

# SGSC PARENT NEWSLETTER

October 30th - November 3rd, 2023

## From the Principal

Hello Everyone,

We are excited to see all of our Aggie Achievers tomorrow 10/30/23! We are ready for another exciting week of instruction!

As the weather begins to cool off and your children are wearing sweaters and jackets, please write their names (first and last) in the outerwear because they will often leave them lying around. This will make it easier to get the items back to their rightful owners instead of ending up in Lost and Found items.

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](mailto: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absences - you will receive a letter with a reminder that your child can only miss 3 more days before he/she may be withdrawn from the school

- 10 unexcused absences - your child may be withdrawn from Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School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

**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/q295X7vWzwwKzKfG6>. 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](mailto:galmon@sowegastemcharter.org).

Sincerely,  
Ginger Almon

**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.*



SGSC Elementary School PBIS Matrix					
	Bathrooms	Hallways	Classroom	Bus	Playground
<b>S</b> <b>Be Safe</b> Make choices that maintain the emotional and physical safety of our community.	*Keep it quick, clean, and quiet *Leave cell phone in the locker *Report unsafe conditions to teacher or staff member	*Keep hands, feet, and feet off the walls *Pick a teacher before leaving the hallway door *Move with your feet *Walk on the right side	*Follow line expectations *Pick to leave the classroom *Pick to walk correctly *Keep chair legs on the floor *Keep hands, feet, desks, and ankles underneath yourself	*Keep hands and feet to yourself *Use the playground equipment correctly	
<b>P</b> <b>Persevere</b> Continue in a course of action even in the face of difficulty.			*Complete assignments from start to finish *Do your best - complete classwork and homework *Get goals for your		
<b>R</b> <b>Be Respectful</b> Be polite and take the other person's feelings into consideration.	*Give others privacy *Close the cell door *Throw your trash and recyclables in the proper garbage bins	*Place forward *Keep your hands, feet and body off the walls *Personal property to staff and students	*Request environment and private property *Respect your surroundings *Respect your bus driver and monitor	*Follow your teacher's directions *Exclude others when playing *Respect others the way that you would want to be treated	
<b>R</b> <b>Be Responsible</b> Always strive to do the right thing.	*Keep it clean, quick, and quiet *Report any issues immediately to an adult	*Place forward *Keep your hands, feet and body off the walls *Personal property to staff and students	*Request environment and private property *Respect your surroundings *Respect your bus driver and monitor	*Follow your teacher's directions *Exclude others when playing *Respect others the way that you would want to be treated	

SGSC Middle/High School PBIS Matrix				
	Bathrooms	Hallways	Classroom	Bus
<b>S</b> <b>Be Safe</b> Make choices that maintain the emotional and physical safety of our community.		*Walk on the right *Maintain safe distance *Plan 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 *Stay seated *Sit in seat correctly - Bottom to bottom and back to back
<b>P</b> <b>Persevere</b> Continue in a course of action even in the face of difficulty.			*Complete assignments start to finish *Do your best - complete classwork and homework	
<b>R</b> <b>Be Respectful</b> Be polite and take the other person's feelings into consideration.	*Give others privacy *Close the cell door *Throw your trash and recyclables in the proper garbage bins	*Place forward *Allow students to learn while passing classrooms *Adminire walls and work with your eyes only	*Use time wisely *Be an active learner (read, write, speak, or listen) *Set goals for your learning *Respect other students' comments, opinions, and ideas *Respect new students	*Respect environment and private property *Walk in appropriate areas *Monitor your surroundings *Respect your bus driver and monitor
<b>R</b> <b>Be Responsible</b> Always strive to do the right thing.	*Keep it clean, quick, and quiet *Report any issues immediately to an adult	*Place forward *Keep your hands, feet and body off the walls *Personal property to staff and students	*Request environment and private property *Respect your surroundings *Respect your bus driver and monitor	*Follow your teacher's directions *Exclude others when playing *Respect others the way that you would want to be treated

Aggies are responsible, respectful, safe and persevere.



- 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 bookbag 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 invoke the Cell Phone Use Policy. "Forgetting" 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 Cell 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 front 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 of the phone is taken away for ten school days to be kept at the school (parent's choice).
- 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 card(s), to a teacher or school staff member when requested. 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.







