are lots of feelings that come with being a kid. Children are changing and growing all the time, and in so many ways. They're processing new emotions they've never felt before and are navigating situations they have no experience with. Positive affirmations can bolster a child's self-esteem while helping them combat negative thoughts and feelings.

Though we wish it weren't the case, many children face struggles with mental health and battle negative thoughts. Life can be hard, even for the smallest of people. Peer relationships are difficult to navigate and can leave many children feeling inadequate or lonely. Academics don't come easily to all students. Some struggle to keep up with their class work, quickly feeling discouraged and not capable.

Sometimes their problems do seem small to us adults. It's just a scraped knee or a hurtful word from a kid on the playground. But it's often a much bigger deal to them. It's our job to give our children skills to cope with these negative feelings. Social emotional learning is just as important as any other academic topic or life skill they're learning.

Practicing morning affirmations can help you start your day on the right track. It puts you and your child in a good headspace for tackling the rest of the day.

Positive self-talk also becomes easier with practice. Some of your child's favorite affirmations will become second nature, popping into their head when they need them most.



UPCOMING EVENTS AT SGSC

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

September 18th-22nd - Homecoming Week

September 18th - Varsity Softball game vs. Miller County @ SGSC - 4:30 pm

September 19th - Middle School Softball game vs. Early County @ Early - 4:30 pm

September 19th - Varsity Softball game vs. Calhoun County @ Calhoun County - 5:00 pm

September 20th - PLC in the auditorium @ 3:30 pm

September 21st - Middle School Softball game vs. Seminole County @ SGSC - 4:00 pm

September 21st - Varsity Softball game vs. Seminole County @ SGSC - 6:00 pm

September 21st - Middle School Football game vs. Miller County @ Miller - 5:00 pm

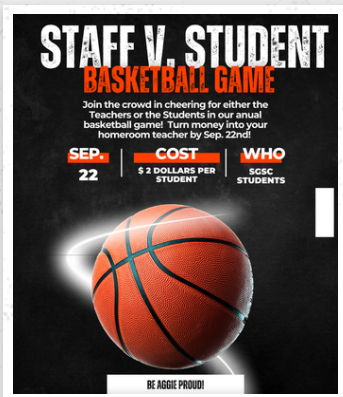
September 22nd - Faculty vs. Students Basketball game (\$2 entry) and PEP Rally - Beginning at 1:00 pm (more information to come)

September 22nd - Homecoming Football Game vs. Baker County @ SGSC - 7:30 pm

September 26th - School Pictures for grades Pre-K - 5th

September 28th - Probe College Fair at Georgia Southwestern for Seniors

September 29th - School Pictures for grades 6th-11th



SGSC

SPORTS

SECTION

The 2023-24 school year is continuing with a great line up of softball games, football games, and cross country events. This week will be Homecoming Week with the Homecoming game on Friday, September 22nd at 7:30 pm on SGSC field. We will have lots of softball games and a middle school football game this week as well (away). We are excited about all of these opportunities and surely appreciate all of the support from the parents. Please try to make it to some of our upcoming games to support our Achievers who are working so hard on and off the field to be successful!

Congratulations to our Players of the Week for Varsity sports: Ayddan Craft and Kylee Osting! We are proud of you!

Unless there is a game or the coaches tell you differently, the players will follow the practice schedule below:

Middle School and Varsity Football will practice Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school until 5:30 pm

Middle School and Varsity Softball will practice Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday after school until 5:15 pm.


Cross Country - Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday from 3:30 pm - 4:30 pm

Cheerleaders - Tuesday and Thursday from 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm



Aggie Adventures

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



JAKADEN YOUNG

Aggie Achievers

Jakaden's math teacher wrote, "Jakaden always tries his best in all of his classes, making sure he keeps his grades good. I am very proud of how much he cares about his school work, along with how respectful and generous he is to myself and his peers. I am so thankful I have someone so helpful in my classroom!"

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



SCARLETT JAMES

Aggie Achievers

Scarlett's freshman success teacher wrote, "Scarlett is a hard worker. She shows up every day prepared and ready to learn. She is kind and always willing to help her classmates with anything they might need. Scarlett is smart and respectful at the same time. She has all the characteristics that will make her successful in the future. I love that I get to be her teacher!"

