

# SONEW

SUMMER EDITION: AUGUST 2019



ISSUE 4



*Summertime*

**Student**

*Features*



# WHEN NATURE BECOMES YOUR CLASSROOM

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By Laurel Cavalier  
2nd Grade, SES

During the first four weeks of June, I attended Nature Explorers camp, hosted by the Jacobs Creek Watershed Association. The camp was held at Greenlick Dam. It was a lot of fun because we did so many fun activities. We played games, listened to stories and had yummy snacks. We also made crafts. My favorite craft was using plaster to make casts of animal footprints. I made a cast of a deer footprint. All the casts were Pennsylvania mammals.

I really liked the teachers for the camp. Terri Springer and Heather Fowler came to the camp from the Fayette county conservation district and Mr Alex (Alex Busato) was there from the watershed association. There were also many guests, such as the Pennsylvania Game commission, and an insect specialist. It was really cool. The game officer brought many different animal skins that we got to touch. The beaver fur was my favorite because it was super soft.

It was really fun to learn about nature and have fun outside in a camp with my friends.

*Nature Explorers is sponsored by Jacobs Creek Watershed Association. Both Alex Busato, alumni, and Zach Cavalier, alumni and current educator, serve as coordinators of this program.*





## TRAVELING THE WORLD AND HELPING ALONG THE WAY

By Margo Covalesky  
10th Grade, SHS

Summer for me, well, it's been absolutely incredible, from snorkeling in the Bahamas with fascinating aquatic life, to getting the opportunity to help raise money for young children fight against a deadly disease, it's all been nothing short of spectacular.

To go back into the month of June, I was surprised along with my two other brothers from my mother that we're going to the Caribbean; two weeks passed and next thing I knew, I was boarding one of the biggest boats I have ever seen. There were beautiful lights, music, and some of the best food I've personally had ever had. Every day was something new, but one activity that truly stood out was the snorkeling and surfing. I remember that early Thursday morning when the waves were calmly rippling in, and the salty smell of the breeze filled the air.

Time and time again I tried to catch one wave, but miserably failed, then I saw it, one wave out in the far distance; I began digging into the crystal water, my arms felt like jelly, but it was all worth it, because then, I had finally caught my first wave. I could see my brother and Aunt cheering me on as I came in with a snap to finish it off.

After another 3 days of music and fun traveling, it was sadly time to leave, but I'd never forget that one special time that made my whole entire vacation. Then fastly, the month of July came, and I was planning another annual fundraiser for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.

Since I was the age of 9 it's been a yearly tradition that I host and plan a small fundraiser to help support all the children from St. Jude's. Ever since the passing of my best friend Bryan, who sadly passed from Chordoma, it's always been my goal. Since his passing, my team and I have raised close to \$50,000, which is another one of my accomplishments. It helps me to feel closer to him in ways that I couldn't before.

Now, it's close to August, almost back to school, I don't know what the month of August will hold, but I know it will be memorable.

St. Jude Children's  
Research Hospital:  
Finding  
cures. Saving  
children.

*"... from snorkeling in the Bahamas with fascinating aquatic life, to getting the opportunity to help raise money for young children fight against a deadly disease, it's all been nothing short of spectacular."*



# *xoxo*

BY SCARLETT  
DAVIDOVICH

Fashion Meets Scottdale

*Hello SoNewsers,*

Scarlett spotted on the Upper East Side on her way to New York's finest LIM college. This week she got to take a look into New York's hottest summer camp of the year, Fashion Lab. She was awarded a scholarship for two classes over a span of a week. She took interest in *The Stylist* and *Fashion Buying*.

While taking *The Stylist* class she had the opportunity to view some of the hyped trends of the season. She toured a fabric flower shop where they were working on flower pieces for the Fall 2020 Vera Wang show.

Soon after she was headed north on the next subway to the Met to look at the collection from CAMP which was last year's theme for the Met Gala. I mean what additional inspiration would she need than seeing the dresses up close and personal of the IT girls like Blake Lively, Kylie Jenner, and Cardi B? Oh, and did I mention Lady Gaga?

Once the class got back to the physical classroom they were assigned the task of styling a model for a magazine of their choosing for Back to School 2020. Her team of 4 decided on the magazine Hypebae and that's when the ideas started rolling in. They started by studying the trends for the upcoming fall and never looked back. Hypebae is known for their iconic street wear look with a hint of classy and sassy. The team started brainstorming and hit the streets of New York City to find the perfect outfit.

