



SPCAS NEWS

May 2018



Sunset Park Center for Accelerated Studies

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Principal

Dr. Tammy White

Assist. Principal

Keri Beth Brown

Mission

We will create a child-centered learning environment where ALL children will learn at high levels.

Vision

At SPCAS the faculty and staff will...

- Purposefully collaborate.

- Empower students to discover, develop, and accelerate academically, creatively, and socially.

- Use practices that are research based and responsive to the needs of our students.
- Collaborate and communicate with all stakeholders to ensure student success.

Upcoming Events

April 30th - May 4th - Teacher

Appreciation Week

April 30th - All devices to remain at school

3rd - PTO Meeting & Chorus Performance

10th - 2nd grade to Zoo

11th - Last day to purchase ice cream

15th - Chick-Fil-A Spirit Day

18th - Field Day

23rd - Terrific Kid Program

24th - 1st Grade Writing Celebration & Awards @ 1pm

25th - K5 Graduation 10am @ American Legion

25th - 5th Grade Promotion 12:15pm @ American Legion

25th - Last Day of Challenger

28th - No School (Memorial Day)

29th - 5th Grade End of Year Cookout

11am-1pm @ SPCAS

30th - Full Day of School

31st - Report Cards go home

31st - ½ Day for Students (Dismiss @ 11am) (Last Day of School)

Message from Our Leader: Dr. White

Dear Sunset Park Families,

With the flip of the calendar it says June, and the end of another school year is upon us. Now is a time for reflection, a time for thanks... and, unfortunately, some goodbyes.

Thank you to our PTO parent leaders...Kim Martin, Erin Thorne, Amy Hudson, and Kathryn Suthers. People willing to step into these positions are special, and I sincerely want to thank each of them for their service to Sunset Park. When there was a need, these people filled it! So as one set of amazing parents move on, a new group, up to the challenge, moves in. We will open up the process for selecting our new PTO board for the coming year this month. I look forward to working with these folks and the organization that they will lead next year. To support the needs of the Sunset Park community, it takes the work of many. Thank you, in advance, for taking on these responsibilities.

Parents and legal guardians can now go online to pre-register for the 2018-2019 school year. The online registration system will be open until June 15, but you are encouraged to complete the process early so you can enjoy your spring and summer knowing your student is ready for the new school year. Simply visit www.rock-hill.k12.sc.us/register to enter the registration portal. Each account is unique to each student. Please use your child's Canvas username and password to login and get started. Once you are logged in, you will be able to update information. You will see some questions that are "locked". If changes are needed to be made to a "locked" question, you will be required to bring supporting legal documentation to the school to make the change. If registering more than one student, please be sure to have the unique username and password for each student at the time of registration. **All questions should be directed to our registrar, Dana Dieguez. You may reach her at 981-1260.**

After submitting your online registration, please bring the required document(s) to Sunset Park during school hours through June 15.

- Proof of Residence

- If applicable, custodial court order

This two-step process will allow you to update your student's information from the comfort of your home before visiting Sunset Park to submit the required documentation. If you do not have Internet access, we invite you to visit our school to begin the online registration. I hope that everyone has a great summer!

Tammy T. White, Ph.D.

Principal



Message from Mrs. Brown:

Ways to Keep Students Engaged Over the Summer

Summer Reading- Reading is one of the easiest ways to keep a child's mind engaged during a break from structured educational activities. Looking for advice on what to read? Hit up your local library. Many libraries have reading competitions that kids can take part in and offer reading programs that can keep your child busy for the entire summer break. Don't have a local library in your area? Participate in the [Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge](http://www.scholastic.com/summerreadingchallenge) online!

Get outside and explore - A trip to the neighborhood park or a nearby forest can be a terrific learning experience. Have your child go into nature equipped with a book.

Advance their education- Visit a museum of art, history, natural history or science. Go to a zoo or aquarium. Many museums have one day or evening per week offering free or reduced admission. Take advantage of museum education programs and classes like pottery, painting, fused glassmaking, bird watching, scientific experimentation or photography. Have your child try a new class like gymnastics, trampoline, karate, dance or music classes. The first class is often free, and summertime can bring low attendance so it's a great time to try new activities in different venues they haven't seen before.

Get Crafty- Pick up a cookbook for kids from the library and have them follow an easy step by step recipe. Or, get them outside to construct a bird feeder. The sky is the limit, but the key is to have them doing something rather than passively watching television or playing on electronics.

