

SGSC PARENT NEWSLETTER

January 16th-19th 2024

From the Principal

Hello Everyone,

We are excited to see all of our Aggie Achievers tomorrow 1/16/24! We are ready for another exciting week of instruction!

Parents - thank you for your patience last week in dealing with the weather days that we experienced. Please trust that we will always strive to make the safest decisions for the students and staff at SGSC. Thank you for your support.

Parents - please stay on top of your child's academic grades by checking the Infinite Campus Parent Portal to see their grades. If you do not have a login, please email me (galmon@sowegastemcharter.org) or Dr. Heather Page (hpage@sowegastemcharter.org) to get your login information for your child.

As we begin the second half of the school year, we are excited to announce that we now have a School Resource Officer on staff - Officer Kyle Williams. He will be attending SRO training and Chief School soon. We are excited to have him on board.

Please speak with your child about behavior as we begin the third quarter of school. We would like to have a lesser amount of referrals as we work toward the end of the year. Some of the most prominent behaviors that we saw during the first nine weeks included - vapes, disrespect toward others, and disruption of the classroom and learning. There are some non-negotiable behaviors that will not be tolerated on the first offense to include drugs and credible threats to others. It is imperative that we speak about these behaviors, so students will understand that consequences will be applied.

Parents of students that ride buses - PLEASE adhere to the requirements at each location because we cannot afford to lose the places that we are allowed to drop off and pick up at! If you cannot follow the rules, your child will not be able to ride the bus:

- Do not park on the grass or drive on the grass (already received a warning from Miller Supply Co in Cuthbert)
- Do not park near the gas pumps or block entrance of customers (already received 2 warnings from LocStop in Dawson)
- Do not speed through the location
- Be mindful of students exiting the buses
- Do not use profanity or disrespectful language to the drivers, monitors, or other parents and students
- Do not litter

We will be monitoring the weather for Tuesday and will keep you all informed if there are any changes to the school day.

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.

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

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

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	Playground
S Be Safe Make choices that maintain the emotional and physical safety of our community.	*Keep it quick, clean and quiet. *Leave cell phone in the classroom. *Report unsafe conditions to teacher or staff member.	*Keep hands, feet, and body off the walls. *Ask a teacher before leaving or heading down. *Stand with your feet together on the right side. *Keep an eye on the right side.	*Follow class expectations. *Ask to leave the classroom. *Keep chair legs on the floor. *Keep hands, feet, objects, and verbal comments to yourself. *Complete assignments from start to finish. *Do your best - complete classwork and homework. *Get goals for your day.	*Keep hands and feet to yourself. *Play seated. *Go to seat correctly. *Bottom to bottom and back to back. *Use the playground equipment correctly.	*Keep hands and feet to yourself. *Use the playground equipment correctly.
P Persevere Continue in a course of action even in the face of difficulty.					
R Be Respectful Be gentle and take the other people's feelings into consideration.	*Give others privacy. *Close the cell door. *Throw your trash and personal items in the garbage. *Use the cell door.	*Face forward. *Keep your hands, feet and body off the walls. *Request parking to staff and students. *Keep your hands, feet and body off the walls. *Request parking to staff and students.	*Request environment and privacy property. *Respect your surroundings. *Request your bus driver and monitor. *Request your bus driver and monitor. *Respect other students, comments, opinions, and ideas. *Welcome new students.	*Follow your teacher's directions. *Include others when playing. *Treat others the way that you would want to be treated.	
R Be Responsible Always strive to do the right thing.	*Keep it clean, quick, and quiet. *Report any issues immediately to an adult.	*Keep your hands and feet to yourself. *Use the cell door.	*Keep it clean, quick, and quiet. *Report any issues immediately to an adult.	*Get where you're going fast. *When walking with your class, stay in line. *Attend daily and be on time. *Stay on task. *Be prepared. *Complete make-up work within one week.	*Remember your belongings. *Follow your bus driver's rules. *Report problems right away to an adult. *Partner Talk.
Track Level	0 - Start	1 - Start	2 - Progressing	3 - Proficient	4 - Exceeding Expectations