In the afternoon she took on more the business side of things: Fashion Buying. Her group traveled to the largest Macy's in the world as their first classroom. They studied the displays and learned about markups and markdowns and how one mistake could cost you millions of dollars. But, of course, the best part? You're shopping with someone else's money. The class took a new look on shopping and the statistics behind it. The more a person is in the store, the more a person might buy. The trick is the personal customer experience. Macy's has partnered with Story's, it's a new idea where they have everything set up in a theme which happens to be camping. They partnered with Miracle-Gro and have live plants, lemonade stands, lawn games, and everything you can buy to fit your camping needs. Scarlett was spotted walking out with a portable espresso machine, only the essentials.

The week has been very eventful in the eyes of Scarlett and she's looking to further her schooling based off of her experiences from this week.

*You know you love me,*

*Xoxo Gossip Girl*





# Plus, Plus, Plus

By Joselyn Busato,  
Senior SHS

My friend held the door open for me as I left the guidance counselor's office, packets of registration papers in hand, with LESA: LECOM Emerging Scholars Academy in bold print on the heading of every page, and mosied at a less-than-rushed pace to our first period class.

"Whatever happened to you wanting be a pediatric, uh.. what was it? Elocrolo-"

"Endocrinologist."

"Yeah, that. I could see you being a doctor."

"That's what my parents said too. I think I was just drawn to it because of me being diabetic. But I don't know, I just don't think it's right for me anymore." We stopped at the vending machine and proceeded to stand without buying anything.

A nod. "So, why are you going to this if you aren't even interested in that stuff?"

"It's not that I'm not interested, I think medicine is decently fascinating." I pushed random buttons on the machine until I was satisfied with the amount of time wasted. "Plus, it'll be good for resumes. Plus plus, it's a week off of work. Plus plus plus, it'll make my parents happy that I'm doing something productive for after high school."

Another nod. "But if you aren't really serious about it, why waste the money?"

"Plus plus plus plus, it's free."

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My teacher held the door open for me as we walked into the lobby of the Seton Hill medical campus, the "Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine." I, along with the rest of my carpool buddies, were each given name tags and- "Oh no."

"What?"

## Plus, Plus, Plus Continued...



“They’re color coded.”

-and were split up into separate groups, all with members of differing schools. I stood alongside four other girls, all adorned with purple name tags that matched my own, and apprehensive smiles, that also matched my own. One from Hempfield, one from Greensburg Salem, one from Knoch and one from Yough. And one from LECOM, adorned with a purple badge that read “mentor.” Aurelia, the med student that would be our group leader for the next five days, walked us to our first lecture after a brief swapping of names, schools, intended fields of study, and favorite colors.

We sat in a row in the lecture hall, each of us never really sure when to start or end our conversations. I pulled out a folder that was given to us during introductions and looked at the color-copied schedule for the week. Microbiology, Dentistry, Pharmacology, Cardiology, something called PBL, labs, lectures, lectures, more lectures, and lunch.

“Oh nice,” one of my group members, Jordyn, leaned over my shoulder, her red curls falling in front of her face. “We get to do an anatomy lab at two today.”

“I’ve never taken anatomy, so that’ll be fun,” I joked.

“Isn’t the anatomy lab examining all of the...” Grace, redhead number two, leaned from the opposite direction, a smile forming as she paused for effect, “cadavers?”

I suddenly remembered my friend Gracen, who graduated from high school the previous year, recounting a tale of some poor, weak-stomached student that passed out as soon as he saw the cadaver on the slab when she had attended LESA.

“Oh good, I can’t wait for that.”

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My mentor held the door open for me to the campus’s cafeteria and we all filed in. After three hours of the history of osteopathic medicine, brainstorming methods of treatment for a fictional emergency care case in Problem-Based Learning and a surprisingly appetizing lunch, it was time.

“So,” Aurelia began, taking a bite of what appeared to be a pear, but was shaped like an apple. “Do we have any questions or concerns about the lecture today?”

A moment of silence, and then a skeptical grin. “How about this lab, hm?” The five of us glanced at each other and nodded.

“I just don’t want to be passed out on the floor,” Alexa blurted, one of the only things I had heard her say all day. The anxious laughter that followed made it clear that this fear was the general consensus.