Learn online - There are a wide range of fantastic and free resources for just about every type of learner. Some of the most popular games that encourage creativity for younger children include drawing game [SketchUp](http://www.sketchup.com), building online with [Lego Digital Designer](http://www.lego.com/digital) or creating a digital flip book with [FlipSnack](http://www.flipbook.com). Additional free apps such as [World's Worst Pet](http://www.worldsworstpet.com), [Cargo-Bot](http://www.cargobot.com) and [Rocket Science 101](http://www.rocketscience101.com) can help your child brush up on their vocabulary, flex their brain muscles or even launch a rocket! If these examples aren't exactly what you're looking for, a simple search for educational apps in your App Store can provide more options.

Volunteer Opportunities- Encourage older children to stay active in the community during the summer by volunteering for a local organization. Volunteering provides valuable experience by helping children develop leadership and job skills, exposing them to potential career opportunities, and helping them make their own professional connections within their community.

Stay Active & healthy- In addition to academic risks, children can also be at an increased risk of weight gain when they are out of school during the summer months. Take advantage of the warmer weather and keep active outdoors.



Parents/ Guardians:

I can't believe we only have one month left in school. This has been a fantastic school year, and we have had the opportunity to cover so much. During classroom guidance in grades K-4, we have continued with our Safer, Smarter Kids curriculum. However, our 5th grade classes have been given the opportunity to discuss the elementary to middle school transition process. Excitingly, our 5th graders have also been provided the opportunity to meet with one of our Rock Hill School District middle school counselors to discuss the transition process as well. As you know, transitions can be difficult for everyone; for young people, one of the most difficult transitions is the one from elementary to middle school. Although this transitional period can cause worries, there are many ways that parents can help students during this transitional time. Here are a few tips:

- Listen and validate your child's feelings about the change
- Let your child know you care about them with extra hugs/nice notes and support
- Visit your child's new school together
- Help your child feel prepared in every way he/she can (school supplies, school clothes, healthy breakfast, etc.)
- Explain the rules/procedures of school and how things will work
- Role play going to school and what things may be like
- Allow your child to possibly sign-up for an extra-curricular activity in order to make friends and feel like he/she belongs

Likewise in the month of May, our 3rd-5th grade students will take the SC READY and/or SCPASS Test. Standardized tests such as these can sometimes create stress for students, which impacts how well they do. Therefore, it is the perfect opportunity to talk about test taking skills. During classroom guidance, students will participate in lessons to help get their minds ready for the testing challenge. If you notice your child more worried or anxious, please direct him/her to me so that I can provide tools and strategies that can also be practiced at home. Some strategies will include: Breathing and calming techniques, ways to create healthy study habits, and ways to help build confidence & visualize success. As always, please know that I am available should you wish to speak with me regarding your child's needs at Sunset Park. Have a Marvelous May!



Media Center News from Mrs. Gray:

R-E-A-D-O

Students who return their R-E-A-D-O form by August 31st will receive prizes donated by Domtar.

York County Library Summer Reading Program

Libraries Rock! is the theme for The York County Library's Summer Reading Challenge that will begin June 4th – July 27th. Registration can be done at any location, the Bookmobile, or www.yclibrary.org. The library will offer free programs for ages birth up to age 11 during the summer.

PTO News:

May 3-PTO meeting/chorus performance at 6pm in the cafeteria

May 15-Chic-fil-A spirit day- Cherry Road location all day

Ready for next school year - what a crazy thing to think about, but the PTO is already gearing up for just that. To get plans underway, we are looking for new board members. If you are interested, please send a message to ptosunsetpark@gmail.com. We will be happy to get back to you with more information, answer any questions, and help you find just the right spot!

MUSIC NOTES FROM MR. SIMON:

The Stars at Sunset Chorus will perform on Thursday, May 3, 2018 at 6pm as a part of the May PTO meeting. We hope you will be able to join us!



A Note from Mrs. Hartgrove:

Literacy:

<http://daybydaysc.org> Features a full year's worth of activities to build early literacy skills and help young children prepare for school, and provides free access to the Tumblebooks Library of animated, talking picture books.

<http://www.abcya.com/> Educational games for children by grade level. K - 5
<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/games/> Geography and natural science games and quizzes.

*Now is a good time to get a library card for your child if they don't already have one. This will allow them to check out books during the summer.

Challenger 2018-2019

Enrollment forms are available in the school office.
Deadline for enrolling for the first day of school or any other start date in August is **July 30, 2018**.
Next available enrollment date is September 4, 2018 and paperwork must be received by August 20th.
After May 24, 2018, all paperwork must be turned in to the Central Office.



A Note from Mrs. Dieguez:

Remember if we have one day with NO tardies, then each class will receive ice cream!



FRIDAY, MAY 18TH

Please return your child's parent volunteer sheet to help us have the best day of the school year!