SGSC Middle/High School PBIS Matrix				
	Bathrooms	Hallways	Classroom	Bus
S Be Safe Make choices that maintain the emotional and physical safety of our community.	*Wash your hands thoroughly. *Keep hands to self. *Leave cell phone in the classroom.	*Walk on the right. *Maintain safe distance. *Pain-free zone.	*Follow class expectations. *Ask to leave the classroom. *Keep chair legs on the floor. *Cell-Free Zone.	*Keep hands to self - No touch zone. *Play seated. *Sit in seat correctly - Bottom to bottom and back to back.
P Persevere Continue in a course of action even in the face of difficulty.			*Complete assignments - Start to finish. *Do your best - complete classwork and homework.	
R Be Respectful Be gentle and take the other people's feelings into consideration.	*Give others privacy. *Throw your trash and personal items in the garbage.	*Face forward. *Allow students to learn while passing classrooms. *Admire walls and work with your eyes only.	*Use time wisely. *Be an active learner - think, write, speak, or listen. *Set goals for your learning. *Respect other students' comments, opinions, and ideas. *Welcome new students.	*Respect environment and private property. *Walk in appropriate areas. *Respect your surroundings. *Respect your bus driver and monitor.
R Be Responsible Always strive to do the right thing.	*Keep it clean, quick, and quiet. *Report any issues immediately to an adult.	*Get where you're going fast. *When walking with your class, stay in line.	*Attend daily and be on time. *Stay on task. *Be prepared. *Complete make-up work within one week.	*Remember your belongings. *Follow your bus driver's rules. *Report problems right away to an adult. *Partner Talk.
Track Level	0 - Start	1 - Start	2 - Progressing	3 - Proficient

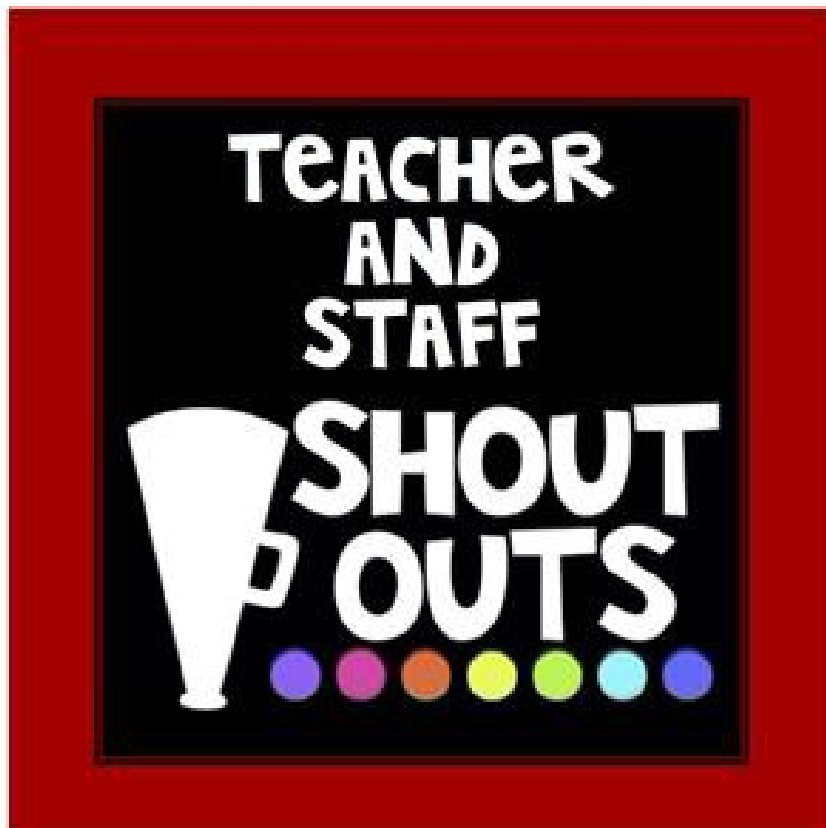
Aggies are responsible, respectful, safe and persevere.

