



SHARK CURRENTS

Spanish River Community High School

5100 Jog Road
Boca Raton, FL 33496
Phone: (561) 241-2200

Administration

Mrs. Allison Castellano
Principal

Mrs. Goron
Assistant Principal

Dr. Allen-Jefferson
Students A-D

Mrs. DeMarzo
Students E-K

Mrs. Carril
Students L-Q

Mr. Sollod
Students R-Z

November 2023
Volume 7 • Issue 2

The Spanish River Vision

Our vision is to create a nationally known high school highly regarded for its academic excellence, while helping all students prepare for and be accepted into post secondary education or careers.

A Message from the Principal

Dear Shark Nation,

It's been a fantastic start to the school year as our students have come back ready to learn! We appreciate our families' that came out to our Open House and hope you enjoyed getting to meet our amazing teachers and staff. Our students are doing a great job keeping their IDs visible and helping us ensure we have a safe campus.

This is a friendly reminder that students are to leave campus after the last bell of the day. The only students that should remain on campus are those staying with a sponsor or coach for an after school sponsored activity. Students should NOT be heading over to Regency after school to wait for extended periods of time for rides home. Regency has asked for our cooperation in ensuring the safety of all its shoppers and please note there is NO supervision at Regency after school. Thank you for ensuring your child takes the bus home or is picked up in a timely manner from the Spanish River campus. Keep in mind that students can only be picked up in the faculty lot on the corner of Jog and Yamato. The parking lot on Jog Road at the Regency light is the student lot and has hundreds of student drivers that are trying to leave the school safely at the bell. As we say all the time, safety is not always convenient but it's extremely important!

We are proud to have THIRTY College Board National Scholars recognized this fall for their excellent academic performance on the PSAT and AP exams last year. Please see the newsletter article for more information on this recognition program and the students recognized. In addition, Spanish River High School has THREE National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. (Their names will be announced publicly soon!) National Merit semifinalists are chosen from PSAT performance their junior year. We encourage our Juniors to sign up for this PSAT assessment on October 26th (all 9th and 10th graders test and are paid for by the district). We applaud all of these students on their tremendous academic achievements and truly appreciate the fact that our students take their assessments seriously.

We continue to make upgrades and enhancements to our campus. We would like to thank our PTSA and generous family donors that have assisted with our efforts. Please join and help support their biggest fundraiser later this year Auction4Sharks and/or advertise your business 'On the Fence'. Help take River to the next level with your support of our teachers and campus beautification efforts.

If you would like to help support our Athletics program please reach out to our new Athletic Director, Christopher Suarez at Christopher.Suarez@palmbeachschools.org.

Our fall athletes are off to a great start and I hope you'll come out and support their hard work and dedication at one of their home games. Hope to see you soon!

Your proud principal,
Mrs.Castellano



Mrs. Allison Castellano



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The Galleon

Galleon

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Testing News

2023 – 2024 SAT Dates & Deadlines

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Deadline for Changes, Regular Cancellation, & Late Registration
November 4, 2023	October 5, 2023	October 24, 2023
December 2, 2023	November 2, 2023	November 21, 2023
March 9, 2024 (DIGITAL)	February 23, 2024	TBD
May 4, 2024 (DIGITAL)	April 19, 2024	TBD
June 1, 2024 (DIGITAL)	May 17, 2024	TBD

2023 – 2024 ACT Dates & Deadlines

Test Date	Registration Deadline	Late Registration Deadline (Fee Applies)	Photo Upload and Standby Deadline
December 9, 2023	November 3, 2023	November 17, 2023	December 1, 2023
February 10, 2024	January 5, 2024	January 19, 2024	February 2, 2023
April 13, 2024	March 8, 2024	March 22, 2024	April 5, 2024
June 8, 2024	May 3, 2024	May 17, 2024	May 31, 2024
July 13, 2024	June 7, 2024	June 21, 2024	July 5, 2024



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CollegeBoard Recognition

Congratulations to the following awardees on being selected for the College Board National Recognition Program. These students earned this recognition because of their academic achievements in school and outstanding performance on the PSAT/NMSQT®, PSAT™ 10, and/or AP® Exams. They've accomplished these milestones during an immensely demanding period of their high school career. We couldn't be more delighted to share this great news.

Alexander Martone	Derek Max	Kimberly Sanon
Alexandra Malmstrom	Enzo Cunha	Lucas Breit
Alyssa Perez	Graciela de Mena	Lukas Estrella
Amy Etienne	Jacob Quinonez	Natalia Ray
Bryan Da Silva	Jesse Cohen	Nibori Patton
Cheyenne Phillips	Johanna Velez	Ovidio Calvet
Chloe Paulino	Jolene Cuevas	Patrick Belo
Christopher Martinez-Cruz	Joseph Alkon	Ryan Weinstock
Dannika Horace	Juliet Rojas	Sofia Talmadge
Dante Massetta	Kevin Netto	Vanessa Sanchez

FY23-24 Student Parking Decal

Decal cost is \$75.00 paid only on Schoolcash Online. Parking Decals are only issued to students that have a valid driver's license and meet the following requirements:

1. Mandatory volunteer hour requirement (12th grader needs 20 hours, 11th grader needs 15 hours, 10th grader needs 5 hours). The volunteer hours must be recorded in SIS prior to receiving a decal.
2. Student must have a 2.0 cumulative GPA.
3. Student must be free of financial obligations.

