

# WARRIOR Connections



OCTOBER 2015  
VOLUME 15  
ISSUE 1



## From the Principal's Desk

Welcome back Warrior Nation,

Our school year has gotten off to a great start! We are excited about the many things we have going on at Sanford Middle School. This summer, I attended the Future Ready Principals meeting and was inspired to replicate something similar with my staff during preplan, with slight modifications to fit the needs of the school. We decided to elicit the support of our Business Partners to provide our teachers a glimpse in the future for our students and the skillsets they will need to be successful.

On the first day of preplanning, ePathways opened up our week with teacher led activities reviewing skills needed for Future Ready graduates. After this, we introduced "Excursions to the Future", where our teachers divided into seven groups to tour our business partners sites: EA Sports, UCF-Modeling and Simulation, Aerosim Flight Academy, Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AIM), TechSource, Full Sail University and Seminole State College of Manufacturing and Engineering.

On Day two, we asked our business partners from the previous day, along with Casselberry Commissioner and Owner of Pro Air Heating and Air, Mr. Andrew Meadows, to join us for our "Day of Innovation". Teachers and business partners were given brief articles to read and were asked to identify their "aha" moments from the articles. Our teachers were divided into small groups with one business partner at each table. I was truly impressed with the rich discussions and dialogue between the teachers and business partners. After the table talks, the Business Partners conducted a panel Q & A for the teachers and were able to articulate the status of current applicants, the importance of developing specific characteristics to be viable candidates for potential employment, and most importantly, what we needed to do at the middle school level to prepare our students. I want to thank our Business Partners for providing their insight and assisting us with ensuring our students will be FUTURE READY WARRIORS!

As you may already know we will not have an Open House, but we will have our annual STEM Night on Thursday, October 29th! If you joined us last year, this year will be even better! If this will be your first year, let me tell you, science and math come alive for our students at this event! Join us for interactive stations such as, "Gak Me with a Spoon", "Glo Germ", and "Mayday, Mayday". Oh and don't forget about our rockets, flight simulations and, of course, fire! STEM Night begins at 5:30 pm, with a free spaghetti dinner for your entire family and the main event runs from 6:00-7:30 pm. Our Book Fair will be open for the entire night as well! We hope to see you there!

As always, my door is always open for your suggestions and concerns. We will continue striving to provide a premier learning experience for your student.

Sincerely,  
Randy Shuler  
Principal

## ADMINISTRATION

**Mr. Randy Shuler**  
*Principal*

**Ms. Origin Call**  
*Assistant Principal*

**Mr. Martin Dunlop**  
*Assistant Principal*

**Ms. Deirdre Garnes**  
*Assistant Principal*

**Mr. Richard Burkett**  
*Dean*

**Mr. Ronald Diltz**  
*Dean*

**Ms. Brittany Rolle**  
*Dean*

## GUIDANCE COUNSELORS

**Ms. Tiffany Barnes**

**Mr. Andrew Lorenz**

**Mrs. Gaylar Mitchell**



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## Discipline Department

Mr. Ronald Diltz

7th Grade and ESE 6th, 7th & 8th Grade  
407-320-6160

Mrs. Brittany Rolle

6th Grade and 8th Grade  
407-320-6141

Mrs. Karen Kelley

Discipline Secretary  
407-320-6158



# STEM

## STEM Night

October 29, 2015

5:30-7:30 pm

5:30-6:00 - **FREE** spaghetti dinner for the entire family!

Come join us for rocket launching, boat building, flight simulations, and fire labs!

Yes, we said **FIRE!**

Raffle prizes! Book Fair! Fun for everyone!

## Dividends

Thank you to all of the Dividends that attended our beginning of the year "Dividend Coffee & Conversation" on Friday, September 18, 2015 in our Media Center. We look forward to you volunteering on our campus this year.

Thank you to all of the Dividends that volunteered for Picture Day!

As of September 30, 2015, SMS Dividends have logged 419 volunteer hours this school year. Thank you Dividends!

If you wish to register to be a Dividend, go to the Seminole County Public Schools website: [www.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.scps.k12.fl.us) and click on the link for "Dividends School Volunteer."

For more information, please contact Ms. Origin Call, Assistant Principal at [Origin\\_Call@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Origin_Call@scps.k12.fl.us).

## Millennium Middle School and Sanford Middle School Title I & Bullying Parent Night

Date: October 15, 2015

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Millennium Middle School Performing Arts Center

Come and find out what bullying is, how to recognize if your student is being bullied, learn about the Holocaust Center Resources, and what the school can do to help you and your student.

Brought to you by Sanford Middle School, Millennium Middle School, and the Holocaust Center



**Holocaust**  
MEMORIAL RESOURCE & EDUCATION  
CENTER OF FLORIDA



### Notice to Sanford Middle School Students and Parents

The Florida Bullying and Harassment Policy and the Seminole County Public Schools Bully Prevention Awareness Brochure is located on the Seminole County Public Schools website: [www.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.scps.k12.fl.us) and the Sanford Middle School website: [www.sanford.scps.k12.fl.us](http://www.sanford.scps.k12.fl.us) as an electronic document. Please read and review the Bullying and Harassment Policy and the Bully Prevention Awareness Brochure with your child.

If you have any questions about the Florida Bullying and Harassment Policy and/or the Seminole County Public Schools Bully Prevention Awareness Brochure please feel free to contact Brittany Rolle, Dean of Students (407)320-6141; [Brittany\\_Rolle@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Brittany_Rolle@scps.k12.fl.us).