SGSC Vision

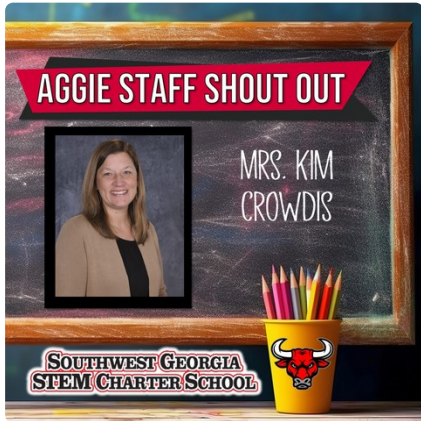
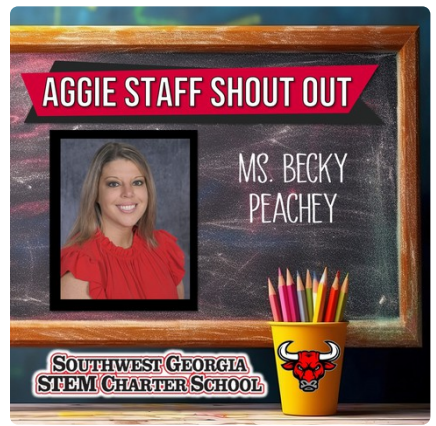
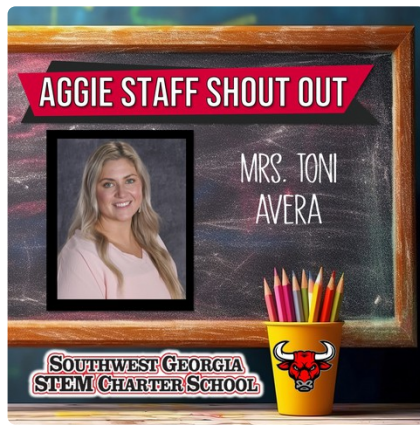
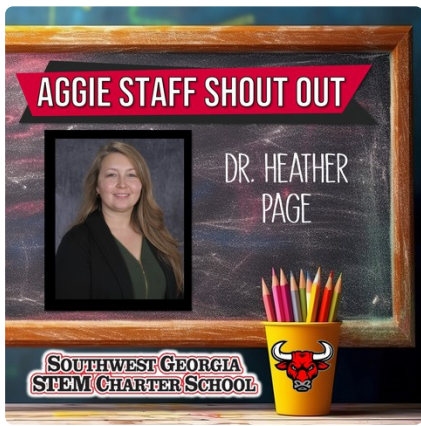
A focused, competitive, hands-on, and joyful learning environment for all students that will prepare them to become successful, gracious, scholarly citizens.

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.



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/A8UaB1268TKqx6N17>. 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!



23-24 SCHOOL CALENDAR

2023-24

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

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

January 2024							February 2024							March 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3						1	2
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	17	18	19	20	21	22	23
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29			24	25	26	27	28	29	30
														31						

April 2024							May 2024							June 2024						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6				1	2	3	4							1
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
28	29	30					26	27	28	29	30	31		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!

JANUARY 2024 Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School BREAKFAST				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
New Year's Break	New Year's Break	Teacher Workday	Biscuits/Waffles or Cereal	Biscuits/Waffles or Cereal
Super Honey Bun or Cereal	Chicken/Waffles or Cereal	Biscuits/Waffles or Cereal	Sausage Biscuit or Cereal	Biscuits/Waffles or Cereal
Choice of Fruit	Choice of Fruit	Choice of Fruit	Choice of Fruit	Choice of Fruit
Choice of Milk	Choice of Milk	Choice of Milk	Choice of Milk	Choice of Milk
None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change

AGSIS SCHOOL FOODS MENU for the week of: January 16th-19th, 2024				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST	BREAKFAST
No School	Chicken/Biscuit	Pancake/Sausage Stick	Sausage Biscuit	Super Honey Bun
	Cereal	Cereal	Cereal	Cereal
	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk
LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
No School	Pasta Bake or PBJ	Orange Chicken or PBJ	BBQ Rib Sandwich or PBJ	Hamburger Steak or PBJ
	Green Beans	Rice	Fries	Mashed Potatoes
	Garlic Bread	Broccoli	Baked Beans	Green Peas
	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit	Fruit
	Milk	Milk	Milk	Milk

JANUARY 2024 Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School LUNCH				
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
New Year's Break	New Year's Break	Teacher Workday	Turkey	Hand-Chosen Sandwich
Pizza or PB	Chicken Sandwich or PB	Pasta Bake or PB	Meatloaf Potatoes	Chicken Potatoes or PB
Corn	Mac 'n Cheese	Green Beans	Garlic Bread	Green Beans
Side Salad	Swiss Dressing Carrots	Garlic Bread	Choice of Milk & Fruit	Choice of Milk & Fruit
Choice of Milk & Fruit	Choice of Milk & Fruit	Choice of Milk & Fruit	Choice of Milk & Fruit	Choice of Milk & Fruit
None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change	None Subject to Change

