



TITLE I SUMTER COUNTY SCHOOLS' DISTRICT NEWS

Two-Way Communication: Importance and Purpose

Two-way communication is a dynamic exchange of information between schools and families, where both parties actively engage in sharing insights, feedback, and concerns. This approach fosters a collaborative environment that enhances student learning and well-being.

Why is Two-Way Communication Important?

- Engagement:** It encourages parents to be actively involved in their child's education, making them partners in the learning process.
- Feedback Loop:** Schools can gain valuable insights from parents about their child's needs and experiences, which can inform instructional strategies and support services.
- Building Trust:** Open lines of communication foster trust between parents and educators, creating a supportive community that prioritizes student success.

Who Will Be Contacting Parents?

Teachers, school counselors, and District Family Engagement Coordinator will be reaching out to parents through various channels, including emails, phone calls, and class Dojo. Each school will designate staff members responsible for maintaining these communications.

Purpose of Two-Way Communication

The primary purpose of contacting parents is to share important updates, gather feedback, building relationships and encourage participation in school events and initiatives. This aligns with our Strategic Plan, which emphasizes the importance of family engagement in improving student outcomes.

Exciting News: SCS W.I.N. Day on Friday, October 4, 2024!

We are thrilled to announce that Friday, October 4, 2024 is a Sumter County Schools (SCS) W.I.N. (Whatever I Need) Day!

This day presents a valuable opportunity for our faculty, staff, and students to engage in non-traditional learning. It will include collaborative curriculum planning and professional learning for adults, as well as personalized, real-world learning experiences and extended practice opportunities for students.

What You Can Expect on W.I.N. Learning Days:

- Students Learning from Home:** Students will work independently, with teachers reviewing expectations with them the day before and posting them in Google Classroom or sending them through Class DOJO or REMIND.
- No Live Instruction:** Teachers will not host live, face-to-face instruction. Instead, they will provide "asynchronous" instruction, which may include pre-recorded videos, independent learning activities, or review lessons.
- Assignment Access:** Students will work on assignments created by their teachers, available through Google Classroom, Class DOJO, or REMIND.
- Attendance:** Students must complete assignments to count towards their attendance for the day. Additional time will be granted for any challenges or unforeseen circumstances.
- Real World Experiences:** Opportunities will be provided for students to apply their learning through real-world, everyday experiences.

Individual schools will share more details about their SCS W.I.N. instructional plans with students before the end of the day on Thursday, October 3, 2024. They will also post these details in their Google Classrooms and through Class DOJO or REMIND.

Testing is a crucial part of the teaching and learning process. It serves as an academic check-up to ensure that students' learning is on track and helps identify areas where additional support may be needed. At Sumter County Schools (SCS), we may utilize the following two assessments but also use GKIDS, GMAS, or EOC:

iReady Testing: A New Era of Personalized Learning

iReady testing continues to be a cornerstone of our approach to personalized education. This diagnostic tool not only assesses students' proficiency in reading and math but also provides actionable insights that help tailor instruction to meet individual needs. This year, students across Georgia will engage with the iReady diagnostic assessments, which are designed to identify learning gaps and strengths. Teachers will use the results to create targeted instruction, ensuring that each student receives the support they need to thrive. The data from the iReady helps in crafting personalized learning paths, making education more effective and responsive.

ACCESS Testing: Supporting English Language Learners

For our English language learners (ELLs), the ACCESS testing is a vital measure of their progress in acquiring English language skills. ACCESS, or Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English State-to-State, evaluates students' abilities in listening, speaking, reading, and writing in English.

This year's ACCESS testing aims to provide a clearer picture of our ELLs' language development and to guide educators in offering the necessary support. The results will help in designing instructional strategies that cater to the diverse linguistic needs of our students, promoting their success in all areas of their education.

October Literacy & Reading Workshops for Parents

Sumter County Middle School

October 24, 2024 5:00pm

Sumter County Elementary School

October 15, 2024 5:30pm

Sumter County Intermediate School

October 22, 2024 5:30pm

Sumter County Primary School

October 17, 2024 5:30pm

Sumter County High School

October 29, 2024 5:30pm

Join us this October for our *Literacy and Reading Workshops* designed to help parents support their children's reading journey. Learn practical tips and strategies to foster a love of reading at home.

ESOL & Migrant Parents Workshop

We're excited to invite all ESOL and Migrant parents to our workshops for the 2024-2025 school year! These informative sessions will cover essential instructional tools and resources designed to support your child's language development and academic success.

We look forward to partnering with you to ensure the best outcomes for your students. Together, we can create a positive learning environment that fosters growth and achievement.

October 1, 2024 6pm @ SCPS
December 17, 2024 6pm @ SCMS
March 25, 2025 6pm @ SCHS
May 6, 2025 6pm @ SCIS

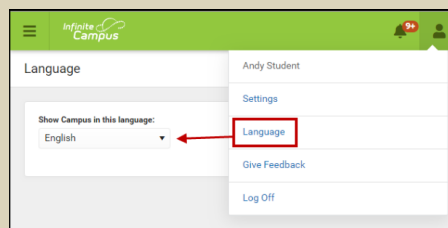
Dr. April Smith, Intervention Services Coordinator
229-931-8515
asmith@sumterschools.org

Join SCES for Math Mania

We invite you to join us for Math Mania! Our staff has planned an interactive evening filled with games, challenges, and hands-on activities designed to make math fun and engaging for the whole family. This event is a wonderful opportunity for families to come together and

experience the joy of math in a supportive environment. Don't miss out on this exciting Family Engagement Title I event! We look forward to seeing you there!

October 15, 2024 5:30pm



We are pleased to announce that report cards will be available on October 16, 2024. Parents can access their child's grades through the Parent Portal.

The parent portal in Infinite Campus can be viewed in English, Spanish or Chinese. To choose one of the selected languages, log into your parent portal and click on the "person" icon. Select "Language" and use the dropdown box to choose the language you desire to read your content in. The setting you choose is not permanent and can be changed at any time.

If you do not have access to the parent portal and would like to set up an account, email your name and the name of your child(ren) to campus@sumterschools.org. Parents will receive a confirmation email with their username and password. Please utilize portal to access your child report.

FALL BREAK

Fall break October 7, 2024-October 11, 2024 for the students and staff. School will be closed for staff and students on October 7, 2024-October 11, 2024. Students and faculty will return to school on Monday October 14, 2024.

Event Title: Language as a Missing Link Missed Opportunity with Mrs. Jamie Thomas
Target Audience: Pre-K and anyone who would like to participate
Date and Time: Saturday, October 26, 2024 at SCPS gym from 1:00pm-3:00pm
Event Cost: Free to Sumter County Community members
Special Note: RSVP required for those wishing to participate. RSVP to Bari Geeslin at bgeeslin@sumterschools.org no later than 4:00pm on Thursday, October 24, 2024.