## Book Fair

The Book Fair will be at Sanford Middle from Monday, October 26th to Friday, October 30th during school hours. It will be open after school hours during STEM Night on October 29th starting at 5:30 PM. Hope to see you at the Book Fair!

STAY

CONNECTED

## Stay Connected with the Latest Warrior News!

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FB: [facebook.com/SanfordMiddleSCPS](https://www.facebook.com/SanfordMiddleSCPS)

Text @smsnews1 to 81010



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## Sanford Middle School is better...with YOU! Parent Involvement is what makes a Good school, GREAT!

"We invite every **parent, teacher, student, business and neighbor** to join with PTSA, as we work to make Sanford Middle the best it can be for our students...our most precious resource."

- **Membership pays for itself!** Check this link for the benefits of PTSA membership, <http://www.pta.org/benefits>

Please Like the SMS PTSA Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Sanford-Middle-PTSA/>

**Key Child Advocacy Issue this year:** Seminole County PTA voted unanimously to support the **Sunshine State Solution**. Need your help to contact your local legislators to let them know you are in support of this solution. Check the [www.flsenate.gov](http://www.flsenate.gov) and the [www.myfloridahouse.gov](http://www.myfloridahouse.gov) to find your legislators and make your voice heard.

### Sanford Middle School PTA Membership Application

PTSA welcomes you as a member, please complete the information below:

Primary Role: Parent/Guardian Grandparent Teacher/Staff Student Other \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name 1 Mr. Ms. Mrs. : \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name 2 Mr. Ms. Mrs. : \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name 3 Mr. Ms. Mrs. : \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name 4 Mr. Ms. Mrs. : \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile #: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add me to the PTA email list for updates and news.

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please add me to the PTA email list for updates and news.

Student(s):

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_ Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Level of PTSA Involvement (Select one or more)

- Membership only; I am not able to volunteer my time or donate supplies/ money
- Willing to donate supplies, money,... to support PTSA activities
- I am interested in volunteering my time for PTSA activities. Please send me information on how to participate in PTA.

**PAYMENT INFORMATION** (dues include membership in National PTA and your state PTA):

Annual Membership Dues: \$ 5 per person

Please make checks payable to: **Sanford Middle School PTSA**

LOCAL OFFICE USE:

Payment Method: Cash Check—check # \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

For two memberships— Provided a voucher for a gift from School Store (while supplies last)

## Mark Your Calendars...

October 12th	SAC Meeting @ 5:30 PM
October 16th	End of the First Quarter
October 19th	No School/Teacher workday
October 20th	Start of the Second Quarter
October 23rd	Report Cards go home
October 26th to 30th	Book Fair Week
October 29th	STEM Night 5:30 PM (Book Fair open)
November 3rd & 4th	6th Grade Health Screenings
November 6th	Honor Roll Breakfast for First Quarter
November 7th	Fall Festival 10 AM to 1 PM
November 9th	SAC Meeting @ 5:30 PM
November 12th	Magnet Night 6:30 PM
November 18th	Progress Reports for 2nd Quarter go home
November 19th	Teach-in Day
November 25th, 26th & 27th	No School for Thanksgiving Break

## Business Partners

"Partners in Excellence" is a broad-based program, which promotes business involvement in the Seminole County Public Schools. It is an exchange of human resources between a business and a school/department or the school district which could include internships, tutoring, classroom presentations, job shadowing, student and/or teacher recognition, field trips, student work displays, apprenticeships, mentoring, or a unique program designed by an organization and the partner school."

Thank you to **Panda Express** in Sanford for hosting a Sanford Middle Spirit Night on September 3, 2015!

Thank you to all of our Business Partners. They support Sanford Middle, so please support them!

Jason Deli

BJ's

Areosim Academy

IHOP

Cancer Society

Glorious Hands

Goodwill of Sanford

Pizza Hut

Woody's BBQ

UCF

Seminole County Cooperative Extension

University of Florida IFAS Extension

Sanford Police Department

Sanford Pest Control

Dr. Christopher Rawle Orthodontist

Central Florida Zoo

Aviation Institute of Maintenance (AIM) - Casselberry, FL

Full Sail

TechSource

Seminole State College

Northrup Grumman

Please contact Ms. Origin Call, Assistant Principal at [Origin\\_Call@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:Origin_Call@scps.k12.fl.us) or [scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:scps.k12.fl.us) if you wish to help SFMS as a business partner.

## Language Arts Department News

### *Sanford Reads and Writes!*

#### From the Language Arts Curriculum Leader:

Reading is a vital skill, and one that needs to be nurtured both at school and at home. I encourage you to read along with your students, be in a magazine, a newspaper, or a novel that they might be reading for class – or even just for fun. Reading and writing are life-long skills that students need to develop and hone to use in any industry they choose to work in in the future, and reading daily for enjoyment is a great habit to model for your family.

If you're looking for a novel to read with your students, I suggest picking up one of the Sunshine State Young Reader Award (SSYRA) winners for the 2015-16 school year; the list is available on the Sanford Middle website under the "Students" section. Your student can fill out a reading response paper for each book, return it to their Language Arts teacher, and be recognized for participating in SMS's SSYRA program each quarter. The novels on this year's list are a great selection, and definitely high interest!

Also, if you would be interested in presenting to our students for Teach In on Thursday, November 19th, please contact your child's teacher. It's great to have community members come in and interact with our students!