The application is a Google form that must be completed with all attachments uploaded. The link to this form is found on the Spanish River website under the Student & Parents tab. You will need to upload 4 items to the form - the current vehicle registration, a current insurance card, your Florida driver's license and the parking decal receipt from schoolcashonline. Failure to provide the required documentation will delay your application. You will receive an email to your school email once the decal is ready to be picked up in Suite Silver.



"Shark Currents"

November 2023 • Issue 2

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The School District of Palm Beach County

3300 Forest Hill Blvd.

West Palm Beach, FL 33406

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Counseling Corner

Students' Last Name	Counselor
College & Career Coach	Suzanne Riggle Suzanne.Riggle@palmbeachschools.org
ELL students	Mrs. Mariliana Abramowicz Mariliana.Abramowicz@palmbeachschools.org
A-Ch	Ms. Lisa Sollod Lisa.Sollod@palmbeachschools.org
Ci-F	Mrs. Kaitlin Wheatley Kaitlin.Wheatley@palmbeachschools.org
G-K	Mrs. Melissa Loyacona Melissa.Loyacona@palmbeachschools.org
L-M	Ms. Janet Kalman Janet.Kalman@palmbeachschools.org
O-Sb	Ms. Natalie Havens Natalie.Havens@palmbeachschools.org
Sc-Z	Ms. Marissa Passatempo Marissa.Passatempo@palmbeachschools.org

We were happy to welcome students back to Spanish River High!

College & Career Coach

The Spanish River High School College & Career Coach, Mrs. Riggle is available to speak with you regarding your post-high school options. To schedule a meeting, please visit; <https://suzanneriggle.youcanbook.me> or email her directly at suzanne.riggle@palmbeachschools.org. She will also be available to answer any questions during both lunches on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the College and Career Room (directly across the hallway from Suite Silver). No appointment is necessary during lunches, just stop in.

Join the College & Career Google Classroom for a multitude of different college-related information. The code to join is [zfhborc](#). Students should make sure to sign up for any college visits they may be interested in!

Senior Graduation Visits

School counselors visited all 12th grade students during English classes at the beginning of September to check graduation tracks. We also had a presentation in the theater during an open house for parents of these seniors. To view this presentation you can find this on our website under Spanish River High / School Info / School Counseling Services.

Tutoring

National Honor Society tutoring will be starting up again soon. This is FREE to all students and available during both lunches. It will

be located in the 3000 building in Mrs. Stravro's room #3103. Stay tuned to the morning announcements for the dates.

Attendance

Attendance is critical to learning for all students. Statistics show that those who attend all their classes on a regular basis have a higher academic success rate. Please ensure your child attends school on time!

Understanding Semester Grades, Credits, & GPA

The school year is divided into 2 semesters:

- 1st semester is from August-December and is made up of the grades from 1st quarter (40%), 2nd quarter (40%), and semester exams (20%). Students will receive .50 credit for each first semester class they pass.
- 2nd semester is from January-May and is made up of the grades from 3rd quarter (40%), 4th quarter (40%), and semester exams (20%). Students will receive .50 credit for each second semester class they pass.
- EOC subject-area classes are year-long courses with 1.0 credit awarded for successful completion of the course. These classes include Algebra 1, Geometry, Biology, and U.S. History. The final course grade will consist of 70% in the coursework (grades from 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th quarter and the midterm exam) and 30% in the EOC exam grade.

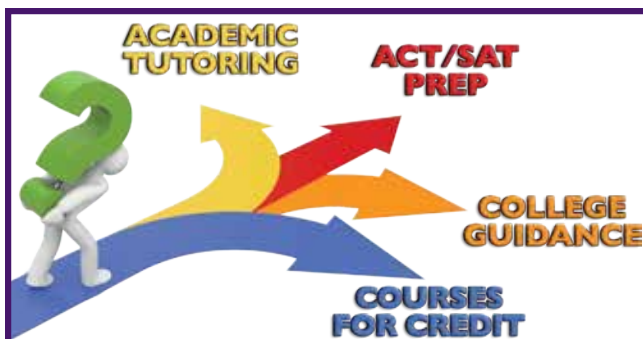
The semester and final grades received in each class impact the cumulative GPA, and are based on a 4.0 scale: A = 4.0 B = 3.0 C = 2.0 D = 1.0 F = 0.

**Honors courses are weighted at 1.125 times the standard scale. - AP, IB, AICE, and Dual Enrollment courses are weighted at 1.50 times the standard scale.*

Coffee with the Counselors

We have started our virtual coffee talks for parents/guardians of all grade levels. Please join us live at 8am using this Google Meet code: meet.google.com/tbb-zozc-yuu.

Here are our upcoming dates for these coffee talks in 2023: September 29th, October 27th, and November 17th. If you are not able to make it live you can view the recordings on our website. You can find this under Spanish River High / School Info / School Counseling Services / Coffee with the Counselors. We post all our presentations on our school website so you can access them at a time convenient for you.