UPCOMING EVENTS AT SGSC

Mark your Calendars

January 16th - Varsity Girls and Boys vs. CHESS Academy @ SGSC at 6:00 pm (Senior Night)

January 22nd - February 9th - SGSC Open Enrollment for the 24-25 school year

January 17th - Georgia AG Experience visit to SGSC for 3rd, 4th, and 5th grades

January 25th - 100th Day of School (more info to come)

January 25th - 6th, 7th, and 8th grade field trip to Andrew College for motivational speaker @ 10:00 am

January 25th - 11th and 12th grade field trip to Andrew College for motivational speaker @12:00 pm

February 12th-16th - Pre-K Registration for the 24-25 school year



AEGIS SGSC GIFTED CLASSES SERVICE PROJECT
benefiting the **HOLDING HOPE ANIMAL RESCUE**

SGSC students in our gifted classes are sponsoring a service project to gather items for the local animal rescue program, Holding Hope.

HERE ARE A LIST OF ITEMS THAT CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT THE SCHOOL:

BLUE BAWN DISH DETERGENT	MOP BUCKETS
DRY DOG FOOD (Purina Pro Plan - NOT chicken and rice due to dogs with allergies)	ANY DOG MEDICATIONS YOU NO LONGER NEED: (Heart tick prevention (Doxycycline - Parasitic, ivermectin, Heartworm prevention joint supplements)
PURINA ONE (NOT chicken due to allergies)	XXL OR XL PUPPY PEEPEE PAWS
DRY PUPPY FOOD (Purina Pro, Purina One Puppy or Hill and Science Diet Puppy)	RESCUE DISINFECTANT
WET DOG FOOD (seniors or puppy)	PROBIOTICS
CLEANING SUPPLIES (Paper towels, sponges, scrub brushes, etc)	HEATERS, HEAT LAMPS, & FANS for Outdoor Kennels
OLD TOWELS & BLANKETS	SUNSHADES or COVERS for Outdoor Kennels
DOG TOYS & TREATS	
GARBAGE BAGS	WE NEED YOU
LAUNDRY DETERGENT (Any HE approved)	
6 FT OR GREATER LEASHES or SLIP LEADS	
MOPS	