*Liz Kelsey, Language Arts Curriculum Leader*

#### 6th Grade

The Sixth Grade Language Arts Department has exciting plans for your children this year! We first want you to know that your children are adjusting very nicely to the middle school environment. We hit the ground running and we are deep into our curriculum. We study the traits of published authors in order to learn the writing trade from the best. We explore times, places and experiences through reading books, passages, poems, lyrics, magazines, quotes, contests... We discuss and find evidence in various pieces to uphold our observations. Authors such as former reporter Margaret Peterson Haddix, Florida author Carl Hiaasen, and poet and writer Maya Angelou help us grow in the knowledge we need to acquire skills for our various standards. A few of the skills we are learning are to identify author's purpose & perspective, figurative & sensory language and central idea. We learn a skill, then identify it in others' work, then apply to our own writing, and finally identify it in our work. We have practiced the strategy of close reading which requires us to read and reread a piece for various purposes, in order to help with comprehension. We are steadily building academic vocabulary and vocabulary in context. Please check your child's planner for specific assignments and due dates. Also, feel free to contact us with any questions you may have during the year. Thank you for supporting what we do at school by talking to your child at home each night about what they are learning and doing in class each day. It will be time well spent because we are a team...home, student, school.

*Alisa Wendorph, Joe Ragoonanan, CathyJo Williams, Jen Rosichan, Susan Cline, Karen Pharis, & Kathryn Murrow*

#### 7th Grade

The 7th grade Language Arts team is off to a great start as the first few weeks are behind us! The beginning of the school year is always a challenge as everyone is getting back into the routine of using critical thinking skills on a daily basis. Students in Miss Murrow's, Miss Cecil's, Miss Warren's, and Mr. Walters' class have already hit the ground running with the new curriculum! This year brings a new textbook with several online eCampus components, which makes learning more accessible than ever! These students have begun the year by focusing on Central Idea, Plot, Conflict, and Argumentative Writing. Each teacher has done an excellent job of challenging students to think deeper about a question or prompt than ever before. With this great early momentum, the 7th Grade Language Arts Department is set to take on newer and greater heights.

*Matt Walters, Terri Warren, Katie Cecil, Kathryn Murrow & Sydnie Pleasants*

#### 8th Grade

Our 8th Grade ELA students are moving forward at a Warrior pace! Students are reading a variety of literary and non-fiction selections that focus on the journey from childhood to adulthood. They are busy analyzing theme, central idea, interactions, and text structures. Students are practicing the strategy of close reading (please ask your students about the 3Is!) In addition, students are further developing the skill of citing textual evidence from multiple sources to explain and support their analysis and reflections. Students are constantly collaborating and working cooperatively to problem solve and complete tasks. Students continue to build vocabulary focusing on definitions, literal and figurative meanings, usage, and relationships to other words. Several students are competing in the Vocabulary Challenge, while others are participating in the Drug-Free Poster and Essay Contest, The Florida State Poets Association Student Poetry Contest, and the Writes of Spring Contest (essay, short story, or poem). We want to send a big "SHOUT OUT" to our students for completing the summer reading assignments! You all deserve to be recognized and applauded for the hard work and time invested. Keep reading and writing!

*Kelly Woods, Elizabeth Kelsey, Sydnie Pleasants & Nicole Wesley*

#### Spotlight on Student Writing – 8th Grade

##### *What's In My Journal?*

*By Molly Kucharski*

Unfinished scripts, ideas crumples up like paper and a back behind the words. A life retold so storybook, it's humorous. Corrected grammar, endless eraser shavings and an existential crisis that wears my thoughts like a backpack. An obsessive need to watch other people's lives; most that don't even exist. Ambitions that the future can't even live up to. Dreams to be my savior, or lead to my demise. A deleted, re-downloaded, then deleted again type social life and a longing desire to be just like "them". Thoughts both angelic and demonic resting in the pages of a life that I'm not ashamed to say, is mine. *Mais la lumière brillera toujours à travers les nuages.*

##### *What's in my Journal Poem*

*By Nicholas Bland*

Monsters in the dark, behind you  
But disappear when you turn around  
Fleeting ideas, written before they vanish  
Wanting 40 hours in the day, for things to do  
A world through a cynical lens  
Bits of information, worthless to all but me  
Complaints of disguised people  
Who never show their true colors  
Yearning for snows touch  
But stuck in a tropical prison  
Unreadable writing, except for me  
Water wars with friends  
Deductions made from observations  
Reminders for a forgetful mind  
A little ball of chaos that is me.

##### *What's In My Journal Poem*

*By: Donya Sedaghat*

Songs that speak to your heart. A scary imagination that seems to never end. The sweltering heat of a fire. The winds of a hurricane. Clocks that tick faster in good times and slower in bad ones. The eternal war inside. I am my best friend, yet my worst enemy. Obsessions that lead me into another world where I do not exist. Numb mornings. Annoying habits. Masks and laughter. Times where I don't understand what's troubling me, or what's making me happy. Distractions are lifeguards that save me from drowning. life as a non-stop loop roller coaster: definitely mine.

### *What's In My Journal*

*By Ryan Gibbons*

Odd things, like uneven staircases, and John Green books.

Mean things, like a snake, spider, or a hallway.

But pasta, too.

True originality, and bright colors swirling every which way.

A true nerd, with an eye and a heart for planes.

