



News

& Views

Spruce Creek
High School

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL SPARGER

During the third nine weeks, we had much to celebrate. Our **chorus, band, jazz band, orchestra and dance teams** competed in their **performance assessments**. Superior and excellent ratings were awarded to these outstanding groups. Our **Maker Faire** was a huge success with great creativity on display. This was the **fourth annual event sponsored by the AITR team**. The drama department had a very successful run of the musical **"Mean Girls"**. Three seniors earned a **Congressional nomination to a Military Academy**. Twenty-one seniors signed a letter of intent to continue to play their sport at college. Lastly, thank you also to the SGA for continuing the tradition of placing a **Valentine card on each student's locker**.



For most students, the final quarter of the school year will be the most crucial as students must complete the **Florida Assessment of Student Thinking (FSAT), End of Course Exams (EOC), Advanced Placement (AP) and International Baccalaureate (IB) exams, and semester final exams**. This school year, most of these tests will be administered **during the month of May**. As a result, it will be important for students to **be present on the day the test is administered or make sure to make-up a missed test before the end of the school year**:

Beginning May 4	United States History End of Course Exam
Beginning May 8	BEST English Language Arts (ELA) grade 9 Reading
Beginning May 9	BEST English Language Arts (ELA) grade 10 Reading
Beginning May 10	Biology End of Course Exam
Beginning May 12	Algebra 1 End of Course Exam
Beginning May 15	Geometry End of Course Exam
Month of May	IB exams at Cross Roads Church
Month of May	AP exams
May 8 – May 12	Senior Final Exams
May 30 – June 2	Underclassmen Final Exams

I would like to congratulate and celebrate with our seniors as they will be our **48th graduating class**. Seniors are reminded to stay current with the dates and times of the many senior events. Please check our **website (www.sprucecreekhigh.com)**, check your VCS2GO email each day, or inquire with **Chris Zablo**

continued on next page...

MESSAGE FROM PRINCIPAL SPARGER *continued...*

our **Activities Director** (crzablo@volusia.k12.fl.us) regarding the many exciting senior events.

As one group prepares to leave, the remainder of our student body is preparing for another year of high school. During the month of February, **current 9th, 10th and 11th graders** selected classes for next school year. Parents are encouraged to **contact their student's high school guidance counselor** with specific questions regarding **course selection for the 2023/24 school year**.

It is fun to celebrate all the wonderful things happening at our school. If you go to our school website at sprucecreekhigh.com you will see a feed of all our **social media accounts**. Visit that site often and follow us on these accounts. In today's world, sometimes these positive messages get drowned out by other voices. Make a commitment to celebrate these positive stories and let those be the predominant messages shared.

I look forward to seeing you during the final nine weeks of school as we bring our **2022/23 school year to a close**. We will celebrate together the graduation of the **Class of 2023**.

It's a Great Day to be a Hawk.



NHS News

Hello Readers,

As the end of the year looms, we begin to reflect on the year that we have had. Our chapter of NHS managed to lead or assist in over 70 initiatives this school year. Our members will have put in nearly 7,000 hours of community service by the beginning of May. We're proud to have strived and succeeded in being a positive force of change in the community at large. Whether it was the cleanups, the fundraisers, the community events, or even just helping set up events here at the school, our NHS and its members were not just there and giving a helping hand, but taking charge and being leaders of their own right. I'm immensely proud of my fellow officers and members for the tremendous amount of effort and dedication they put in for this successful year. Despite this reflection on the year, I'm looking forward to our club finishing the year strong and not easing up

on our mission to leave no stone left unturned in the pursuit of improvement. I'm also looking forward to the great achievements the next set of officers will find in the coming year. I wish everyone of you readers a pleasant time during the hectic end of the school year and hope you are all fine and well.

Thank you,

Gavin Dain

President of NHS 2022-2023

Back to the Nest Foundation's 2nd Annual Golf Tournament



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An EXTREMELY IMPORTANT NOTE from Ms. Batten & Dr. Sparger

Hello Hawks,

It is **essential** to **check your vcs2go.net email account daily**.

