# SGSC PARENT NEWSLETTER

**AUGUST 23RD-27TH, 2021** 

#### FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Good afternoon Everyone,

We are so excited to see our students this week! Goodness - this past week found us still navigating through the pandemic and also dealing with a tropical storm! Whew! Our school is so lucky to have supportive families that understand all of these events and decisions that are being made to ensure the safety of the students at SGSC! Thank you all!

We also appreciate our students and staff! They have done a superb job of wearing masks and handling everything that is going on daily. We are so grateful at SGSC!

I have updated our quarantine guidance - see below. There is also a tab at the top of our school's website - swgeorgiastemcharter.com - titled COVID-19 where all of the information is available.

Please make sure that your child gets plenty of rest and is ready each day this week to take their Beginning of the Year Benchmarks this week. Those students who are quarantined will take the assessments upon returning to school - these assessments will not be taken at home:

Monday - STAR Reading
Tuesday - STAR Math
Wednesday - USATestPrep Social Studies
Thursday - USATestPrep Science
Friday - Make up day

If you would like to nominate a Staff member for a SHOUT OUT, please click the link below to complete the form! Thanks so much for recognizing our staff and all of their efforts!

Staff Shout Out Form: <a href="https://forms.gle/ngToLSDxjNZ8HjwH6">https://forms.gle/ngToLSDxjNZ8HjwH6</a>

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to send me an email at <a href="mailto:galmon@sowegastemcharter.org">galmon@sowegastemcharter.org</a>.



#### Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School

185 Pecan Street, Shellman, GA 39886 | P.O. Box 300 Fax: 229.679.2018 | Phone: 229.345.3033

> Ginger Almon, School Leader galmon@sowegastemcharter.org

#### Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School 2021-2022 COVID Quarantine Guidance

On August 2, 2021, the Georgia Department of Public Health issued an administrative order providing additional Covid-19 guidance for schools. To protect educators and students from the spread of Covid-19, DPH generally recommends that schools follow quarantine guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Pursuant to the DPH administrative order, however, schools may elect to adhere to different quarantine requirements, as developed by the local school district, to facilitate in-person learning. The DPH administrative order provides that alternative quarantine guidelines may only be followed if:

- 1) the point of exposure is in the school setting, and
- 2) the individual remains asymptomatic during the quarantine period.

Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School will always consider the safety of our students and make decisions based on the needs of our students. With that said, please see the following guidelines that we have created for quarantining:

- → As per guidance in the administrative order, Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School will require anyone identified as a contact <u>outside of school</u> to follow CDC quarantine guidance - ESPECIALLY for those who have someone in the household that is positive for Covid.
- → If there is an exposure in school, we will quarantine those in direct contact with the positive case (based on contact tracing of school day and bus seating) we will not require quarantine of most individuals not exhibiting symptoms. We will notify potential exposures so they may watch carefully for any symptoms, but they will be allowed to remain in school.
- The quarantine period for those exposed <u>in school</u> will be 5 days if the exposed person remains symptom free. The school nurse will check in with the student and if there is not a positive test result or any symptoms the student may return to school on Day 6.
- → If a person has had COVID in the previous 90 days from exposure, that person will not have to quarantine.
- → If someone that has been fully vaccinated is exposed, they do not have to quarantine regardless of the location of the exposure. A completed vaccination card must be presented to the school nurse.

At this point in time, masks are still required. We will review this process on September 18th to see if there is a need to change this requirement.

Sincerely,

Ginger Almon Principal Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School

**COVID UPDATE FROM SGSC FOR 8-22-21** 

COVID INFORMATION FOR SGSC 8/22/21

Positive Cases: Staff - 0 Students - 8

Quarantines: Staff - 0 Students - 17 Other information:
Please do not send your child to school if they are experiencing symptoms related to COVID, if someone in the household is positive, or if there is a pending COVID test for the student or household member.

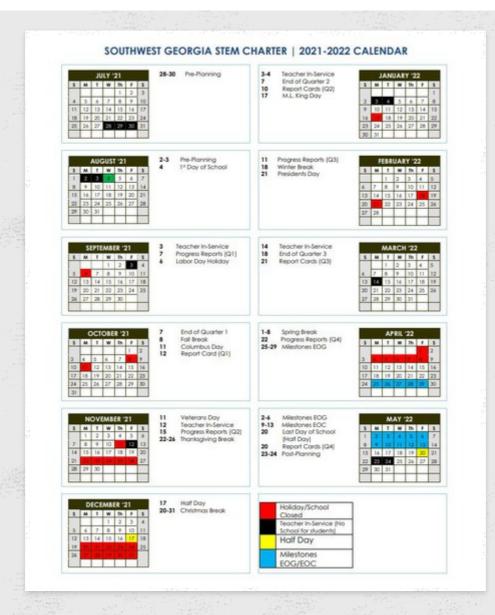


### MORE COVID INFORMATION

These figures are based on what will happen on Monday, August 23rd. We have a large number of students that will be returning to school from previous quarantines on the 23rd. That has effected the decrease in quarantines. Also, please keep in mind that some of the positive cases are remaining on the count because we leave them up for the two weeks - these are not necessarily new COVID cases - some may also be from last week. If you have any further questions, please reach out to our school nurse, Kristen Roland -

kroland@sowegastemcharter.org or 229.345.3033 or myself galmon@sowegastemcharter.org.

SCHOOL CALENDAR



#### SGSC CAFETERIA INFORMATION

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







**BREAKFAST** 

LUNCH



#### FROM MS. MCBRIDE...

Hi! I would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself! My name is Ms. Candace McBride and I am the School Counselor at Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School. I am so excited to welcome you to the 21-22 school year. It is my goal to help ALL students with social/emotional development, self-management, social skills, maintaining friendships, and also provide support during various transitions in a student's life (e.g. family change, moving, grief, etc.).

While everyone is getting settled back into a new back-to-school routine, whether learning from home or back in-school, children are still facing major changes and disruptions to daily life. Many emotions come with these new transitions, and we are here to help! I am available to meet with students individually either in-school or virtually if they are quarantined, to help process the many feelings that come with the changes and challenges your children are faced with. Please reach out if your child needs additional support!

Please also click here for some tins to help your children payingte some of the complicated



#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

#### **Beginning of the Year Benchmark Schedule:**

- August 23rd STAR Reading/Early Literacy Assessment (Kindergarten 10th grade)
- August 24th STAR Math Assessment (1st 10th grade)
- August 25th USATestPrep Social Studies Assessment (3rd 10th grade)
- August 26th USATestPrep Science Assessment (3rd 10th grade)
- August 27th Any make-up assessments

August 23rd: Middle School Softball Game at SGSC against PCA - 4:00 pm

August 25th: Middle School Softball Game at Clay County - 4:30 pm

August 26th: JV Softball Game at Early County - 5:30 pm

September 3rd: Teacher Workday - No School for Students

September 6th: Labor Day Holiday - No School for Students or Staff

















## MS. CONNIE WILSON - 3RD GRADE MATH AND SCIENCE

Ms. Wilson has started off the year with such a positive attitude! She is not only rocking her lesson planning and instruction, but is building relationships with the parents and students in



### WE HAVE SOME GREAT PARENTS!



## ONE TEAM.

ONE MISSION.

NO EXCUSES.





## SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL

Facebook



galmon@sowegastemcharter....