Some pages for soccer, but a novel for swimming. Self-motivation.

A flame inside, fueled by these sheets, the insults, the words, that burn brightly, invisible to all.

And a fear of uncertainty.

A person nobody truly knows, but everyone thinks can't hear what they say.

Ribbons on one page, medals on another, but still space for more, and hope for zones.

Someone's mysterious, determined life. Probably mine.



## Yearbook

Now is the time to make sure your student doesn't miss out on this year's yearbook. You can preorder AND save money if you order before November 1. The cost is \$38, but after November 1st it will be \$40. We also have limited space for you to bring recognition to your favorite student(s) by reserving space in the recognition section. Whether your desire is to purchase a yearbook and accessories or purchase a recognition ad, all you need to do is go to [www.jostens.com](http://www.jostens.com) to place your order. If you have any questions please contact Stephanie Keener at [stephanie\\_keener@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:stephanie_keener@scps.k12.fl.us) or (407)320-6150.

### *What's In My Journal?*

*By Willow Keith*

Fear filled things like the unknown. Sad things like a box of memories, picking up the pieces, heartbreaks. But music boxes, too. A genius when they agree, but fools when they don't.

Hints that are forged. Flames fading as the ashes rise and new names take place of the old. cluttered wrecks. Falling forever. Clever escapes.

Music never dying. Tiny monsters taking you

Imbalances and crying. Friends and love.

Shadows trying to pull you in, every chance they get. Not existing and being someone new. This

### *What's in my journal?*

*By Sabrina Bonadio*

Worst case scenarios.

Last week's to-do list. Stories of fear itself.

Yet also the absence of it. Even the shadows of evil.

Black and white images crammed into my mind.

Pages filled with thoughts they are unraveling at the seams.

A giant self-destruct button creating the darkest ends of the world.

Yet also stories of life and beauty, shining through the

dark lines and scribbles. Memories of laughter and pranks.

My kindergarten teacher. Stories of true love that speaks in tender tones.

Doodles of robots and dogs prancing in a field. Sarcasm. A re-cap of

last night's episode of Criminal Minds. List after list my plans

for the future. Results from almost every BuzzFeed quiz.

Thoughts circling my mind from my most boring classes.

Missing pages that were pulled out in rage. Read one page, and learn a chapter. Read all of them and know a story. A story about me.



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## Adolescent ADHD

Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

- Easily Distracted
- Disorganized
- Difficulty Finishing Tasks
- Absent Minded or Forgetful



Florida Clinical Research Center is conducting a clinical research study for adolescents ages 12-17 years old who have ADHD. Qualified participants will receive study related care and investigational study medication at no cost, and compensation for travel will be available.

Insurance is not required for study participation.



**407-644-1165**  
[www.FLCRC.com](http://www.FLCRC.com)

## Mathematics Department News

### Sanford Solves!

#### 6th Grade Math

We are starting Unit 1 on Numbers. Students will be able to add, subtract, multiply and divide with multi-digit numbers and find common factors and multiples. Students will expand their understanding of the system of rational numbers to include fractions and integers (positive and negative numbers).

#### 6th Grade Math Advanced

Sixth grade advanced students have been very busy! These stars have already completed fraction and decimal operations and are currently learning to solve rates and ratios problems. By the end of this unit, students will be able to apply rates and ratios to real world problems, for example finding the best price through unit rate. As we move into the second quarter, 6th grade advanced students will take their first look at expressions and equations and solve for a variable.

#### GEMS Math

We started the year with a Bridge diagnostic which identified any weaknesses or skills forgotten from their PRIME class. Based on how the students did on their Bridge diagnostic, the students received a prescription skills packet that included mini lessons and practice problems. There are a total of 6 Bridges, 5 during the 1st semester and 1 during the 2nd semester. This course is rigorous and fast paced building on previous skills therefore it is imperative that students complete all assignments. This quarter focused on Rational Numbers, Integers, Expressions, and Equations. This quarter has flown by and we will soon begin the next quarter with: Ratios, Proportions, Percentage, Circles, Surface Area, and Volume. Students will be taking a county nine weeks exam to monitor the mastery of standards taught during this quarter and it will be 20% of their grade average.

Please check Skyward / eCampus / Schoology.com (Mrs. Wong) for valuable information regarding assignments and coming attractions in your child's classes. Thank you for a wonderful beginning of the year.

#### 6th Grade Intensive Math

Students in intensive math are using the TTM program. Think Through Math (TTM) is a computer program designed to accelerate students in mathematical skill mastery. Using this individualized and adaptive instructional tool, students receive immediate feedback at every step as well as unprecedented access to live, state-certified online math teachers. This literally means that as students work at their computers, they receive just-in-time intervention—precisely when they need it! Based on the data gleaned from the program, teachers will work with students in small groups for intensive, hands-on instruction to build both conceptual understanding as well as application skills.

Intensive math students will be graded based on the individual pace of the student. The students will have 3 grades each week. The first grade is the TTM post quiz average (the lesson grades each week). The second grade is TTM goal (whether or not the goal the student set for themselves is met), and TTM Journal (having students take notes while doing the TTM lessons).

Students may work on the TTM program from home. The website is <http://lms.thinkthroughmath.com>. The username and password is the same one they use during class.

