

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

A message from Mr. Miller

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am sure many of you are like me and can hardly believe that we are already three-quarters of the way through the 2022-2023 school year. Overall the year has had many great moments. I have seen our students be successful both in and out of the classroom and our student recognition in this issue only highlights it further.

While this issue is like many past issues in making sure that parents are aware of the significant events occurring here at the high school, this issue is a little different. This issue has a class of 2023 focus as our seniors are just a quarter away from graduating from SLHS and no longer walking our halls. Future issues this year will have a greater balance of underclassmen and senior information as we approach the end of the year to fully prepare everyone for their next steps.

I also wanted to take this moment and share a thought with all of you about the changes that have been happening this year at SLHS. While this year has seen many changes, whether it is our new bell schedule, advancements in dual enrollment, to a change in how events are run at the high school, I truly believe every change that has happened has been for the better. While change may be hard sometimes and even unexpected, every change that has been made this year has had one focus at its core, our students. While some changes may be confusing at first, every change has been about making the experiences the best possible and preparing our students for whatever journey they choose to take. I and the rest of the HS Administration cannot thank you enough for your support of these changes and the continued support of all the students here at SLHS.

As always, please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Joshua C. Miller, Principal

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There are no secrets to success. It is a result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.

- Colin Powell

IMPORTANT DATES:**MARK YOUR CALENDAR**

- 3/16 – Orchestral Concert
- 3/21 – 3/26 – SLHS Spring Musical: Rock of Ages Teen Edition
- 3/27 – End of 3rd Quarter
- 4/5 – Early dismissal*
- 4/6 – 4/10 – Spring Break, All Schools Closed*
- 4/19 – NHS Induction Ceremony
- 4/25 – Spring Band Concert
- 5/1 – 5/12 – AP Testing Session
- 5/2 – Spring Chorale and Orchestral Concert
- 5/9 – District Jazz Concert
- 5/12 – SLHS Prom
- 5/15 – 2 Hour Delay: Graduation Project Presentations
- 5/16 – 5/19 – Spring Keystone Testing
- 5/20 – Mini-Thon
- 5/24 – Senior Awards Ceremony
- 5/29 – Memorial Day – All Schools Closed
- 5/31 – Senior Obligation Day/Senior Breakfast
- 6/1 – Senior Sunset @ 7:30 PM
- 6/2 – SLHS Graduation @ Stabler Arena

* - These dates could be changed if Five Inclement Weather Days are used prior to April.



“Productivity is never an accident. It is always the result of a commitment to excellence, intelligent planning, and focused effort.”

–Paul J. Meyer

STUDENT RECOGNITION

On Jan. 26, 2023 at the annual SkillsUSA District 11 Championships, hundreds of competitors from Bucks, Lehigh, Monroe and Northampton County career and technical schools competed at the Allentown Fairgrounds' Agri-Plex.

Students participated in individual and team contests of technical knowledge and know-how that covered everything from cyber security to masonry. Three Southern Lehigh students walked away with top three finishes in their individual or team competition. Congratulations on the outstanding achievement!

3rd Place: Carlee Bernd, Welding Fabrication (Team)
3rd Place: Raven Martinez, Culinary Arts
2nd Place: Kayla Myers, Commercial Baking



Congratulations to Seniors Cyrus Desai and Evelyn Wang. Cyrus and Evelyn are finalists for the US Presidential Scholars Program. This program recognizes some of the top-graduating seniors each year. We wish them all the best of luck in this final stage of the process.

Student Recognition Cont.

On February 25th, the SteelStacks HS Jazz showcase took place and our SLHS's Jazz Ensembles took home the following honors:

Jazz Society:

- Superior rating (highest possible)
- Best Trombone Section (Maddie Psaila, Ellie Corvino, Molley Frey, Lauren Meaney)
- Best Trombone Soloist (Maddie Psaila). By winning this award, Maddie got an automatic invitation to be in the SteelStacks All-Star Big Band that will rehearse and open for a jazz artist in May at the SteelStacks.

Jazz Trane:

- Very Good rating (2 points away from 2nd highest rating)

On Wednesday, March 8th, Spanish IV students and NHS members participated in a Reading Across America event at Liberty Bell Elementary. These students read to younger Spartans in either Spanish or English to continue to foster a love of reading. Our students did a great job connecting with our younger Spartans. Keep up the great work.



On Thursday, March 9th No Place for Hate and the Language and Culture Appreciation club held the Inaugural Multicultural Fair. The event was completely student organized and was a huge success with students sharing their heritage, culture, and most importantly food with all of their classmates.

Attendance

Please be advised that the following protocol will be followed when visitors enter SLHS. Visitors will only enter through the main entrance.

- Visitors will identify themselves and must provide picture ID for verification.
- Visitor will state their intended destination in the building.
- The HS Greeter will call to confirm the appointment and get approval for any unexpected visitor. If the visit is unapproved or the recipient is unavailable. The visitor will be asked to call to make an appointment and return another time. The visitor will not be permitted to enter the building.
- If approved, the visitor will be issued a visitor's badge that must be worn in the building.

When the visit is complete, the visitor will proceed directly to the main entrance without making any other stops, return the visitor's badge and exit the building.

COUNSELING

We are excited to announce that we will be offering the ASVAB exam for all JUNIORS on March 28th from 7:35 am until 10:45 am. Interested sophomores and seniors may contact their school counselor if they wish to take the ASVAB exam.

