

Southmoreland School District

High Quality Learning For All

Boardroom News
September 2023



Board of School Directors

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Duane Frund

Stephanie Geyer

Tony Lizza

Nicole O'Rear

Jason Pawlikowsky

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Russell Lucas, Solicitor

Pamela Mondock, Business Manager/
Transportation Director/Treasurer

Lorie McTavish, Board Secretary



BOARDROOM NEWS



SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION

- ◆ PSBA School Board Member Recognition— Dr. Boone presented a certificate to Dr. Catherine Fike for her 12 years of service, and Mr. Jason Pawlikowsky for his 12 years of service as School Board of Directors
- ◆ Student Trap Team Discussion- Ken Brooks presented to the Board the benefits of starting a Student Trap Team at Southmoreland School District
- ◆ Dr. Clara described a new grant Career Pathway for Educators to increase students going into education as a career to increase the teacher pool and build from within
- ◆ Scottie Spotlight-



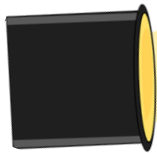


SUPERINTENDENT'S INFORMATION-Cont'd

◆ Scottie Spotlight-

- Melissa Redinger - School Psychologist
- Cassandra Scott - SPC AS/LSS Teacher
- Jessica Thompson - SPC 1st Grade Teacher
- Helen Janiro - K-5 Art Teacher
- Julie Santoro - HS STEM LTS
- Kylie Wisilosky - SPC School Counselor LTS
- Lauren Dillon - SHS School Counselor
- Kristie Myers - SES Paraprofessional
- Tara Hixson - SES Paraprofessional
- Rosemary Spottedbear - SHS Paraprofessional LTS
- Stephanie Bann - SMS Paraprofessional
- Brianna Edwards - SMS Counselor
- Sarah Zajac - SMS Speech and Language Pathologist
- Rebecca Thomas - SPC Math Interventionist
- Rebecca Pine - SPC Reading Interventionist

"HIGH QUALITY LEARNING FOR ALL"

By earning a national ranking in the top 40%, Southmoreland Senior High School achieved status as a U.S. News Best High School and gained eligibility to display a U.S. News-trademarked 2023-2024 Best High Schools award "badge"

U.S. News Best High Schools Rankings

The U.S. News Best High Schools rankings include data on nearly 25,000 public high schools in 50 states and the District of Columbia. Nearly 18,000 schools were ranked on six factors based on their performance on state assessments and how well they prepare students for college. It's never too late to start thinking about your college journey. Try College Compass today to generate a list of schools that may be the right fit for you.

Best High Schools

- #1 The Early College at Guilford, Greensboro, NC
- #2 Signature School, Evansville, IN
- #3 School for Advanced Studies (SAS), Memphis, TN

Best Charter Schools

- #1 Signature School, Evansville, IN
- #2 BASIS Peoria, Peoria, AZ
- #3 Albuquerque Institute of Math and Science, Albuquerque, NM

SHS Recognition - US News and World Report - "Best High Schools"





STUDENT REPORTS

Student representatives to the Board Nolan Blaze and Faith Tarr presented the following:

1. Freshmen Orientation took place on August 23rd from 5-7 pm at the high school. Several student council members in grades 10-12 helped to assist the in-coming freshmen students and parents.
2. On September 8th, a Pep Rally took place in the gymnasium to recognize fall sports athletes and announce the 2023-24 homecoming court. The following students were named to the homecoming court: Bea Pawlikowsky, Faith Tarr, Maddie Brown, Bella Johnson, Gwen Basinger, Kaylee Doplehauer, Amarah McCutcheon, Eva Martin, Nolan Blaze, Makai Trout-Lewis, Ty Keffer, Aidan Corvin, Ronnie Collins, Cody Bateman, Kaden Keefer, Eli Leighliter
3. Student Council Members volunteered to work at the information booth at the Fall Festival on Friday to Sunday, September 15, 16, and 17. Members also helped to clean up Sunday evening following the fall festival.
4. Scottdale Library in partnership with Southmoreland School District sponsored *Reading Under the Lights* at Russ Grimm Field on September 14th. The purpose of this event was to come together as a community to share the love of reading with elementary students. Dr. Clara hosted a group of volunteers from the Southmoreland High School to assist with this event.
5. Over 20 members of Interact Club, a newly formed community service club sponsored by the Scottdale Rotary, volunteered this weekend at the Children's Area and clean up crew for the Scottdale Festival.
6. Congratulations to the following SHS writers for being published in the book *Integer: Stories about Numbers* : Jessica Conway, Hailey Donophan, Chad Long, Breann Poole, Adam Halinka, Carlie Cameron, Olivia Love, and Isabella Johnson.