“It can be pretty intense,” Aurelia said as she took another bite. “The first time I watched a live surgery, I had to excuse myself and lay on the ground outside so I could get some fresh air.”

“How did it go the next time you saw a body?”

“I was absolutely fine. This was four years ago, I’m graduating from medical school next spring.”

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The anatomy professor held the door open for our group as we entered the lab, a brightly-lit room with three large blue bags lying on silver tables. Chills were running up and down my arms, partly from the cold, partly from the room positively reeking with formaldehyde, partly from the realization that huh, those are humans.

Grace held on to my shoulder for a moment. “Can we stay together?” she whispered. I nodded and we claimed a spot in front of the first slab.

“Before we begin, I’d like to remind you all that there is nothing wrong with stepping out if you feel dizzy...” I tuned out the rest of the speech that this physician’s assistant (a job I had once seriously considered) was giving, as I had already heard it from three other people. I was certain that I was going to need to take that step out of the room. Or maybe a step out of the building. Or maybe a sprint to my car so I could drive far, far away. I get woozy just from getting blood drawn, there was no way that I could handle seeing a cadaver, it was going to be awful, I was going to get nauseous, I couldn’t handle it, there was no way that-

*Oh, that’s not so bad.*



The PA had lifted the top of the blue bag to reveal the corpse, and, much to my surprise, it looked... not like a human body. All of the muscles, the bones, the heart, the lungs, the veins, the arteries, they were all right there. And they were almost... beautiful, in a gruesome, psychopathic sort of way. And much to my surprise, my stomach never dropped as I examined the cadaver’s.

“Would you like to hold the heart?”

My group members and I leaned in close and fought for the first turn. We poked, we prodded, we examined and we marveled at just how incredible the human body really is. Getting to see every moving part working together to keep the system afloat, even the most minuscule, was utterly bewildering.

I held a heart that day. I felt lungs inflate, I tested the elasticity of tendons and the smoothness of bones. And I remained conscious the entire time.

## Plus, Plus, Plus Continued...

I held the door open for my new friends as we left the awards ceremony on Friday, the prizes that the purple group had won for earning the most participation points and a skills relay tucked under my arm. My group members swapped social media handles to keep in touch and we shared a group hug with our mentor, a proud smile on her face.

“Did this make you think any more about going through with medical school? I know you said you weren’t so sure about it,” she asked, referring to our conversation about undergrad programs at lunch on Wednesday.

“I’m still not sure if that path is right for me, but I’m definitely considering it more than I was when this all started.”

“You have time,” she said. “I’m twenty seven. It took me five years to realize that this is what I wanted to do. I was originally a zoology major, remember?”

“Right,” I laughed. “I know that I’ll figure it out eventually.”

She nodded. “Thank you, by the way.” She smiled.

“You’re very welcome. I loved getting to watch you girls get so excited about this stuff, just like I do. It was my pleasure.”

“You definitely helped open a lot of doors for me. I appreciate it.”

“No,” she said. “You opened those doors.”

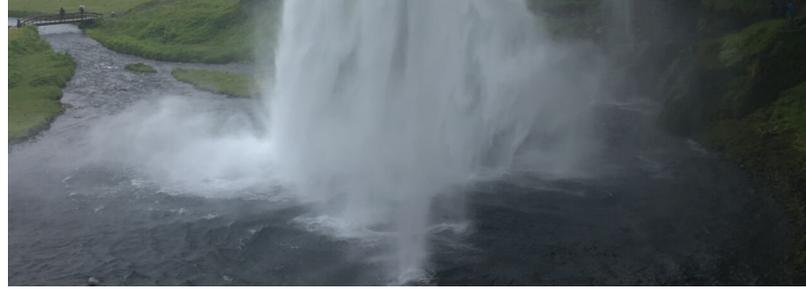




*Summertime*

**Alumni**

*Features*



## Where Southmoreland Leads...

By Jaime Ellenberger  
Class of

After taking Mrs. Kaylor's 7th grade geography class, I knew I wanted to travel. After learning about different cultures in Mr. Fabian's World History class in 10th grade, I knew I wanted to make connections with cultures different than my own. After Mr. Brittain introduced me to Henry David Thoreau in 11th grade AP English class, I knew I wanted something that could give me a similar experience that he expressed in Walden: simplicity, spiritual self reliance, and connection to nature. This summer, I was lucky enough to experience all of these dreams in two different countries with two of my favorite people.