#### 7th Grade Math

Seventh grade students have been working to solve multi-step real life and mathematical problems with positive and negative numbers during the first 9 weeks. They learned how to model adding and subtracting integers and rational numbers by using a number line and counters. They made pictorial representations of multiplying and dividing integers and rational numbers. During the second 9 weeks, the students will concentrate on Unit 2 and 3. They will work in engaging cooperative learning activities to solve real-world mathematical problems involving ratios and proportions in Unit 2 and numerical and algebraic expressions, equations and inequalities in Unit 3

#### 7th Grade Intensive Math

The 7th grade intensive math classes have started the year off with some team building and problem solving activities. During the second week of school we are hoping to launch the Think Through Math program. Think Through Math combines live teacher support, unique student motivation, and engaging adaptive instruction in a web-based learning system that is proven to help students learn—and love—math! With this program each student will progress through their own individual pathway based on the student's level of understanding which builds self-confidence and inspires motivation. There will be two teachers to help individual students and be available for small and large group instruction and a para-professional aide that will supervise the students on the computer program. We are very excited to start this blended learning program.

#### 7th Grade Math Advanced

We started the year with a county diagnostic which identified any weaknesses or skills forgotten during the summer. Students received a prescription skills packet that included mini lessons and practice problems. This course is a rigorous and fast paced course building on previous skills therefore, it is imperative that students complete all assignments. This quarter has flown by with a focus on Expressions, Equations, Inequalities, Linear Equations, & Systems of Linear Equations. We will soon begin the next quarter concepts: Functions, Angle Relationships, Similar Triangles and Scale Drawings.

Students will be taking a county nine weeks exam to monitor the mastery of standards taught during this quarter and it will be 20% of their grade average.

Please check Skyward / eCampus for valuable information regarding assignments, online textbooks and coming attractions in your child's classes. Thank you for a wonderful beginning of the year.

#### 8th Grade Pre-Algebra

Our 8th grade Pre-Algebra team has kicked off our year in our brand new GO MATH textbooks, and begun our first unit on Real Numbers and Scientific Notation. Students have also gotten their first experience with AMPLIFY Math Projects, where they work as a team to solve a real life problem by applying the mathematics learned within the unit covered. As we continue to journey through the first quarter of the school year, our 8th graders will be exploring Proportional and Non-Proportional relationships in hopes of gaining a deeper understanding of linear functions. We are so excited for our new 8th graders to get a firm algebraic foundation in order to help develop their problem solving skills and prepare them for their high school math courses.



Advertise in the *Warrior Connections!*

This is a wonderful way for your company to get community recognition and exposure, and at the same time help support your local schools!

Richard Burkett • [richard\\_burkett@scps.k12.fl.us](mailto:richard_burkett@scps.k12.fl.us)

**Sanford Middle School**

### Algebra 1

We have been diligently working on writing, solving, and graphing expressions, inequalities, equations, and functions. Within these units, we have applied our learning to contextual situations set in the real-world. Guardians and students are encouraged to utilize our classroom notes and the many digital resources available via ePassport to extend classroom learning in order to be successful with the rigor required in this high school course. Soon, we will be applying graphical and algebraic methods to analyze and solve systems of linear equations in two variables.

### Algebra 1 Honors

Honors Algebra students have started year with great potential and excitement! They are finding that the high school level courses require a different mindset and approach! Everything we do in and out of class is preparing us for the End of Course Exam. All material learned now will come around again in May and therefore needs to be corrected upon; meaning, if a student does poorly, it is crucial they relearn, review and practice that material.

There are numerous resources students can use outside of class to help them be successful:

1. The online edition of our textbook: ePassport --> Instructional --> Algebra --> Student Edition. From there, students can use the TV icon to watch videos for each example and use the Calculator Coach icon which will provide students with interactive practice problems for each example, your turn, and independent practice page.
2. Extra Practice Worksheets provided by your teacher on skyward.
3. Khan Academy Videos: set up an account, search the titles of material being covered.

There is so much content to do and so little time. Keep putting forth your best effort and doing all you can!

### Geometry Honors

We have been using our compasses to make basic constructions of congruent angles, congruent segments, angle bisectors, and perpendicular bisectors of line segments. We have been exploring the areas of irregular shapes and applying these skills to solve Real-World problems. Next we will be focusing on conditional statements as well as biconditional statements, and using them to write good definitions. Using our new theorems and postulates we will begin proving lines parallel and learning the special relationships the angles they form have. Our challenge will continue with writing a two column proof and learning how to justify our answers and our steps. We will end the nine weeks with constructing parallel and perpendicular line and using the coordinate plane finding their slopes. Thank you so much to all of our parents who donated tissues and hand sanitizer to our classrooms! Ms. Green and Ms. Bouington

### 8th Intensive Math

The year has kicked off great and the 8th graders are eager to complete lessons with Think Through Math. Think through Math is a web-based program designed to cover math content for children in grades 3 through Algebra 1 according to Common Core and state standards. It is designed to supplement traditional classroom instruction, especially as a response-to-intervention tool for students. A few students were selected to receive a device to take home so that they can use it to increase their skills. Students are able to log on at home as well. Ask your child to log on at home, so that you actually see what goes on in class!!

## Science Department News

### *Sanford Inquires!*

#### Earth and Space

Earth and Space students have been investigating the nature of science and how science explores the natural world. Students have been working on experimental design and science fair planning. All students should continue to work on their science fair checkpoints.

#### Physical Science

Physical Science has just finished our unit on Nature of Science and advanced students are busy completing science fair submissions. We will be moving into Force and Motion, first exploring speed, velocity, and acceleration and then moving into the different types of forces and Newton's Laws of Motion.