Your teachers, administration, and testing coordinator use this communication method to **give you important updates and information**. Checking your vcs2go.net email daily will allow you to keep current with school events, clubs, sports, and essential testing information you may need.

Please **check your email daily**.

It's a GREAT day to be a Hawk!

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From the Counseling Department

Hello Hawk Families,

The end of the school year is fast approaching with many events and deadlines to come. All students' volunteer hours must be turned in at the Guidance office on or before **May 5th**. Remember, hours cannot be carried over into next year, so please turn them in by the deadline. Any college bound student that has taken Algebra 2 or higher should register for the SAT and/or ACT for college acceptance and to meet testing requirements for a Bright Futures Scholarship. If you qualify for free/reduced lunch, see your Counselor for SAT/ACT fee waivers. Also, make sure you are on track to complete two years of a foreign language (Ex.: French 1 and French 2) before the end of your Senior year.

The SAT and ACT can also be used to earn concordant scores to meet high school graduation requirements if you have not already passed the FSA ELA and/or Algebra 1 EOC/Geom EOC. Testing requirements are listed below.

FSA ELA or concordant scores needed:

FSA ELA: 3

SAT: ERBW: 480

ACT: average of 18 on English & Reading

Algebra 1 EOC or concordant scores needed:

Algebra 1 EOC: 3

Geometry EOC: 3

SAT Math: 420

PSAT NMSQT Math: 430

ACT Math: 16

Juniors should be working on volunteer hours, researching colleges, and setting up summer college tours. Freshman and Sophomores, have you explored all the clubs, sports, and activities available at SCHS? Get involved! Freshmen need at least 5 credits to roll up to 10th grade and Sophomores need at least 11 credits to be a Junior next year. Juniors will need 17 credits to become a Senior. All students should finish the year strong with passing grades to stay on track for graduation. If you need to remediate any courses you did not pass this year, talk to your Counselor about summer opportunities to get caught up with your credits.

All students who are currently Dual Enrolled please note that summer and Fall registration begins **April 3rd and ends May 8th** or May 26th for Fall. For newly dual enrolled students, registration begins **April 6th**. If you are interested in learning more about Dual Enrollment, see Mrs. Meadows, College and Career Counselor, to discuss eligibility and also visit www.sprucecreekcounseling.weebly.com/dual-enrollment.

Please visit the counseling department website at www.sprucecreekcounseling.weebly.com throughout the year for valuable information and updates. You may also request an appointment with your Counselor through the site.

Soccer

The 7th Annual Creek Soccer Summer Camp will take place the weeks of June 12-16, June 19-23 and June 26-30. Campers can attend as many weeks as they prefer. Camp hours are 9am-Noon. The camp is open to boys and girls ages 7-17. The cost is \$85 per week and there are sibling and multiweek discounts. High school and college coaches will conduct the camp along with varsity boys and varsity girls players. Contact Coach Costner by email at krcostne@volusia.k12.fl.us for more information.

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Spruce Creek High School
Volusia County School Board
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JROTC

Hello Hawks! So much has happened within the new year and we cannot wait to tell you all about it!

We start the year out discussing our After Action Review (AAR) comments used for our Annual Military Formal. During this process, each platoon goes through the three phases: planning, execution, and recovery. The platoons talk about things we should improve, sustain, and implement going forward. Within the following weeks we continued to stay in the classroom, we were taught about the different types of thinking maps which consist of the bubble map, double-bubble map, circle map, bridge, map, and more. A good example of this is when we are writing our "Goals Essay" at the beginning of the year, we use the bubble map to plan before writing it. Each different map is designed for certain tasks. Going into the week of January 16th, we started to learn about first aid and common injuries, one thing we learned was RICE an acronym that stands for rest, ice, compress, and elevate.