One of my closest friends that I met in 5th grade at Southmoreland, Adam Bluebaugh, accompanied me on a trip to Morocco. We arrived in Marrakech- a lively, busy city which didn't start to come alive until 10:00pm (easily past my bedtime). We got to see new architecture, new people, new outfits, hear new music, try new foods. Everything about it was so different from American culture! Although, I quickly realized the city was not going to give us this simplicity and independence I was hoping to seek. Luckily, we took a three day desert tour out into the Sahara Desert. We drove all the way to the Erg Chebbi desert camp via car and camel (the latter being incredibly painful, I might add...).

After a night of traditional Moroccan food and not so traditional Moroccan dancing around the African drum circle (my 10 year old students I teach in Sweden taught me some really cool dance moves and I got to show them off), we laid outside looking up at the sky. The world was so quiet. It was so peaceful. You couldn't hear anything. One by one, the lights went off.

One by one, the other tenants retired to beds in their own tents. Adam and I, however, were too captured by what we saw to move- the Milky Way. No sound. No movement. No worries. Just us looking up into the universe, with the universe staring calmly back at us, giving us a sense of comfort and belonging...and an occasional shooting star. It gave me a spiritual connection to the world surrounding me and a moment of simplicity, both in body and in mind.

Just a week later, I found myself traveling from my new home in Stockholm, to Iceland with another Southmoreland alumni, roommate in college, and best friend, Tara Ritz. We rented a camper van to explore as much of the island as we could in our three days. Compared to my usual life in a city, this was much simpler. The rolling hills filled with sheep and horses combined with the mesmerizing waterfalls drove me to tears and left me speechless. Sleeping in the midnight sun in the back of a camper van while absorbing the clean air, the fresh grass between my toes, the crisp mist flying away from the waterfall, and the chilly wind swarming up the coast from the black sand beach was all I needed to want to stay in these little moments forever.

Morocco gave me the culture I was craving for. Iceland gave me the nature I was searching for. Southmoreland supported me with what I needed to grasp onto these opportunities and not let go.