The ASVAB can provide valuable information regarding strengths and how they relate to potential careers. In addition, the ASVAB can satisfy one of the graduation pathways required by the state (Act 158) in the event your student did not score proficient on their Keystone exams.

All Juniors will be scheduled to take the ASVAB. Please click [HERE](#) if you would like to opt out of the ASVAB on March 28th. Opt out forms must be completed by March 20th.

For more information on the ASVAB exam, please refer to the [Counseling Website](#).

QUICK REMINDERS



The Spartan Life

The Spartan Life podcast continues to churn out great episodes. Seniors Christian Gordon and Tucker Mack give us a roving report on boys basketball, while senior Charles Probst interviews Senior Dance Team member Maggie Pavis. Mr. Castagna closes out the episode chatting with Mrs. Mooney, on her new role as secretary in our front office.



Transportation

All questions should be directed to the transportation department.

Transportation Hotline

610-282-5589

RideWithUs@slds.org



CLASS OF 2023

SENIOR WEEK EVENTS

On Monday, January 23rd the SLSD School Board voted and approved the contract for SLHS Graduation to be at Stabler Arena on June 2nd, 2023. The start time for graduation will be at 6:30 PM that evening. Prior to the evening of graduation there will be a lot of events happening for seniors. Below is the initial information to help seniors and their families plan. Additional reminders and specific details will be released closer to the actual events.

Tuesday, May 23 through Friday May 26, 2023: SENIOR FINAL EXAMS

- Senior final exams will take place during the school day in student's actual classes with their teacher.
- Seniors who do not have a final exam when the exam is scheduled, do not have to attend school during that time frame.
- Seniors who have final exams during block 3 should eat at home prior to coming in or if they are in the building will eat 1st lunch.
- These are full days for underclassmen, therefore transportation will run on its normal schedule.
- Below is the grid layout of when Senior Finals will run.

	Senior Exams			
Date	May 23	May 24	May 25	May 26
Rotation Day	6	1	2	3
Day	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	Testing in Classes	Testing in Classes	Testing in Classes	Testing in Classes
7:35-9:05	Exam in Block 1 EVEN			Exam in Block 1 ODD
9:09-9:19				
9:23-10:53	Exam in Block 2 EVEN			Exam in Block 2 ODD
10:58-12:56		Exam Block 3 ODD	Exam Block 3 EVEN	
1:00-2:21		Exam Block 4 ODD	Exam Block 4 EVEN	

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Tuesday, May 30, 2023: SENIOR MAKE-UP DAY

- This is the final day for seniors to make-up any work or take any exams they may have missed from the previous week. Any senior that has completed all of their course work and taken all of their finals is not required to come to school this day.

Wednesday, May 31, 2023: SENIOR OBLIGATION DAY & SENIOR BREAKFAST 8:30 AM

- Seniors will start reporting at 8:30 to the HS Cafeteria with their laptops, chargers (\$40) and all outstanding books, supplies, class dues, athletic equipment, lunch money, etc. Once a senior is cleared of all obligations they will have access to breakfast items provided by HS Administration. During the breakfast session there will be music, some senior only events and we will review all information and instructions for the next two days. Caps and gowns will be distributed at the end of the event. This is mandatory for all seniors.

Thursday, June 1, 2023: 8:30 AM REPORT TIME

- ***Rehearsal and Parade of Seniors- 8:30 in the GYM- FIND YOUR NAME CARD***
 - 8:30 am Meet in the gymnasium for rehearsal.
 - Sit on your name card on the floor DO NOT move the cards!
 - 9:30 am Distribution of Caps and Gowns and cords where applicable
 - 10:00 am Parade of Seniors at the Intermediate and Middle Schools- wear comfortable shoes!
 - 11:00 am Dismissal
- ***Senior Sunset Celebration- 7:30 PM- 8:30 PM***
 - Report to the gym for pizza, hot dogs, raffle prizes, music, gifts for everyone, yard games, and YEARBOOKS and one last time for everyone to be together!

Friday, June 2, 2023- ALL SENIORS REPORT TO STABLER ARENA BY 9:00 AM

- 9:00 Arrive at Stabler Arena
- 9:15 Find your seats inside the arena
- 9:15 - 11:15 MANDATORY Rehearsal at Stabler Arena, Lehigh University. THIS IS A FULL DRESS REHEARSAL

What to Wear and Bring to Graduation: 5:45 pm Students report to their Asst. Principal in the "wings" of Stabler

- Dress pants, shirts and ties - No shorts or t-shirts
- Dresses or skirts and blouses or slacks and blouses - No shorts or t-shirts
- Tassels are on the Right to start and then move to the left when prompted
- Safety pins (you never know) and hair pins for the mortar boards
- Do not bring purses or small bags - Leave them with family in the audience

Keystone Exam Update

For the 2022-2023 school year the Keystone Exam schedule has been set. Students who are currently taking Keystone eligible courses (Algebra I, Biology, and English 10) will take their Keystone exams between May 16 and May 19. The schedule will be as follows.

- May 16 & 17 - Algebra I Keystone
- May 18 & 19 - ELA & Biology

Students will receive a Keystone letter in the upcoming weeks outlining what assessments they will be taking and confirming the day they are taking them on. For each of those four days, SLHS will operate on a 2-Hour Delay schedule. Transportation will run on its normal schedule.

Learning. Serving. Leading
One interaction at a time.

PRINCIPAL'S NEWSLETTER

Southern Lehigh High School
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