On the 20th of January, was the Teacher of the Year banquet! With this, Spruce Creek High School was asked to present the colors. The cadets that made up this color guard was C/2LT Lisa Marie Kiad as Lead Rifle, C/PNI Wesley Jonston as our National Flag, C/SSG Preston Bates as our State Flag, C/SSG Allison Rodriguez as the Army Flag and C/CPT Kari Anna Kiad as the Rear Rifle, and last but not least, C/2LT Anna Johnston as our Color Guard Commander. We thank these cadets for their hard work and representing our school!

Moving into the month of February, we start out the month with a special visit from our United States Navy surprising students all throughout Spruce Creek High School with the NIMITZ Expo. This event started out with students getting in line to get a digital naval dog tag and then going inside a trailer to get a mission (this mission was meant to imitate the rescue of a U.S. Navy Seal). The first half of this trailer, being an instructional video, described the mission and the second half, using the advanced technology of Virtual Reality, was the execution of the mission. Upon the near ending of this event, there were additional activities outside of the trailer, from seeing who can do the most pull-ups between males and females and a photo booth to capture this exciting event! They also had Navy recruiters to talk to interested students.

During February, we also started our Drill Team and Color Guard season, which includes practice for the Unarmed Platoon sequence and the

Color Guard sequence. This team is about commitment, self-discipline, pride and ownership, teamwork, and esprit de corps. In order for the team to grow and succeed, we must work together to achieve a common goal. The common goal is to pass the JPA Unarmed Platoon Drill and Color Guard Sequence and qualify for the State Competition. If you want to be the best you will have to train and perform like you are the best. There will be nothing less expected of you then to give 100% commitment to the team and yourself. And as for Color Guard, it is an honor to be selected to take part in any Color Guard event. They also need the same qualities mentioned for Drill Team. These cadets learn the sequence by themselves and fellow cadets, then practice the Color Guard sequence to become as precise as possible. Practices started on the 26th of January for both Color Guard and Drill Team, they are conducted every Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 3:45pm to 5:00pm. On February 11th, both the Drill Team and Color Guard had their first competition against other JROTC programs at Lake Buena Vista High School. Our Drill Team placed first, while the Color Guard Team placed fourth. All the more while, on February 18th, the drill team and color guard had another competition but this time at Hagerty High School. This time, the Drill Team placed second and the Color Guard placed first! Congratulations to both teams for their efforts and representing Creek so well!

On the fourth of March, the Drill Team and Color Guard continued to make big strides as they competed in the State Qualifier; placing first place in the categories Spruce Creek signed up for! Congratulations to both teams!

Continuing in the month of March, we are going to be preparing for our JPA Inspection which stands for *JROTC Program for Accreditation*. JPA will be used to evaluate JROTC Programs as a whole, as defined by public laws, contracts, Army regulations, and USACC policies to ensure compliance with minimum program criteria. All programs are required to undergo JPA every three to six years. To show what we know and how hard we have worked. Over the past few years we have been training for JPA via exams, inspections, and by practicing the interviews and presentations. This is a very important event and time for us as a whole program and wish us luck!

That's all for now and we hope to see you next time!



■ ■ ■ HOOAH! ■ ■ ■

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Asian Association News and Views Report

MARCH 21, 2023

Spring Break is over, and we are into our final leg of the 2022-2023 school year. We'll blink and end-of-the-year banquets will be held, and awards will be given; we'll have a blast at Grad Bash, enjoy our senior breakfast; We'll be inspired at Baccalaureate and wear our graduation gown at the Ocean Center. In that blink, we will be high school graduates! In the meanwhile, we welcomed the Year of the Rabbit the end of January, and we had our club photo taken for the yearbook. We made Valentine cards for patients in the cardiac ward at Halifax as a service project in February. On March 9th we had our annual meeting with the South Asian Club as host. We learned about the 8 countries: India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Afghanistan. We joined the French Club March 25th and had a blast visiting Universal Studios and Islands of Adventure. Korea will be our April meeting's emphasis with a meal supplied by the generous LeAnh's Restaurant. We will learn why South Korea is considered a land of contrasts. It's a peninsula in East Asia divided into two countries: North Korea and South Korea, separated by a demilitarized zone since the Korean War (1950-53). We will also vote for our new board members. They will be installed on May 11th which will be our last general club meeting. We look forward to our pot luck gathering to celebrate the conclusion of an active and vibrant cultural club. We wish our seniors the best as they prepare for college and may the Asian Association in 2023-2024 have a grand school year!