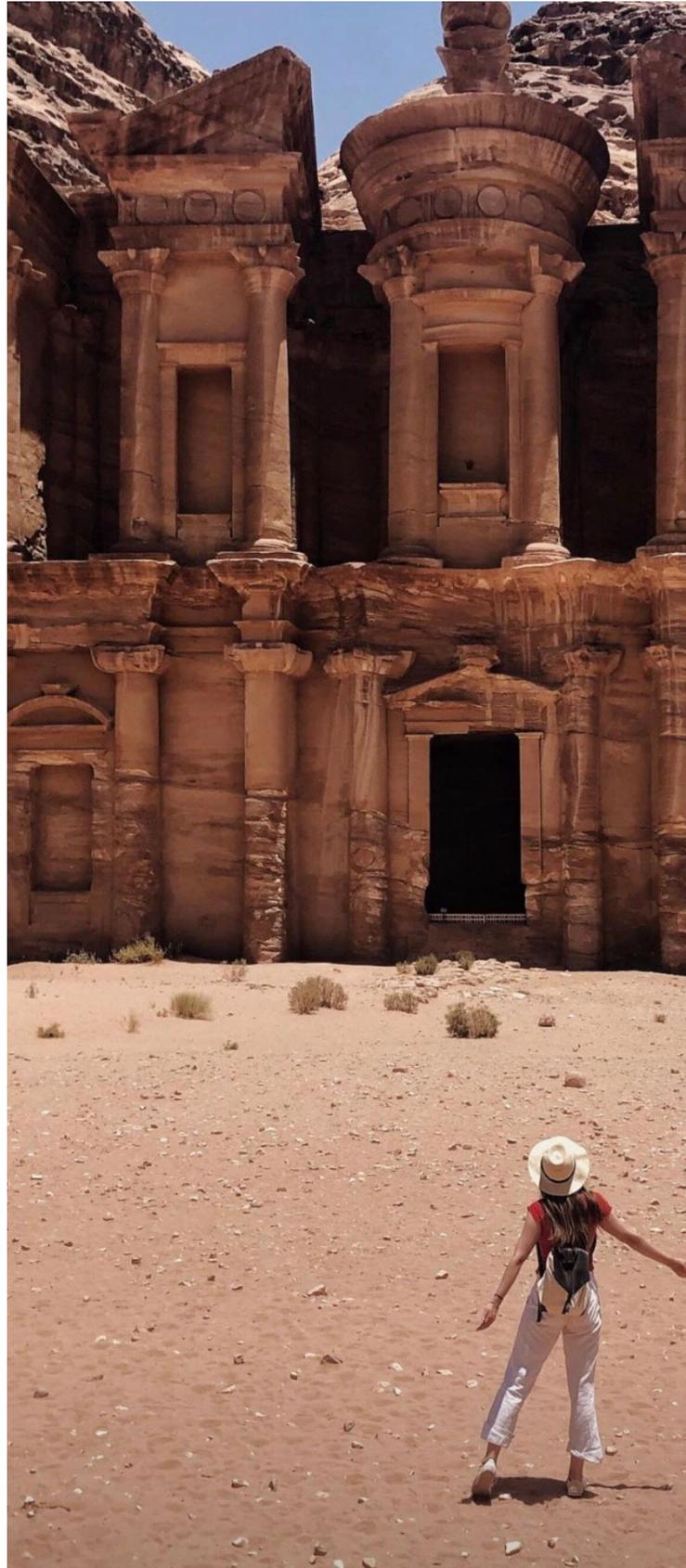
# Chasing the Pharaohs

By Erika Wisniewski  
Class of 2011

Back when I was in grade school, I remember opening my history book staring in amazement at the pictures from Egypt. It was a land so different than that of western Pennsylvania; we have forests and farmland while they have temples and the Sahara Desert. Never in my wildest dreams did I ever believe I would have the opportunity to travel to such a place and learn about its culture from the people who lived there. But thankfully, with my mother by my side, I jumped on a flight and made the long journey across the Atlantic Ocean to Cairo, the land of the Pharaohs.

I had no idea what to expect as I stepped off the plane and walked out of the arrival terminal doors. As soon as I got my bearings, I opened my eyes to a landscape that was predominately brown with the most intense dry heat I ever experienced. I was hot and very sweaty but ready to start this insane Egyptian adventure.

As we made our way to our hotel for the night, I reviewed my itinerary to see what the week had in store for me: We would be cruising down the Nile river, exploring the Temples of Horus and Hatshepsut, taking a hot air balloon ride over the Valley of the Kings, and the Pyramids of Giza. My eyes lit up in excitement as I scanned over the word "pyramid." As I thought back to those days when I was a young girl in grade school, this was the ancient wonder of the world that had been on the top of my bucket list, and now I could finally check it off.





As my days in Egypt went by and we neared the end of our tour, it was finally the day that I got to see the great Pyramids. We met up with our Egyptologist, jumped in the car, and made the crazy drive to the base of the pyramids. During the entirety of the car ride, I was looking out the window just hoping to see a glimpse of these ancient wonders. When they finally came into view, you could feel the excitement in the air. As soon as we parked, I jumped out of the car like it was on fire and ran to the pyramids, leaving my group in the dust.

The abundance of people in such a small vicinity was something to behold. Locals were swarming around trying to sell their goods to the tourists, and camels draped in beautiful fabrics walked along the base of the pyramids. My group finally caught up with me and our Egyptologist started to tell us the history of the pyramids and the Pharaohs that built them. It was hard to believe that something so magnificent was built around 3000 B.C.

**"I MADE A  
PROMISE  
TO  
MYSELF  
WHEN I  
WAS A  
YOUNG  
GIRL..."**

We were given some free time to explore the area after our history lesson and I knew I wanted to get up close and personal with these pyramids. There is a small section that you can ascend, and I stood in line to wait my turn. When I was finally given the go ahead, I looked up and admired all the 2.3 million hand carved blocks that made up this pyramid as I started my climb. When I got the highest point, I stood at the top gazing over the city of Cairo in pure awe and amazement.

That was a moment for me that put my life into perspective. I never believed I would make it to Egypt to see this piece of history. I was just a girl who grew up in Scottsdale, Pennsylvania, who had a dream to see the world.

Now, only 8 years after graduating from Southmoreland High School, I have traveled all over the globe, stepping foot in over 30 countries.

I made a promise to myself when I was a young girl that I would see what the world had to offer, and I am glad I could keep that promise.