#### Life Science

Life Science students began the school year studying basic Scientific Methodology. These concepts discussed will follow students through the entire year all way to the frog dissections! Life Science students are currently studying classification. Students will be using taxonomic keys to classify a wide range of organisms found within all three of the major domains. In the upcoming weeks students will begin studying cells using microscopes. Students focus on cell organelles and the associated cellular processes.

#### Biology

Biology students began the school year studying Scientific Methodology. The concepts discussed will follow students through the entire year all way to the pig dissections! Biology students recently finished studying The Chemistry of Life. Students investigated the properties of water, macromolecules, chemical reactions, and enzymes related to biology. In the upcoming weeks students will begin studying cells and cellular processes. Students focus on cell organelles and the associated cellular processes using microscopes. There will be an additional focus on photosynthesis and respiration.

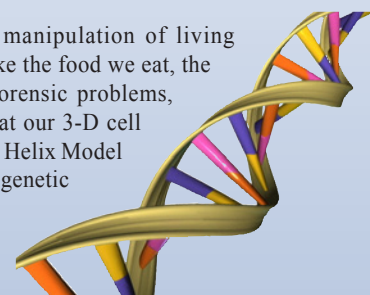
#### Environmental Science

Our SMS Environmental Science students welcomed NASA Project Manager Jim Lichtenthal to Mrs. Borglum's Science Lab and explored the technology around the current missions to monitor Earth's Greenhouse Gases and Polar Caps! This week we planted Red Mangrove propagules in our SMS Living Lab nursery. Our partnership with UCF Living Shorelines Research Project empowers students to complete real-world experiments while providing authentic solutions to our planet's CO<sub>2</sub> levels. SMS Warriors are saving our habitable planet, one red mangrove propagule at a time! Come check out the Red Mangrove Nursery outside of Building 2 (green and blue water pools)!



#### Biotechnology

What the heck is Biotech? It's the manipulation of living organisms to improve our quality of life, like the food we eat, the medical care we choose, how we solve forensic problems, and why we look like our parents! Now that our 3-D cell membrane/protein models and DNA Double Helix Model have been constructed, we are exploring the genetic changes to the food we purchase. YUM!



## Social Studies Department

### News

#### *Sanford Explores!*

##### 6th Grade World History

The 6th grade classes are studying Israel and the great River Civilizations of Mesopotamia, Egypt, India and China. In preparation, students made rivers to discover the impact that rivers have on the environment and civilizations. After completing our first Document Based Question (DBQ) writing assignment on Hammurabi's Code of Laws first quarter, this quarter we will be completing a second DBQ, this time on the Great Wall of China.

We look forward to the rest of this exciting and educational year with your student.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us:

Mrs. Akrivos	Joann_Friedman@scps.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Dilmore	Jennifer_Dilmore@scps.k12.fl.us
Ms. Heriot	Karen_Heriot@scps.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Schwartz	Meghan_Schwartz@scps.k12.fl.us
Ms. Stewart	Keri_Stewart@scps.k12.fl.us

##### 7th Grade Civics

To kick off the year in Civics students will be learning about Citizenship and the naturalization process. After, students will examine and compare and contrast from of government of the United States to other countries around the world. With the primary elections happening in February, the Civics team will be learning about Political parties early as well as election process for both the primary and general elections. To end the nine weeks, students will be studying Political Propaganda. With the new Civics curriculum, students will be conducting to DBQ's one of those DBQ's will be on presidential propaganda. Students will build on the skills they learned in sixth grade, this will help them prepare for the Civics EOC (end of course exam) in addition to the DBQs students will be required to do in eighth grade.

On January 24th Sanford Middle will participate in Celebrate Freedom Week by having a dress up day called – "Proud to be an American Day." Please check the school wide social media website for pictures of this event.

If you have any further questions please contact your student Civics' teacher:

Ms. Coursin:	Jennifer_Courisn@scps.k12.fl.us
Mrs. Schwartz:	Meghan_Schwartz@scps.k12.fl.us
Mr. Pou:	Miguel_Pou@scps.k12.fl.us
Mr. Sutton:	Adrian_Sutton@scps.k12.fl.us
Mr. Keogh:	Craig_Keogh@scps.k12.fl.us

##### 8th Grade US History

US History is studying the Revolutionary period of our country's history. We are learning how we moved from being 13 diverse colonies to one united nation. This nine weeks we will be focusing on War of Independence and the development of the Constitution that gave us the structure of government we still use today. We will be learning to appreciate the sacrifices and contributions necessary to achieving and preserving freedom by studying such American heroes as George Washington, Alexander Hamilton and Thomas Jefferson.

All IB students are continuing to work on their National History Day projects.. Projects are due either right before or right after the Winter Break, but various parts of it are due before that (please check with your teacher for specifics). Our school fair will be in January so please stay tuned for the exact date. If you are interested in volunteering as a judge or helper, please notify your child's history teacher.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us:

Dr. Dorman	Brian_Dorman@scps.k12.fl.us
Mr. Keogh	Craig_Keogh@scps.k12.fl.us
Mr. Smith	Rick_Smith@scps.k12.fl.us
Ms. Stewart	Keri_Stewart@scps.k12.fl.us
Mr. Travis	Mike_Travis@scps.k12.fl.us

## Reading News

### *Sanford Reads!*

#### Reading is Fundamental

We are off to a great start to the 2015-2016 school year. Here is what is going on in our fabulous reading classrooms. After establishing routines, our reading classes read articles on brain research and how we learn best. We found it rather informative and learned ways to make sure we are getting the most out of our current classes. Then we moved on to clarifying strategies. We have spent some time working on creating a tool box of skills to use when we come across a word, phrase, or passage that we do not understand. To end the nine weeks we will begin working on how to identify main ideas and supporting details.