SOLICITOR'S INFORMATION

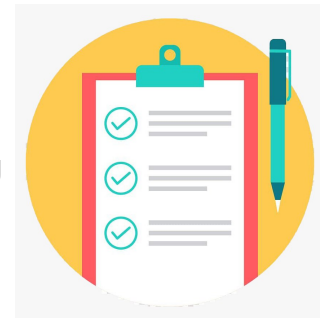
None at this time.

BUSINESS MANAGER/TRANSPORTATION DIRECTOR INFORMATION

- ◆ Activity and Cyber Charter reports are posted online in BoardDocs
- ◆ Happy with where we are with transportation, still working on individual parent concerns
- ◆ Completing the SHARRS report, Title II, ESSER II, and working on ESSER III, & year end audit

CWCTC REPORT

Draft of the Comprehensive Plan is posted on the website, received a \$101,000.00 light grant from Scott Electric for new lighting in the building, new classes have started such as State and Emission Inspection, Machine Apprenticeship, Autobody, & Welding, 17 students are in the Co-op program, working with WCCC for dual credits in Computer Science and Cyber Security, & the Aspiring Educators Program is up and running.



WIU REPORT

There were over 24 resignations, hired 11 new people, concerns of staff needs, 32 motions voted on, presentation by Dr. Henderson on Understanding the impact of culture on instructional materials and student data, update of over all plan, administrative team, Open House at Clairview was on September 26th, next meeting is also September 26th, published strategic principles, priorities, goals, goal statements, & anticipated outcomes of the IU.

PSBA LIAISON REPORT

There is no report this month.

PSBA LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Next meeting is in October, & it was suggested to elect 2 reps to attend the that meeting.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building, Grounds and Safety

Meeting was August 21st, received updates about projects around the district, RTU units are done at this building, SPC walls are done but roof is still being worked on, roof at the high school will be worked on into October then return to finish in the spring, any materials from these projects will be returned and get fresh new ones once the work resumes again, undated what was completed on the critical list, talked about solar panels and ways to save money on utilities.

Finance, District Operations, Transportation

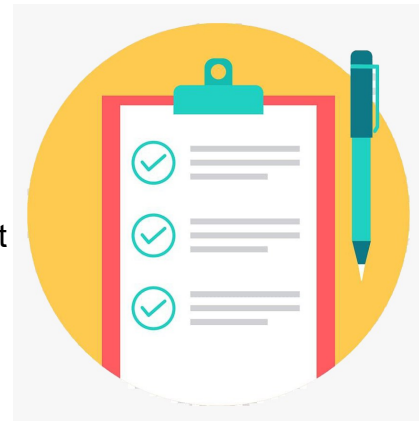
There is no report this month.

Personnel, Policy, Academics

There has not been a meeting since last reported, but there have been many interviews for this school year, & no new policies to discuss.

Non-Academic, Athletics, Extra-Curricular

There was a meeting on August 21st and Mr. Pritts provided updates on athletics and activities around the district, band is working hard, cheerleading will be attending a spirit day at Pitt, fall sports are off to a great start, AED's have been installed, over 100 Lifetime passes have been sold, students have been working the concession stand and t-shirt sales to offset the cost to help pay for lettermen's jackets, road to the track/baseball/tennis courts has been renamed and the address updated to 135 Scottie Pride Lane, & digital monitors have been installed to display information for informative and recognition purposes.



POLICIES

The following policies have been approved as posted to conform with PDE school laws and regulations.

- ◆ 137 - Home Education Programs
- ◆ 137.1 - Extracurricular Participation by Home Education Students
- ◆ 137.2 - Participation in Cocurricular Activities and Academic Courses by Home Education Students
- ◆ 137.3 - Participation in Career and Technical Education Programs by Home Education Students
- ◆ 800 - Records Management
- ◆ 830 - Security of Computerized Personal Information/Breach Notification
- ◆ 830.1 - Data Governance - Storage/Security



PERSONNEL

The following SEA MOU's were approved:

- ◆ SEA MOU 1st Grade, 4th Grade, K-5 Itinerant Writing August 2023
- ◆ SEA MOU Sabbatical Leave - Non-Precedent Setting August 2023
- ◆ SEA MOU Dean of Students 23/24

Supplemental Resignations-Thank you for your service!