A modern dining area featuring a dark, rectangular table surrounded by white, ribbed chairs with chrome frames. The setting is against a large, textured concrete wall with circular indentations. Sunlight streams in from a large window on the left, casting shadows on the light-colored wooden floor. A floor lamp is visible near the window.

*Summertime*

**Staff**

*Features*

# The Professional Learning Communities at Work

By Southmoreland Administration

In July, four district administrators attended a PLC conference in San Antonio, Texas. The Professional Learning Communities at Work process is increasingly recognized as the most powerful strategy for sustained, substantive school improvement. This institute provided our team with the knowledge and tools to continue to implement this powerful process in our schools and district.

For three days, we had the opportunity to network with some of the most insightful minds in education. For those just beginning to explore PLCs, the conference was an excellent way to build knowledge base. For those already involved in deep implementation, the institute was the perfect opportunity to assess progress and identify high-leverage next steps for implementation, introduce new team members to the process, and get answers to new questions.

I gained specific, practical, and inspiring strategies to continue the process of transforming my schools into a place where all students can learn at high levels. At SES and SMS, we will continue to delve deep into the three big ideas of a PLC this year with a focus on learning, building a collaborative culture, and obtaining results.

After our "workday" ended, we had time to take in all of the splendor and history of San Antonio. We tasted authentic Tex-Mex BBQ, fajitas and brisket, and sipped on a margarita or two. We visited the Alamo and took a boat ride on the world-famous waterway known as the Riverwalk, did some shopping at quaint, little stores along the river, and took in all that San Antonio had to offer. It was an invaluable opportunity and privilege to attend the conference to build an actionable purpose and camaraderie with colleagues that will last well beyond the conference.

-Tracey Kuchar, SES/SMS Principal





This past July I had the opportunity to attend a Professional Learning Community conference in San Antonio, TX with several of my administrative colleagues. This was a great experience to learn about how PLC has helped student success across the country and how we can continue to serve our students by collaborating in our professional learning community. Hearing from passionate keynote speakers and informative breakout sessions has inspired us to come back in August with new and exciting ideas!

- **Racquel Sutton, SHS Assistant Principal**

This summer I had the sincere pleasure, honor and privilege of attending a Professional Learning Community (PLC) conference with three of my administrator colleagues. The keynote speakers and the break out sessions' presenters conveyed an enthusiasm about professional learning, staff development and student outcomes that was absolutely infectious. The content and climate of this conference was both inspirational and captivating in portraying what can be possible in the way of student and professional learning. I aspire to share ideas and attitude about learning and growth capacity with all those with whom I work and interact. I am grateful and feel blessed for having been provided such a wonderful professional growth and learning experience. Together we can share accountability for student growth by identifying and understanding our district's mission, vision, values and goals. We will get all students to where they need to be with intentional instruction and intervention. We will target, measure, evaluate and adapt to all students' needs and succeed.

- **Ron Heitchue, School Psychologist**

This summer I had the opportunity to attend the PLC Institute in San Antonio, TX with three other district administrators. Having been to several conferences, I found the PLC Institute to be unique in its mission, and felt the enthusiasm of the work in each session. Our time at the Institute was spent focusing on specific areas of practice that we can bring back to the Southmoreland School District to help grow our capacity, and ultimately reach our mission of High Quality Learning for All. Regrettably more staff members could not attend, I'm hopeful to attend additional opportunities like the Institute with more of my SSD colleagues.

- **Alex Novickoff, SES/SMS Assistant Principal**



# My Extended Family

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By Marie Heberling,  
SHS Math

To my surprise, my family decided to host another foreign exchange student for the 2018-2019 school year. My husband feels bad that so many students want to come to experience our culture but don't have a family with which to live. So, in August, Greta from Germany joined our family.

We try to experience as much of our country as we can through the year; Rock and Roll Hall of Fame, hockey game, baseball game and Washington D.C. Greta even toured Falling Water designed by Frank Lloyd Wright. She had learned about him in her home school.

The exchange students don't return to their homes until the end of June. Therefore, in June we traveled. The day after graduation, our journey started. In the course of 9 days we traveled through New River Gorge WV, Lexington and Mammoth Cave Kentucky, Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama, New Orleans Louisiana, Gulf of Mexico, and Oconee National Forest in Georgia.

Greta saw an alligator, copperhead snake, an armadillo and some very interesting insects. She was able to go caving, as well as, put her hands in the Mississippi River and the Gulf of Mexico. It was an adventure.