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



HENLEY SHEFFIELD

Aggie Achievers

Henley's teacher wrote, "Henley is an awesome first grader! He works hard and has come to really enjoy school! He is hilarious, and I can always count on him to make me smile! Henley makes great grades and puts a lot of effort into his work! Keep being uniquely you, Henley!"

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



TYRYA DAVIS

Tyrya Davis's teacher wrote, "Tyrya deserves a positive office referral because every day she comes in with a smile and ready to learn! She is an outstanding student that models green choices as soon as she walks in our room in the morning until it's time to leave to go home! She is also a friend to everyone!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



SERENE HICKS

Serene's math teacher wrote, "Serene always goes above and beyond in the classroom. She is never off task, and always completes her work in a timely manner (with a good attitude!!) She is the definition of a successful, gracious, and scholarly citizen. Keep it up, Serene!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL




JATEYSHI KIMBROUGH

Jateyshi's ELA teacher wrote, "Jateyshi works hard in class to complete all her assignments. She asks for help when she needs it, and is respectful of her teacher. She brings a positive attitude to class, even when the work is difficult. I look forward to greeting her every morning!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



MARLON COLEMAN

Marlon's teacher wrote, "Marlon is an absolute joy to teach! He always can bring a smile to my face. He has been working so hard to get on green on XtraMath. He made a goal for himself and put in the work to learn his addition facts, and it paid off! I can't be prouder of him. Keep up the awesome work, Marlon!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



TJ MCLELLAN

TJ's teacher wrote, "TJ is new to SGSC this year. Since school has started, TJ comes in each day with a huge smile on his face and ready to do whatever is asked of him. We are glad to have him in our class at SGSC."

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



BRANNAN GOZA

Brannan's Ag teacher wrote, "Brannan deserves recognition for always being kind and respectful to everyone. He has been especially helpful to me in Aquaponics class. He takes initiative on tasks that need to be done without even asking him. He is always willing to help. Thank you for being you, Brannan!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIES POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL



CHEVY WASHINGTON

Chevy's teacher wrote, "Chevy is always so helpful in class. He helps his peers and teachers with anything he sees that needs to be done. He is an excellent achiever and times his very best at everything he does in class. He is a great example of an Aggie achiever!"

AGGIE ACHIEVERS

AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT



MRS. ASHLEY PERRYMAN

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT



MRS. TONYA GERMANY

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT



MRS. AMY FERRI

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL


AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT



MS. KADIE PHILLIPS

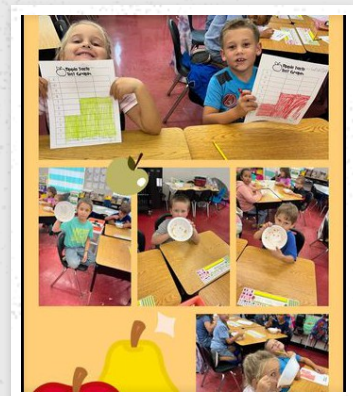
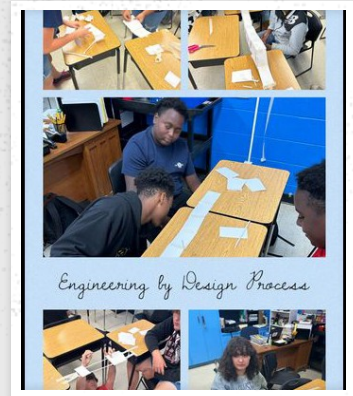
SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

SCHOOL LEADER SHOUT OUT TO



COACH BUBBA REDDING

SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL



THIS WEEK'S VIDEO

Support your child through STEM Learning!