Team S*M*A*S*H 2152 News

A super huge congratulations goes out to the team's fearless mentor Kim Stears for winning the coveted Woodie Flowers Award at regional competition in West Palm, Florida. The Woodie Flowers award is only given once at each regional competition for outstanding work as a robotics mentor and teacher for FIRST INSPIRES (firstinspires.org). Her nomination by all of her robotics students was genuinely appreciated by the FIRST organizers at the regional competition. It recognized her longevity and participation in all things FIRST and all thing robotics.

The team did really well after putting themselves together from a rough road starting with the year everyone was out for Covid. By the time the team could compete again, all the veterans were mostly gone and although they've come back to mentor all our newbies, it's still a difficult transition to go from just learning programming and robotics to producing a robot that can compete!

The team didn't stop with one competition this year. They traveled to Tallahassee where they competed against 39 other teams from all over the United States and the world. Their robot is doing well against seasoned teams and the kids all love the competition atmosphere. If you'd like to participate, please contact kmstears@volusia.k12.fl.us. There is room for anyone to join.



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Dear Potential Sponsor,

I am a student in the **Academy of Information Technology and Robotics (AITR)** at Spruce Creek High School in Port Orange, Florida. We are home of the award winning Volusia County Schools FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics team: **Team 2152 S*M*A*S*H**. Under our team we compete in two levels of FIRST robotics, FTC and FRC and house 6+ teams each year.

Our program has created a revolutionary approach in education. The focus is on a realistic curriculum. It is project-based, with an emphasis on technology (computer programming, database development and management, computer and mobile device repair, gaming simulation and design, web design, and much more). The technology used challenges us individually and as a team. In addition, students who were previously on the path of failure in traditional classes have changed direction and become successful.

In addition, through our FIRST robotics teams, we have been able to bring students to competitions all around Florida, South Carolina, Louisiana, and to Houston, TX for the world championships. Team 2152 S*M*A*S*H has competed at worlds for three consecutive years (2017-2019). As part of competition robotics, we spearhead the Volusia County School District's (VCS) efforts in being a FIRST School District. Our goal is to provide Total District Implementation (TDI) to all VCS schools.



1652 Taylor Rd, Suite 303
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386.433.2244



*Minors must be accompanied by a parent/guardian

What we do:

- Provide students in the AITR program the opportunity to learn valuable skills that include: engineering, computer programming, leadership, design, CAD (computer-aided design), coaching, and communication.
- Get others in the community involved in FIRST programs. In addition to FRC, we also host a FIRST LEGO League Qualifying Tournament. This competition is for ages 9-14. We also help mentor teams in Brevard, Flagler and Volusia Counties. We are working with Volusia County to bring FIRST robotics to every school in the County as the first FIRST Total District Implementation County in Florida.
- Our Robots on the Road (ROTR) team travels to businesses, schools and community events to demonstrate our robots and the programs available to all students
- Provide onsite visits to local businesses within the Volusia Manufacturers Association (VMA), different STEM conferences, competitions, and field trips that show curriculum in action.
- We also compete in various other competitions such as TSA and SeaPerch. Participating students are eligible for over eighty (80) million dollars in scholarships.

All of this costs money. One bus trip alone is an expenditure of \$2,000. At a bare minimum, the robotics program can cost \$25,000. This year our Academy has set a goal to compete in two regional competitions and one international competition and this increases costs substantially.

How can you help us? There are many ways to help my academy: financial support, providing supplies or services, volunteering and mentoring are just a few examples. You will be proud to be a participant in education as a valuable sponsor. Detailed sponsorship information is enclosed.

Thank you for considering the sponsorship. For additional information or questions, please do not hesitate to call our director, Mrs. Kim Stears, at 386.322.6272 X 37785 or email at kmstears@volusia.k12.fl.us.