By the time Greta returned to Germany, she had visited 14 states, adopted a new family, made many friends from all over the world, and changed many lives forever.



*Welcome to the*

**2019-2020**

*School Year*

To my incoming second grade students: I want to welcome you to second grade at Southmoreland Elementary School. I know this is a new school for you, but please don't worry. I will help you with whatever you need, and I can't wait to meet you!

Susan Jones  
2nd Grade  
Southmoreland Elementary School



To my incoming students...



Please know that you are both respected and valued for the individuals that you are. Please know that we believe in you and your potential to succeed unconditionally. Please know that we will support you with all of our energy and dedication to ensure your success. Please know that it is okay to ask questions and acknowledge if you do not understand content or skills that we are trying to teach.

Please know that we believe in you!  
And, please, please, please, please... Believe in YOURSELVES!!!! Each and everyone of you is capable of more than you may now know.

Ron Heitchue  
Director of Pupil Services K-12  
School Psychologist

I promise to challenge you, but I also promise to show you the power of “yet.” In my room, if you think you can’t do something, remember those thoughts should always end with “yet.” I am excited and proud to be your teacher for this school year!

Jenna Hixson  
English Language Arts  
Southmoreland High School



To my incoming  
students...



I am excited to get to know you and for you to learn more about me too! I can’t wait to explore, create, laugh and learn together! I know we will have a magical year!

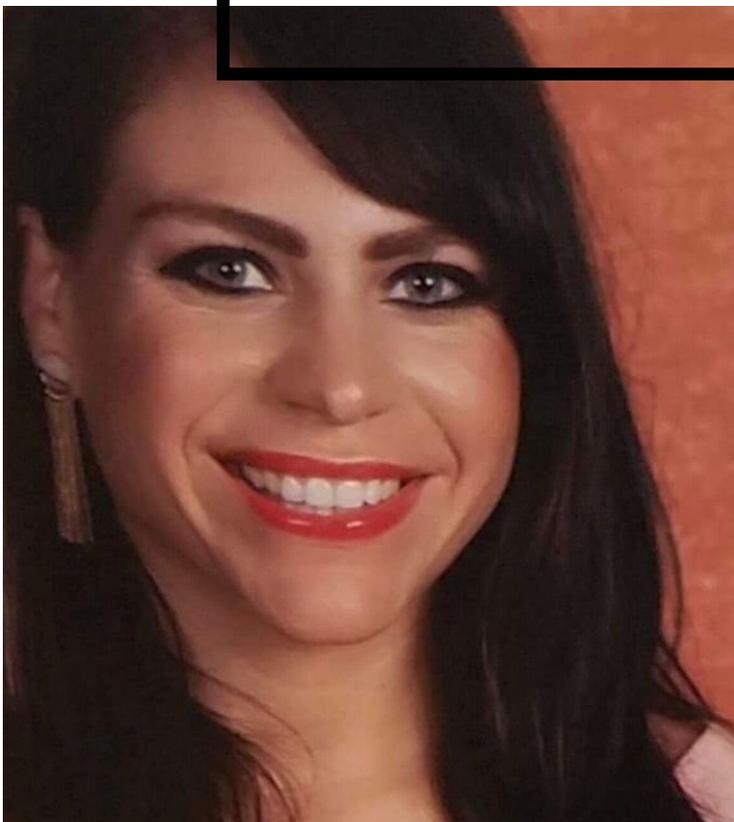
Cheryl A. George  
Grade 1  
Southmoreland Primary Center

Hello! You belong here!  
You are doing a great job.  
I believe in you.

Lisa Fratto  
Guidance Counselor  
Southmoreland Elementary School



To my incoming  
students...



I am excited to explore the wonderful world of literature with you this year in 7th grade Language Arts. My goal is for all of you to become critical thinkers and gain an appreciation for different genres. We are going to have quite an adventure!

Renee Davis  
English Language Arts  
Southmoreland Middle School

You are more than your disability.  
Your label does not define who you  
will become. You can achieve  
anything you set your mind to. You  
are brave, you are kind, and you  
are going to do BIG things in this  
world. I believe in you.

Keep rocking you!

Kelly Derr

K-1 Autistic/Life Skills Support Teacher  
Southmoreland Primary Center



To my incoming  
students...



Please take advantage of your  
education and be grateful for  
all you have.