As always, please encourage your student to complete their Read and Respond homework nightly. It is their only homework requirement. They should read for twenty minutes and write a short summary or the main idea of what they read. This document needs to be signed by you, so this would be a good time for you to discuss what they are reading with them. Additionally, please encourage them to study their vocabulary words. Teachers have sent vocabulary lists via e-mail and have made copies available to students. We are doing in depth word studies on these words so students may be asked on their vocabulary tests to provide a meaningful sentence using the word, synonym or antonym, or give the definition.

Last but not least, we want to welcome back our veteran reading teachers- Ms. Heller, Ms. Pérez, and Ms. Pharis and welcome aboard our two new to Sanford reading teachers- Ms. Campbell- and Ms. Moye. We are so excited for what this school year will bring. Reading Rocks!!!

#### 2015-2016 Sunshine State Young Readers Award Program:

SSYRA -- READ AS MANY BOOKS AS YOU CAN during the school year! WHY?!? Because there are great prizes and reward parties to enjoy! How do you participate? By successfully reading and completing the reader response activity based on these award-winning books. The reader response activity is the same activity that was used for the SMS 2015 Summer Reading requirements-and we will accept summer reading forms done on Sunshine State books! **To be eligible for the quarterly incentive party students must turn in their assignments to their Language Arts teachers by the following deadlines:**

- *1st Quarter:* Read and turn in 4 Reader Responses by October 16th.
- *2nd Quarter:* Read and turn in 3 additional Reader Responses by December 16th.
- *3rd Quarter:* Read and turn in 3 additional Reader Responses by March 16th.
- *4th Quarter:* Read and turn in **at least 3** additional Reader Responses by May 2nd.

If students complete the assignment for ALL 15 Books, in addition to the incentives, they become eligible for recognition at the SMS Award Ceremony in May. You will find these books at the public libraries and at book stores. (if you purchase a title, please consider donating it to your Language Arts teacher once you have read it.) ALL Language Arts classroom teachers will have titles to check out very soon! **SSYRA books will also be available at the SMS Book Fair on October 26-30!**

**Please visit <http://www.sanford.scps.k12.fl.us> under the Students Tab, under SSYRA for all information and Reader Response forms!**

*Please contact Kelly Berman [ckberman5@gmail.com](mailto:ckberman5@gmail.com) with any questions.*

#### 2015-2016 SSYRA Book List

*Counting by 7s* -- Holly Goldberg Sloan

*The Eighth Day* -- Dianne K. Salerni

*Eye of the Storm* -- Kate Messner

*Jack Strong Takes a Stand* -- Tommy Greenwald

*Jungle of Bones* -- Ben Mikaelson

*The Night Gardener* -- Jonathan Auxier

*Project Jackalope* -- Emily Ecton

*The Secret of Rover* -- Rachel Wildavsky

*Seeing Red* -- Kathryn Erskine

*Skink - No Surrender* -- Carl Hiaasen

*Stung* -- Bethany Wiggins

*Tesla's Attic* -- Neal Shusterman and Eric Elfman

*The Testing* -- Joelle Charbonneau

*This Journal Belongs to Ratchet* -- Nancy J. Cavanaugh

*Twerp* -- Mark Goldblatt



## Technology Department News

### *Sanford Computes!*

#### Digital Photography

In Digital Photography we have finished the first stage of pictures with the 3 projects Frame, Uncluttered, and the Rules of Third. We will be moving into the different styles of pictures and creation with both the Pose project and the World Trip. Pose will ask the students to make a silhouette of themselves and use the pictures of their friends to fill up the space of themselves, and the World trip we will be taking a trip around the world with pictures.

#### iJourney – Mr. Hernandez

Students in iJourney are furthering their semester-long mission of learning about potential career paths and discerning what steps they'll need to take to get there. They are immersing themselves in developing 4 year plans for high school and creating a virtual house for their semester project called "Museum of Me", where they discuss their future career ambitions and lifestyles.

#### iJourney – Mr. Springfield

Students in iJourney will be pushing forward with getting our careers written out and start on making our Museum of me that is a Power Point presentation that shows how the students are moving into the projects and learning about themselves and how they will move out into the world with an idea on what they may like to do.

#### A Plus

A Plus is working on component parts of the computer now with hands on access to pc parts and also learning on how they fit together to form a computer itself. We will also be researching the different parts and components to see how these components make up computers.

#### Video I

Students are busy creating background overlays for a variety of potential commercial products. This project requires students to work in teams to develop, produce, review, and edit short 30 second overlays.

#### Video II

Students have embarked on a new venture with our field reporting class. Students go out on campus in teams to interview students on topics related to SMS. We are also going into classes on campus to video students conducting experiments, building robots, and working in teams to come up with solutions to a host of different problems.

#### Video III

Students continue to produce news segments for our school as well as editing footage recorded by our other classes.