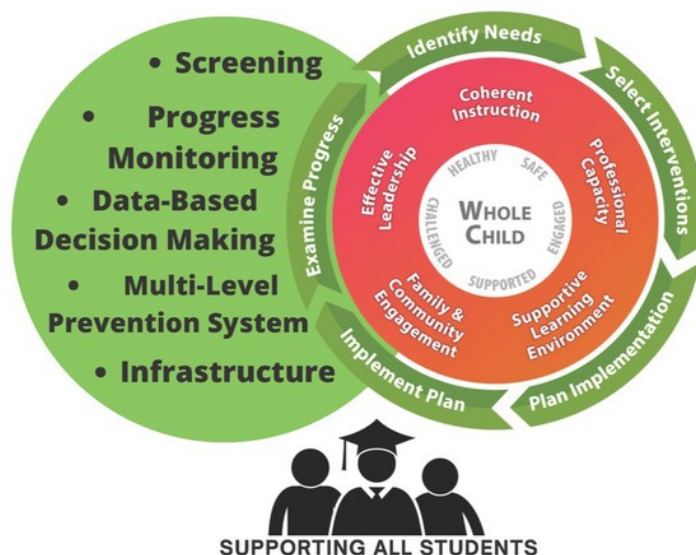
Families Matter for STEM Learning



**Families connect
through STEM learning**



From the MTSS Coordinator



FROM OUR MTSS COORDINATOR....

We spend billions of dollars on academic curriculum before building cognition. Our children's brains must be ready to learn in order for them to be able to access the curriculum. Parents can be of great benefit in making sure that their children are ready to attend school and be successful. Increase early-in-life executive functioning with these actions:

1. Increase early brain stimulation
2. Increase exposure to language and reading
3. Practice patterning and sequencing to improve math and reading skills.
4. Get at least 60 minutes of physical activity daily.

Executive function skills have been shown to be better predictors of academic outcomes than both intelligent quotient (IQ) and socioeconomic status (SES). Students must be able to maintain an "alert state of calm", pay attention, successfully avoid distractions, remember and

apply academic knowledge, and manage social-emotional responding in order to succeed (Kenney, 2020). Let's get our kids ready before they even start school!

Early is best, but it's never too late,

Leslie Presley



NEWS FROM THE GRADUATION COACH...

Parents-

Happy Homecoming week! It's an exciting time to be in high school. Just recently, we celebrated our junior class ring ceremony, which was an incredibly special event. Being present at this ceremony reminded me of all the fun moments we experience in high school and the lifelong memories we create along the way. At SGSC, we are fortunate to have a remarkable group of achievers.

I kindly ask that you keep a close eye on your child's academic progress and engage in conversations with them about the significance of their high school credits, which will accompany them throughout their educational journey and beyond. Here are a couple of reminders:

For 11th & 12th graders:

- If achievers are interested in taking the SAT on October 26th, they should promptly reach out to Dr. Smith. The deadline to sign up is tomorrow morning, September 18th.

For Seniors:

- Now is the time to begin compiling a list of colleges and/or technical schools they are considering, along with a record of deadlines and admission requirements for each institution. If they have an interest in the military, they should register for the ASVAB. Should they require guidance with any of these steps, Dr. Smith or Mrs. Greenway are here to offer assistance.

For 9th & 10th graders:

- It's imperative for achievers to pass all of their classes to remain on track for graduation. If they require advice on staying organized or managing their time effectively, encourage them to reach out to their teachers, myself, or their counselor. Our team is readily available to provide support and guidance.

Let's work together to ensure our achievers have a rewarding and successful high school experience. Your involvement and support are truly appreciated.

Thank you,

Courtney Greenway



FROM THE INSTRUCTIONAL COACH...

Hey Parents!

Do you ever wonder why your child is learning what they are learning? Maybe you are interested in what they will learn throughout the rest of this year. If this describes you, take a moment to look at <https://www.georgiastandards.org/>. Once you've accessed the site, scroll down and click on the subject you are curious about. This will take you to a page where you can choose the grade level specific to your child. Here, you will find the standards that your child's teacher uses to guide his/her lessons and instruction each day.

The Georgia Standards of Excellence (GSE) are the consistent frameworks for what students are expected to know, understand, and be able to do from year to year. Following this framework ensures that your child is on track for not just the next grade level, but also for graduating high school. These standards are also used when deciding the different curriculum programs chosen for SGSC students. If you have further questions concerning the Georgia Standards of Excellence, please do not hesitate to ask.

**ONE TEAM.
ONE MISSION.
NO EXCUSES.**



SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

 Facebook

 185 Pecan Street, Shellman, ...

 galmon@sowegastemcharter...

 229-345-3033

 swgeorgiastemcharter.com/