- ◆ LeeAnn Richter - SMS Student Council Sponsor

Personnel Resignations-Sorry to see you go!

- ◆ Sarah Kral - Elementary Computer Teacher
- ◆ Leah Berry - Speech and Language Pathologist
- ◆ Erin Keefer - Custodian

New Hires-A very warm welcome to the following!

- ◆ Rebecca Thomas SPC Math Interventionist
- ◆ Rebecca Pine SPC Reading Interventionist
- ◆ Jessica Hynek - SPC 1st Grade Teacher
- ◆ Helen Janiro - Elementary Art Teacher
- ◆ Samantha Lee - SMS LTS STEM Teacher
- ◆ Brianna Edwards - SMS School Counselor
- ◆ Sarah Zajac - SMS Speech and Language Pathologist
- ◆ Priscilla Truszka - Permanent Part-time SHS Cafeteria



Transfer to a new position-Best of luck!

- ◆ Kaely Potochnik as the SMS/SES Dean of Students 2023/2024 SY
- ◆ Michelle Pergar - SES 4th Grade Teacher
- ◆ Abby Mohan - SES Writing Teacher

Supplemental—New Hires-A very warm welcome to the following!

- ◆ Jenna Hixson - National Honor Society Sponsor
- ◆ Jenna Hixson - Sophomore Class Sponsor
- ◆ Sheri Zimmerman - YEA (Youth Education Association)
- ◆ Jamie Gore - Senior Class Sponsor
- ◆ Nicole Pruchnic - Middle School Yearbook Sponsor
- ◆ Rachel Means - Middle School Assistant Girls Volleyball Coach
- ◆ Allison Pawlikowsky - High School Yearbook Sponsor
- ◆ Evan Myers - Volunteer SHS Wrestling Coach
- ◆ Claudia Clemens - Volunteer Girls Tennis Coach
- ◆ Thomas Samosky - Volunteer Boys Basketball Coach
- ◆ Ashley Standard - Volunteer High School Events Photographer

Substitutes- Thank you for your help!

- ◆ Wilda Calixte - Cafeteria
- ◆ Wilda Calixte - Custodian
- ◆ Courtney Cropp - Cafeteria
- ◆ Katie Alexander - Cafeteria
- ◆ Dorothy Fite - Cafeteria



Bus/Van Drivers - Quest

- ◆ Paul Newell Sr.
- ◆ Amelia Beth Costella
- ◆ Dewey Steward Jr.
- ◆ Joshua Poole



EDUCATION

All of the following Motions were approved:

- ◆ 2023-2024 Southwood Psychiatric Hospital Student Service Agreement
- ◆ Student Discipline Agreement: #2023-2024-01
- ◆ Service Delivery Agreement with St. Vincent College Prevention Projects
- ◆ CONGRATULATIONS to Faith Tarr and Nolan Blaze who were approved as the student representatives to the Board of School Directors for the 2023-2024 school year
- ◆ University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg Dual Enrollment Agreement—This Agreement will help to begin a Career Pathway for Educators at Southmoreland High School and is made possible through a Seed Grant with UPG
- ◆ Targeted School Improvement (TSI) Plan for the Southmoreland High School for the 23/24 School Year



FINANCE

All of the following Motions were approved:

- ◆ Monthly Board Treasurers' Report-July
- ◆ General Fund Board Summary Report-July
- ◆ Accounting and Food Service Check Summary Listing-July
- ◆ WIU Joint Purchasing Consortium 2024-2025 - to advertise jointly with the WIU
- ◆ Joint Purchasing Consortium Representatives—
Pam Mondock & Shera Barnhart



BUILDINGS/GROUNDS

The annual agreement with Westmoreland County Juvenile Probation Officers to carry fire-arms in our schools and on school premises for the 2023-2024 school year.

ATHLETICS/ACTIVITIES

The Marching Band trip to Baltimore and Washington DC from Friday, May 17, 2024 - Sunday, May 19, 2024 was approved. Safe travels to our band in the spring!



**Next Board meeting is scheduled
for October 17, 2023**



Let's go Scotties!