Thank you for supporting my future and innovative education.

Gratefully,

AITR Student

ESTIMATED EXPENSES FOR 2022-2023

First Robotics Competition	\$54,000
Basic Registration cost is \$6,000 which includes our local Florida Regional Competition. \$5,000 for each additional competition (2 regional events). A basic kit of parts is included in the registration; however building a successful robot requires additional parts. We spend an additional \$5,000 on robot parts. This year we hope to attend, and bring students to the FIRST World Championship, in Houston, Texas in April.	
Field Trips	\$6,000
AITR attends as many field trip opportunities as possible so our students can have first-hand real-world experiences to enrich their education. For each trip we must pay the following: the cost of attending the event, school bus transportation, and the cost of substitute teachers to cover for teachers attending the field trip.	
Travel	\$20,000 +
We travel for community outreach, competitions, and other events.	
Our travel budget includes bus, airfare and hotel costs for each of our students and mentors.	
Business and Team Spirit	\$5,000
This money covers the cost of team spirit items, like the purchase of our shirts, banners, buttons, beads and posters. We also use this fund to start other fundraisers and to meet the ongoing organizational and administrative needs.	
Technology	\$28,000
This money covers the cost of additional technology provided to the students, including but not limited to site licenses for software, designs programs, tablets, printers, ink, digital cameras, and 3D printers.	
Total = \$113,000.00+	

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Following are our sponsorship levels, while any donation is greatly appreciated, with donations as low as \$5.00 and above you/your organization/company will receive the following exposure in the Academy websites, programs, t-shirts or events.

HONORARY MEMBER	Under \$500
Your name or company name will be listed on our Academy's website or any program and be honored at our year-end banquet.*	
BRONZE SPONSOR	\$500.00
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SILVER SPONSOR	\$1,000.00
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GOLD SPONSOR	\$2,500.00
Your name or logo will appear on our FRC robot.*	
PLATINUM SPONSOR	\$4000.00+
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*Includes recognition listed in preceding levels.



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The Young Republicans News

MARCH 21, 2023

The members of the Young Republicans of Spruce Creek High School participated in the annual Wreaths Across America on Saturday December 17, 2022. Our members helped distribute wreaths to volunteers at Edgewater Cemetery who then placed the wreaths on the gravestones of US veterans. All over the world, people were doing the same thing at the same time: placing wreaths on veterans' graves and saying the veterans' names out loud in honor and remembrance of their service. While we were at the Edgewater Cemetery at 12 o'clock noon, Mrs. Keith was on vacation placing wreaths on veterans' graves at Nashville's National Cemetery at 11 A.M.

We learned The October 2, 2022 Lincoln Day Dinner had been moved to Sunday, January 22, 2023 due to Hurricane Ian. We readily helped decorate the Ocean Center tables for 800 attendees with programs and buttons. Our members then helped put up flags and

serve as man power for those setting up booths in the Ocean Center lobby. Then our members helped direct guests to their tables after which we took our places to enjoy the meal and the program of the movers and shakers of the Volusia County Republican party. The Key note speakers were Jim Jordan and Michael Waltz while Tom Leek served as Emcee.

We worked on our 2022-2023 scrapbook, took down our December 7th REMEMBER PEARL HARBOR bulletin board. Then put up our Black History Month bulletin board titling it: BLACK REPUBLICANS at our February 10 meeting. This featured pictures of Clarence Burgess Owens, Wesley Parish Hunt, Timonhy Eugene Scott, Candace Amber Ownes-Farmer, Hiram Rhodes Revels, and Byron Donalds.

On January 27th, we had our club picture taken for the yearbook but several members missed our slotted photo time in the gym.

At our March 3rd meeting, we had roasted chicken and worked on several scrapbook pages. Our last two meetings will take place in C-09 on April 7 where we will elect officers for next year and finish our scrapbook. AND on May 5th we will have our end of the year party. Looking forward to continually helping put Republicans in public office.



**Don't Forget to
CHECK YOUR EMAIL DAILY**