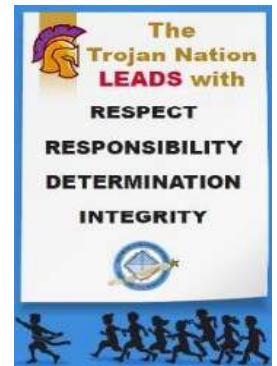
News from Mrs. Blackwell:

Congratulations to the following students that were selected as student leaders for the month of April. These students were chosen for exhibiting characteristics of determination!

Aunesti Allen
Destini Davis
Cameron Douglas
Madison Wise
Jack O'Sullivan
Mary Addison Starnes
Princess Arejola
Tiffany Simpson
Aniyah Bryson
Andrew Fincher
Morgan Young
Ross Switzer
Katarius Gill McDonald
Edison Cubbedge
Ytzel Castanada-Rivera

Bradley Gaston
Kaeden Wilson
Jaelyn Sullivan
McKenzie McElrath
Amalia Pattison
Ayden Hargett
Laurie Wiley
Santana McConnell
Kennedy Richmond
Ayana Fizer
McKenzie Jones
Chloe McClure
Jonah Kennon
Tyler Turbeville
A'Niyah Clark

Peyton Barr
Dorian Crawford
Jai'Tarius Burris
Syncere McClinton
Cameron Sims
Patrick Huber
Braelyn Jackson
Ava Walls
Kaleb Feaster
NaBrayiah Thomas
Darnell Davis
Kylie Meachum
Alex Patterson
Zariyah McCombs



Art News:

Portfolios will be going home in May. Therefore, this is your last chance to see artwork up in the halls. Be sure to come by and see all the spectacular work, because it will all be coming down soon so I can send it home. When your child brings home their portfolio please take some time with them to look at the artwork and let them tell you all about it.

Physical Education Update from Ms. Bundy:



Field Day 2018!

Our SPCAS field day is a day filled with fun and fellowship to celebrate our school year. In order for our field day to be successful, we need many volunteers. Please complete the attached Field Day Volunteer Sheet and/or return the volunteer form that has been sent home in your child's communication folder. (See attached sign up form)

Free Swim Lessons from Rock Hill PRT! Swimming is not only a fun activity but can be a lifesaving skill. Rock Hill PRT offers free swim lessons for children and adults during the summer that you may want to take advantage of. If you are interested in swim lessons for your child please visit the following City of Rock Hill webpage for more info:
<http://cityofrockhill.com/departments/parks-recreation-tourism/sports/swimming>. Registration begins May 7, 2018, lessons are free, and classes fill up quickly.

5210 League- Healthy Together



What's *Healthy Together*?

Healthy Together encourages kids and families to join the 5-2-1-0 League by following the 5-2-1-0 behaviors. The *Healthy Together* initiative is aimed at tackling childhood obesity by promoting healthy behaviors through the guidance of Carolina's Health Care/Levine's Children Hospital. The Ultimate goal is a healthier generation of kids!

- 5- Five Healthy Servings of Fruits and Vegetables every day
- 2- Two Hours or Less of Screen Time Per Day
- 1- One Hour or More of Physical Activity Per Day
- 0- Avoid sugary drinks, instead aim for water and/or low-fat milk

Please visit the [www.http://CarolinasHealthCare.org/HealthyTogether](http://CarolinasHealthCare.org/HealthyTogether) website to begin your family's journey to a healthier lifestyle. (Adapted from www.letsgo.org)

**SUNSET PARK
FIELD DAY
Friday, May 18, 2018**

Field Day is a special day for our Sunset Park students, parents, and staff. On this day we take time to play, cheer, laugh, and to celebrate a successful school year. We will have many fun activities, lunch that may be purchased, and our school wide tug-of-war contest on field day.

Our field day cannot be a successful day without the help of many volunteers. I am inviting you to make this year's field day the best one we have ever had by volunteering to help us with our stations. Field Day is scheduled for Friday, May 18th with the hope that you will be able to take time off from your normal schedule to spend some of your day with us.

Please complete this form and return it to your child's homeroom teacher if you can help us with field day. If you prefer, you may email me at sbundy@rhmail.org to let me know that you will be available to help us with our games. The success of your child's happiest day of the year depends on the help of our family volunteers.

Get Ready! Get Set! Mark your calendar for Friday, May 18th to volunteer for our 2018 Field Day. I will provide follow-up information regarding what time to be at Sunset Park, where to meet, game instructions, and other information the week of field day.

I look forward to seeing you. Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

S. Bundy

_____ Yes! I plan to help at field day this year on Friday, May 18th.

Please return this paper to your child's homeroom teacher or email sbundy@rhmail.org:

Your Name: _____

Your child's name: _____

Your child's homeroom teacher's name: _____

Contact information:

Phone Number: _____

Email address: _____