# UPCOMING EVENTS AT SGSC

## Mark your Calendars

**October 30th** - PSAT for all sophomore students

**October 30th** - Middle and High School PBIS Celebration

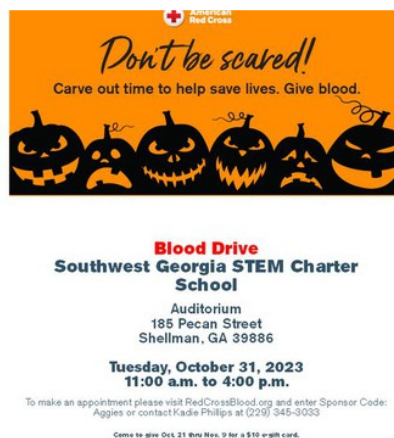
**October 31st** - Elementary PBIS Celebration

**October 31st** - 9:45 am in the auditorium - Senior Day for orders from Jostens

**October 31st** - Blood Drive from 11:00 am - 4:00 pm in the auditorium

**November 9th** - Fall Festival - Football field from 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**November 10th** - Veteran's Day - NO SCHOOL



The logo for SGSC Sports Section is displayed in three lines. The top line contains the letters 'SGSC', the middle line contains 'SPORTS', and the bottom line contains 'SECTION'. All text is rendered in a large, bold, serif font with a dark red and black plaid pattern and a white outline. The background of the page is white, with vertical decorative borders on the left and right sides featuring autumn-themed imagery such as pumpkins, leaves, and a turkey.

# SGSC SPORTS SECTION

Thank you all for a wonderful season of Fall Sports to include Football, Softball, Cheerleading, and Cross Country. We hope to see you all at the upcoming basketball games.

All basketball teams have practice tomorrow!






*Aggie  
Adventures*





**POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL**



CONWAY BAGWELL

Aggie Achievers

Conway's teachers wrote: "Conway is rocking Pre-K this year! He comes in with a smile on his face and ready to learn every single day. He is always eager to help out in any way possible and always makes sure to use his manners. Keep up the great work, Conway!"



**POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL**



JUAN ORTIZ

Aggie Achievers

Juan's teachers wrote: "Juan is very respectful, and I can always count on him to follow the rules. He comes into the classroom quietly every day and always has a positive attitude. He is a hard worker and a role model to his peers. Keep being great, Juan!"



**POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL**



ANABELLA TURNER

Aggie Achievers

Anabella's teachers wrote: "Anabella is an amazing Aggie Achiever! She is a great example of what SGSC stands for: successful, gracious, scholarly citizen! Bella always gives 100% to every task she tackles - no matter the difficulty. She is also a great classmate who is always kind, courteous, and helpful to everyone. Bella strives to always do her best and treat everyone with kindness and a smile. Great job, Bella!"



**POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL**



EMILY ARNOLD

Aggie Achievers

Emily's teachers wrote: "Emily is always helpful each morning during homeroom. Without being asked, she takes down the student chairs and sets them out. This is a huge help, and it ensures the first class of the day is ready to go. Thank you, Emily, for being a helpful, responsible Aggie!"



**POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL**



CAIDEN KING

Aggie Achievers

A teacher wrote: "Mrs. Duke would like to give Caiden a shout out! Caiden worked with a group of 5th grade students for their Social Studies project. When the time came to present, he was not on campus due to a field trip. His group was very disappointed. The next day, Caiden surprised the group by coming to the class and allowing them to present their project and show their hard work. He even went the extra mile by asking them questions that made them explain different parts of the project in more detail. Caiden was a good role model and really showed how much he cared for them and how important this project was. Thank Caiden for being a great leader at our school. Keep up the great work!"



**POSITIVE OFFICE REFERRAL**



NOAH MATHERLY

Aggie Achievers

Noah's teacher wrote: "Noah is absolutely rocking first grade this year! He is a rockstar reader and mathematician. In fact, he has finished the first grade XtraMath program, the second grade XtraMath program, and the third grade XtraMath program! He is a fact master! I could not be any prouder of him! This has been such a great year for him, and I cannot wait to see how much he continues to grow!"

**IGOTIN**

**SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL**



JR HOGG

2024 Class of

GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY



**CROCKtober**

**STAFF CROCKPOT CHALLENGE**

CONGRATULATIONS to our CROCKtober Winners!