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Sports Corner

REMINDER FOR ALL SPORTING EVENTS

Parents just a reminder regarding Palm Beach School District rules for sporting events. All persons, bags and vehicles may be subject to search. Only clear bags are permitted inside the venues - all other bags with the exception of diaper bags, are prohibited. There is NO re-entry, if you exit you cannot return. No outside food or beverages are allowed and there is no loitering outside of the venue/school gates or parking lots. Unruly conduct, disruptive behavior, use of profane or obscene language will result in immediate removal from the event.

Girls Tennis Team

Interested in Girls Tennis? Stop by and see Coach Jones any lunch period for more information. **SPANISH RIVER GIRLS TENNIS OPEN COURT(CHANCE TO COME AND PLAY BEFORE TRYOUTS).**

ALL PARTICIPANTS NEED TO HAVE A NEW ATHLETIC PACKET COMPLETED ONLINE.

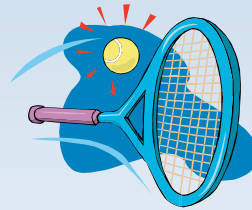
DATES:

- DEC 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20
- TIMES: 3:15 PM TILL 4:30 PM
- TRYOUTS WILL BEGIN JAN 16

ANY QUESTIONS SEE COACH JONES in PE OR EMAIL

- john.jones.2@palmbeachschools.org

All Participants please bring drinks, towel and racquets!!



Girls Softball Team

Congratulations to the Lady Sharks Softball Team on winning the 7A State Championship! The Sharks defeated the #1 team in the state Lake Brantley in the semi-finals by a score of 13-9 in extra innings, followed by a nail biting 1 run game against Tampa Plant to win the championship with a score of 3-2. If you are interested in playing softball for our upcoming season please reach out to Coach Ranfone in room 8120 or email at Crystal.Ranfone@palmbeachschools.org. Tryouts will begin on January 22, 2024. Go Sharks!



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Academy News

We are excited to welcome back all students at Spanish River. We have had welcome back activities for each Academy! Please follow us on instagram @river_academies to find out all of the exciting events that our students participate in.

Save the Date

The Showcase of Schools will be held at the South Florida Fairgrounds - Expo Center on October 17th from 4-8 pm. The Showcase will provide information about the District's Choice Programs so families are informed about the programs when the application opens on November 1.

Academy Night at Spanish River will take place on Wednesday, November 8th from 6-8 pm. Academy night will showcase our four choice programs; American History and Law, Biotechnology, Early Childhood, and Entrepreneurship and any clubs associated with these programs. Please share this information with any of your friends and family who want more information about Spanish River High School.

American History and Law

The Spanish River American History and Law Academy had 13 students selected to be a part of Congressman Jared Moskowitz's Congressional Youth Cabinet. The Congressional Youth Cabinet is a nonpartisan initiative that exposes students to the importance of youth advocacy in America, the legislative process, and ways that citizens can serve as effective agents for positive change. Members of the cabinet will have the opportunity to provide Congressman Moskowitz with their own ideas about solving pressing issues facing young Americans. The Congressional Youth Cabinet provides student members with a unique opportunity to connect with other elected officials, peers, and community leaders. Through this partnership with Congressman Moskowitz, Spanish River students will gain a solid understanding of how they can make a positive difference in their communities and their country. Congratulations to the following students: Dannika Horace, Jacob Quinonez, Jacqueline Levine, Sean Silverstein, Jolene Cuevas, Danika Ernst, Raina Hanapole, Laney Williams, Brooke Taylor, Shawn Klevan, Kaylee Terry, Ilonah Fernandes, and Neshama Dreyfuss.

American History and Law Academy students will also be celebrating Constitution Day at the School District of Palm Beach County by watching a mock trial.

Entrepreneurship

Good Afternoon Parents, Our DECA season is officially underway! We are currently looking for Parents and Businesses to support our DECA chapter. There are many ways to support. To support, you or your company can simply join as a member, you can volunteer to be a judge for the District DECA Competition January 12th, 2024, you can be a representative at our next career fair, or you can donate time and/or money to our program to help. Whether it be one or all, we appreciate anything you can do to support our students. The QR code below takes you to our membership form and we will follow-up. Thank you for your dedication to our chapter. We are hoping for another great year and competition season.



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Safety Reminders



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November 30, 2023	Junior Ring Orders	Lunches
	Cap & Gown/Graduation	Gym Lobby
December 14, 2023	Junior Ring Orders	Lunches
	Cap & Gown/Graduation	Gym Lobby
January 18, 2024	Cap & Gown/Graduation	Lunches
		Gym Lobby
February 29, 2024	Cap & Gown/Graduation	Lunches
		Gym Lobby
March 28, 2024	Cap & Gown/Graduation	Lunches
		Gym Lobby
March 28, 2024	Cap & Gown/Graduation	5:00pm - 7:00pm
		Front of Theater
April 25, 2024	Cap & Gown/Graduation	Lunches
		Gym Lobby

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