#### Aeronautics 1

Aeronautics 1 is off to a fast start. They have been learning about the history of early aviation and learning about the heroics of the Wright Brothers, Charles Lindbergh and Amelia Earhart. The students are doing well with their tutorial missions and learning how to take off, land and flying from point to point. In remembrance of 9/11 the students flew a mission around the skies of New York City and did a fly-by of the Statue of Liberty and the World Trade Center. In the coming weeks the students will learn about World War 2 aviation and recreate flights around Pearl Harbor and Europe.

#### Aeronautics 2

Aeronautics 2 just finished their first block on the history of jet aircraft from Chuck Yeager breaking the sound barrier to our newest jumbo jet airliners. The students planned and flew a successful mission around the skies of central Florida. Currently, they are planning missions around various parts of the United States. Once their plans are done, they will then fly them in the skies over America ranging from San Francisco to St. Louis to Orlando.

#### Aeronautics 3

Aeronautics 3 just finished their first block on the history of the space program. The students learned about the early heroics of Alan Shepard, John Glenn and the 12 men who have walked on the moon in their lessons on the Apollo Space Program. The students have flown more complex missions helping with a shuttle launch and are now preparing their own mission plans involving how to account for wind and magnetism in planning accurate flight missions.

#### Interior Design

Students in Interior Design will be finishing their 2 point perspective drawing of a Universal bedroom. This has been a 2 week project allowing the students not only to learn perspective, but also how to make the most use of limited space of the room.

#### Architecture 1

Arch 1 students are also completing their front elevations of a structure. This requires them to work in scale so their elevation on graph paper appears as much as possible as the original. This requires a lot of correcting and adjustments as they explore architecture.

#### Programming and Game Design

Mr. Sarafan's gaming class is in the middle of their first long-term production, a series of text-based adventure games in the spirit of the classics Adventure and Zork. We hope to have our completed games ready among other playable demos for this year's STEM night.

#### Applied Physics

Mr. Sarafan's Physics class is wrapping up their investigation of magnetism and transitioning into our electricity and circuits unit. Students can look forward to numerous electronics labs and projects, as well as more on the history of the development of EM theory: Faraday through Tesla.

#### Web I

Web I students are beginning to understand, develop and apply their knowledge of Hypertext Markup Language. Students are working with colors, graphics, links, headers and lists to create and format basic web pages.

#### Computer Applications II/iConnect

Computer Applications II/iConnect classes are developing and applying their online skills working with e-mail software, One Drive accounts, and e-Campus. Students were also introduced to computer hardware components and their functions. Students are enjoying working in a blended learning environment.

#### Intro to Information Technology

IIT students are applying their knowledge of word processing skills to practice for their MOS Certification Exam in Word. We encourage all students to practice at home using the Gmetrix and LearnKey programs. Good Luck to all students on the upcoming MOS Word Certification Exam the last week of October.

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sponsor advertisers know  
you appreciate them!**



## Interventions Department News

### *Sanford Learns!*

We are excited to get going for the 2015-2016 school year. We welcome our new ESE staff members: Carmen Abell, Yindia Cruz, Brenda Knight, and Megan Stowell. All are a tremendous asset to our department.

We all agree with Mrs. Jindal that our classes have gotten back into the swing of things. We are working hard and making gains.

## Humanities and Wellness Department News

### *Sanford Enlightens & Strengthens!*

#### Physical Education

This year we welcome a new PE coach to the program. Coach Williams is excited to join us and will also be coaching JV basketball.

As a department we just completed fitness testing with the fitness classes. We plan to do the mile when it get a little cooler. Each class has now started their individual units.

Volleyball and Cheerleading have started for the fall season. Please have your students listen for announcements about other team sports.

## Guidance Department

Mrs. Tiffany Barnes	6th N-Z & 7th Grade	407-320-6143
Mr. Andrew Lorenz	ESE & Gifted All Grades	407-320-6140
Mrs. Gaylar Mitchell	6th A-M & 8th Grade	407-320-6144
Mrs. Jaye Mitchell	Guidance Secretary	407-320-6154

### Nine Weeks Q1 Exam Schedule 2015-2016

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10/05/15	10/06/15	10/07/15	10/08/15	10/09/15
Elective Exams	Elective Exams	Elective Exams	Elective Exams	Elective Exams
Regular Monday Bell Schedule	Regular Tuesday Block Bell Schedule	Regular Wednesday Block Bell Schedule	Regular Thursday Bell Schedule	Regular Friday Bell Schedule
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
10/12/15	10/13/15	10/14/15	10/15/15	10/16/15
Exams:	Exams:	Exams:	Exams:	Elective Exams
ELA Social Studies	ELA Social Studies	Math Science	Math Science	Make-up Exams (All Subjects)
Block Schedule	Block Schedule	Block Schedule	Block Schedule	Regular Friday Bell Schedule
Even Periods: 2, 4, 6, 8	Odd Periods: 1, 3, 5, 7	Even Periods: 2, 4, 6, 8	Odd Periods: 1, 3, 5, 7	



### *Girls & Boys Cross Country*

**First Practice is on Monday, October 26th.**

All runners must have:

1. Release & Consent Form
2. Sports Physical
3. Form 985

### *2015 Girls & Boys Volleyball Schedule*

October 7	vs Markham Woods	Girls HOME	Boys Away
October 14	vs Greenwood Lakes	Girls HOME	Boys Away
October 21	vs Teague	Girls HOME	Boys Away

Boys Varsity County Tournament – Saturday, October 24th @ TBD

Girls Varsity County Tournament – Saturday, October 24th @ Sanford MS