**ASHLEY PERRYMAN**  
1st place  
\$100 cash prize

**TESSA BELL**  
2nd place  
\$50 cash prize




**SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL**


**SCHOOL LEADER SHOUT OUT TO**




MRS. CINDY FINCHER



**AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT**




MRS. TONYA GERMANY




**SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL**

**AGGIE STAFF SHOUT OUT**



MRS. ALICIA BABB



**SOUTHWEST GEORGIA STEM CHARTER SCHOOL**



**"LEI"  
OFF  
DRUGS**



**Red  
Ribbon  
Week**



**Tom Brady  
Big Baby  
Old Lady**



FBI and Butterfly



DJ and PJ



**FREAKY  
FRIDAY**



**SENIOR NIGHT**

**October 26, 2023**





## This Week's Video

The importance of being reliable!

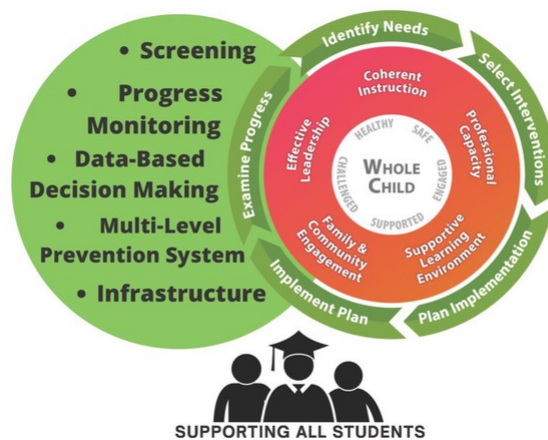
How to Nurture Stick-to-itiveness in Kids







# From the MTSS Coordinator



## From our MTSS Coordinator....

We are super excited about the HALLOWEEN DANCING GLOW PARTY that will be held on Monday and Tuesday this week for those students who have earned at least 60 PBIS points! Please remind your kids to be respectful, responsible and safe so that they will continue to earn points required to participate in the party. Being respectful includes being polite and always taking into consideration the feelings of others. Striving to do the right thing is what SGSC considers as being responsible. Making choices that maintain the emotional and physical safety of our community will earn your children points also! We hope that you've had a chance to download the Family App so you can see how your child is doing with being respectful, responsible and safe! Please remind them to show up the "AGGIE WAY", Responsible, Respectful and Safe everyday!

- Leslie Presley





### News from the Graduation Coach...

Happy Sunday! Our high school achievers had a busy week recently! They attended a dual enrollment meeting, a senior meeting with Jostens, and took the SAT. It's wonderful to see our seniors enjoying these moments, and our other high school achievers recognizing the fruits of their hard work as they draw nearer to their end goals.

To our senior parents, a friendly reminder that the deadline for the Jostens down payments is fast approaching—this Tuesday. Please make sure your seniors bring these payments to school. Call or email me if you have any questions. ([cgreenway@sowegastemcharter.org](mailto:cgreenway@sowegastemcharter.org)) Also, this week is the start of No Fee November, when many colleges waive application fees. Make sure your seniors are taking advantage of this opportunity!

For all high school parents, it's worth noting that scholarship opportunities may already be within reach. I will keep you updated as I become aware of new scholarship opportunities. In the meantime, consider exploring scholarship options online. One helpful resource to begin your search is <https://www.scholarships.com/>.

Wishing you all a fantastic week ahead!

Mrs. Greenway





## FROM THE INSTRUCTIONAL COACH...

Hey Parents!

This year, SGSC is focusing on increasing student Lexile levels. As mentioned before, one way we encourage our Achievers to read is by celebrating students who have reached their AR word count or point goals each 9 weeks. Students who have met their goal for the first half of the year will also be rewarded with a field trip.

So far, our elementary achievers have read 7,854,813 words!! Our middle high school students have earned 1,422.6 points this year.

Are you wondering why we are sharing this information with you? Well, we need our parents to be their child's biggest cheerleader when it comes to reading at home. If your child knows that you care about what they are reading, and how many "words" or "points" they've earned, then they are more likely to pick up a book and read.

As a parent myself, I know how busy schedules can be. I have a child who plays sports, a husband who coaches, farm animals to take care of and a full time job myself. However, this year, I have made reading a priority in my house. I have found myself asking my personal children what books they are currently reading, what they think about the author, and how they did on their AR tests while at school. One of my children isn't a huge fan of reading, however he absolutely loves reading out loud to me! So, a few times a week, I do my best to stop for 10-15 minutes, sit down and listen



to him read through the next chapter of his book. This simple adjustment to our schedule has caused both of my children to double their success since last year!

Let's work together to help our children/achievers be the best they can be academically!

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



**Southwest Georgia STEM Charter School**

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