DONATIONS CAN BE DROPPED OFF AT SGSC BY FRIDAY, FEB 2

Aggie Adventures



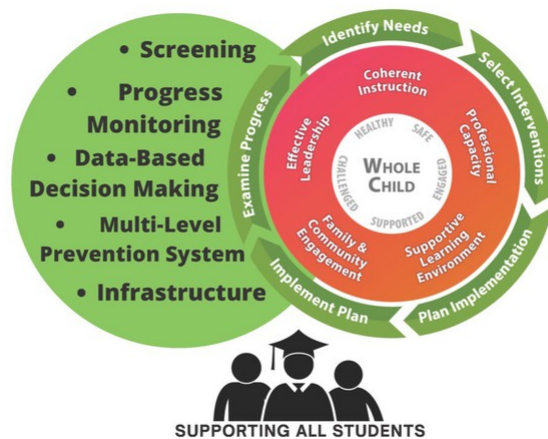
Video of the Week

Discipline and Consequences



Learn about
**Using Discipline
and Consequences**

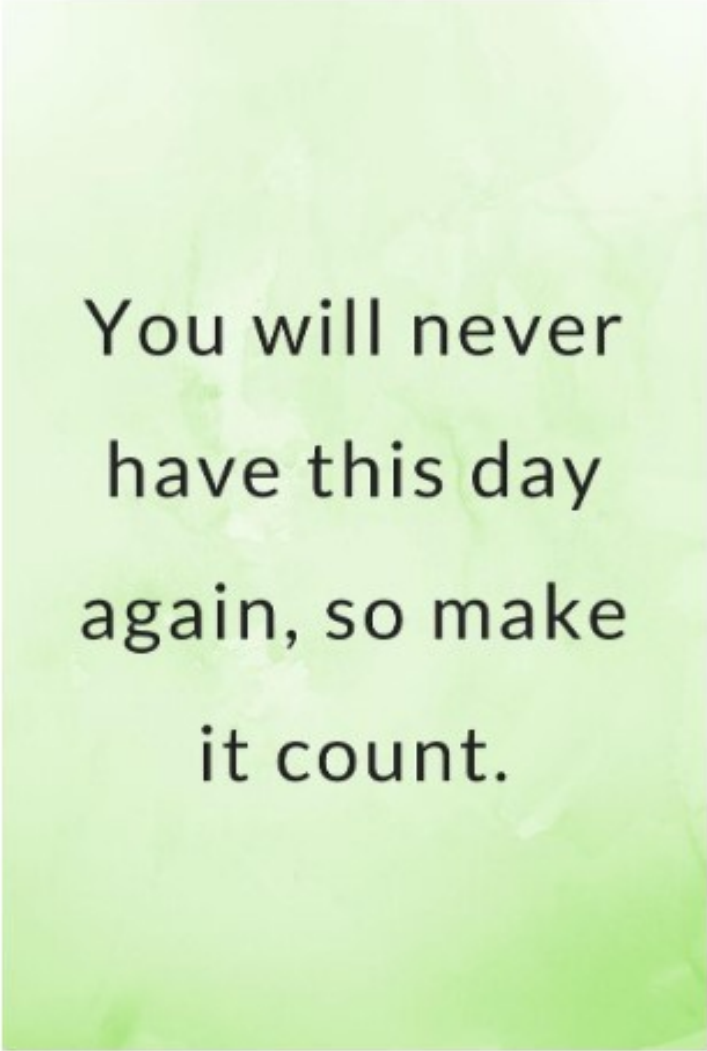
From the MTSS Coordinator



From our MTSS Coordinator....

Parents,

We've had a wild weather week this past week, but thankfully, we know that our students were kept as safe as possible. Even with things as unpredictable as the weather, one thing remains our constant. We are experiencing extreme urgency, not necessarily with the current weather, but with making sure our students perform at his/her highest potential level. Please continue to ensure that your child is at school unless legitimately sick. It is urgent that all of our students are studying for tests/quizzes, as well as completing homework every night. It is also urgent that students display positive behavior throughout each and every day to maximize their instructional time in all classes. Please remind your child that January is our SMORES and HOT CHOCOLATE PBIS (Positive Behavior Incentive System) celebration! Students must have newly acquired 100 points to attend the celebration. Talk with your child about what it means to be safe, respectful and responsible. It will make such a difference! Parent partnership is urgent in ensuring that our Aggie Achievers achieve what they are truly capable of. I'm excited to hear of all the great things that will occur this week because we responded to the urgency in our school. Have a great week!



You will never
have this day
again, so make
it count.



News from the Graduation Coach...

I hope everyone had a great extended weekend! I will continue to share important reminders below. The focus for all high school achievers should be to show up daily, be prepared, and work hard in the classroom. This will keep them on track to reaching their goals. As a high school teacher myself, I am encouraged by what I am seeing as we kick off this new semester!

Here are some friendly reminders for our seniors:

- Letters went home on Friday for anyone interested in making an appointment with Katie Minich for FAFSA help. Please get those back to me as soon as possible so that I can start scheduling your appointment times. I will be in touch once it is all finalized.
- Make sure you are on track to graduate. I will begin meeting with each senior this week to review what you need to graduate in May.
- **Ensure you have completed your FAFSA or applied for your FSA ID.** Remember, both the parent and the student have to have their own ID.
- Pay attention to deadlines for admission, financial aid, testing, and housing applications/deposits.
- Contact the admissions offices of schools you have applied to making sure they have received everything they need from you.

I am here to help. Please don't hesitate to reach out. Have a great week!

Courtney Greenway



FROM THE INSTRUCTIONAL COACH...

Hey Aggie Parents!

This coming Thursday, students will bring home their MAP Growth reports for Reading and Math. MAP is a diagnostic test that all students in grades K - 12 take in order to best plan for meeting their academic needs. These reports are specific to your child's academic progress, and will inform you of their fall 2023 score, their winter 2023 score, and if your child is performing above, on, or below grade level. Please see the frequently asked questions and answers below, to have a clear understanding of the report you'll be receiving.

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



Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School

Email: galmon@sowegastemcharter.org

Website: <https://www.swgeorgiastemcharter.com/>

Location: [185 Pecan Street, Shellman, GA 39886](#)

Phone: [229-345-3033](tel:229-345-3033)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/116256502053538>



Ginger Almon

Ginger is using Smore to create beautiful newsletters