Jean Carey

English Language Arts  
Southmoreland Middle School

Hello everyone! Welcome back! I hope you had a fun and restful summer break. I am looking forward to another great year of PE. Mr. Hixson and I have the latest hits downloaded and ready for your listening pleasure. Here's to another successful year at SHS.  
Go Scotties!

Rachel Means  
Physical Education  
Southmoreland High School



To my incoming  
students...



I am so excited to start this new year with you. I cannot wait to watch you grow as learners and achieve your goals. Together we can accomplish anything we put our minds to."

Sarah Kilianny  
Southmoreland Primary Center

# To my incoming students...

As you are preparing for the start of the upcoming school year, whether you are a returning student, a new student, a transfer student, or an incoming 6th grader, my advice for you to be successful at the middle school is the same advice that I share with my own children.

Don't be afraid to try something new. Learn to play an instrument or participate in a new sport. You don't know what you are capable of until you try.

Don't be afraid to ask questions. That student sitting next to you has the same question.

Don't be afraid to ask for help from a teacher or a friend. No one knows you need help unless you ask.

Always be proud of your accomplishments but know that there will always be someone better, faster, prettier, stronger, or smarter than you.

Don't compare yourself to others. Your uniqueness is what makes you special. The world would be a very boring place if we were all the same.

Your friends today will not likely be your friends tomorrow. Value and appreciate your time together, but when you have reached the end of your friendship, move along with grace and dignity.

Make new friends. Say, "Hello." Smile. Hold the door. Treat others as you would like to be treated. The boy or girl you are mad at because you heard they said something about you won't even remember your name in a few years. They will however, remember how you treated them.

If you have nothing nice to say, then say nothing at all.

Practice "Grandma's Rules." If you wouldn't want Grandma to hear it or see it, then don't say it, text it, post it, or take a photo of it. Just because you delete it, doesn't mean it no longer exists. In today's world of technology, only you are responsible for the digital image you leave on this world. Make it a positive one.

Show respect, radiate humility, and demonstrate integrity - regardless of the circumstances you face or who is watching. Who you are is more important than what you are.

I am very much looking forward to the halls being filled with the voices that have been absent all summer long.

Tracey Kuchar  
Principal  
SES and SMS

# IMPORTANT DATES

## AUGUST

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- 20 TUESDAY IN-SERVICE
- 21 WEDNESDAY IN-SERVICE DAY
- 21 WEDNESDAY SMS OPEN HOUSE  
6:00-8:00
- 21 WEDNESDAY SES OPEN HOUSE  
2nd AND 3rd GRADE  
4:00-6:00
- 22 THURSDAY IN-SERVICE DAY
- 22 THURSDAY SPC OPEN HOUSE  
5:00-7:00
- 22 THURSDAY SES OPEN HOUSE  
4th AND 5th GRADE  
4:00-6:00
- 23 FRIDAY IN-SERVICE DAY

## 26 MONDAY FIRST DAY OF INSTRUCTION



## NOVEMBER

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- 08 FRIDAY ACT 80 -  
PARENT CONFERENCE -NO SCHOOL
- 11 MONDAY VETERANS' DAY (NO SCHOOL)
- 28 THURSDAY THANKSGIVING DAY (NO SCHOOL)
- 29 FRIDAY FALL RECESS (NO SCHOOL)



## SEPTEMBER

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- 02 MONDAY LABOR DAY (NO SCHOOL)
- 11 WEDNESDAY HIGH SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE  
5:30-7:30

## OCTOBER

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- 4 FRIDAY HOMECOMING FOOTBALL GAME
- 14 MONDAY COLUMBUS DAY (NO SCHOOL)
- 15 TUESDAY ACT 80 DAY (STUDENTS NO  
SCHOOL)



## DECEMBER

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- 02 MONDAY FALL RECESS (NO SCHOOL)
- 03 TUESDAY ACT 80 DAY (STUDENTS NO  
SCHOOL)
- 20 FRIDAY LAST DAY BEFORE WINTER RECESS

## JANUARY

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- 02 THURSDAY ACT 80 DAY (STUDENTS NO  
SCHOOL)
- 20 MONDAY MARTIN LUTHER KING DAY (NO  
SCHOOL)



# SO NEW



If you are interested in contributing to the next issue of **SoNew**, contact Jenna Hixson at [hixsonj@southmoreland.net](mailto:hixsonj@southmoreland.net)