



SPCAS NEWS

February 2019

Sunset Park Center for Accelerated Studies

1036 Ogden Road
Rock Hill, SC 29730
803-981-1260
Fax: 803-981-1269

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

- 1st- Enrichment Clusters
- 5th- PTO meeting 6pm
- 6th- PBIS Celebration for January
- 7th- Land of Smiles dental presentation
- 7th- 5th grade parent meeting for Camp Thunderbird trip 5:30pm
- 7th- 3rd Quarter Progress Reports go home
- 7th- Adventure Air Sports Spirit Night
- 8th- Enrichment Clusters
- 8th- Movie Night 6pm-8:30pm \$15
- 13th- Papa Johns Spirit Night
- 14th- Pop-up Library
- 15th- Bad Weather Make-Up Day
- 15th- Enrichment Clusters
- 18th- Bad Weather Make-Up Day
- 20th- Terrific Kid Program 9am
- 20th-22nd- 5th grade Camp Thunderbird
- 21st- School of Choice Tour 6:30pm
- 21st- 4th Grade field study
- 22nd- Enrichment Clusters
- 23rd- Winthrop Back the Pack BB Game
- 28th- 2nd grade field study
- 28th- School of Choice Application window closes

MESSAGE FROM OUR LEADER: DR. WHITE

Hello! I hope that everyone is continuing to have a fantastic 2019. Now that we are all firmly back in our routines after the Winter Break I wanted to share a few reminders that will help keep our students on the path to success:

- 1.) Remain involved in your child's life in and out of school.** Know who your child's friends are and where they are throughout the day. Contact your child's teacher or principal if you are concerned about his/her social interactions. Let your child know what your expectations are with respect to social behavior and study habits.
- 2.) Help your child set realistic academic goals.** Most children need help organizing their time to complete homework assignments or school projects. Without doing the work for them, help them find quiet places to work without disruptions and check in to see that students are staying on task. Often student errors can be corrected if parents check in before the work is completed.
- 3.) Establish good communication with your child's teacher and school office.** Do not be afraid to call or email a teacher to inquire about assignments, behaviors, or other questions. Not only does an email or call help you become more informed, but it ultimately lets your child know that you care and that you are concerned.
- 4.) Create a network of school-based contacts.** Often parents feel more comfortable approaching other parents about school related issues. Get to know other parents in your child's class. If you have on-going questions about homework, upcoming school events, or class projects, contact other parents. This is often a good place to start.
- 5.) Become involved in school events.** The school has several parent groups that exist to provide support and direction for our school community. The meetings are always open and we encourage new parents to join us. The PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) meets one Thursday of every month at 6:00pm. Please contact a PTO member or visit the school office for more information. Strong PTO participation leads to a stronger school community. Our School Improvement Council (SIC) is another great way to engage parents in our school. Feel free to contact me at 803-981-1260 if you would like to become involved in our SIC.

Yours in education,
Tammy T. White, *Ph.D.*
Principal



MESSAGE FROM OUR ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL: MRS. BROWN

Students in 3rd-5th grade will take the South Carolina State Assessments (SCREASY & SCPASS) this spring. The information below will provide important dates and information regarding the assessments. The more parents know, the more you can help teachers prepare students!

Assessment Dates:

SCREASY ELA (2 days): May 7-8, 2019

SCREASY Math: May 14, 2019

SCPASS Science: May 16, 2019 (Only 4th grade students)

SCPASS Social Studies: May 16, 2019 (Only 5th grade students)

Assessment Formats:

SCREASY ELA (3rd - 5th): Computer based assessment for all students

(Students will be asked to leave their school assigned computer (& charger) at school prior to testing.)

SCREASY Math: (3rd - 5th): Computer based assessment for all students.

SCPASS Science (4th) & Social Studies (5th): Computer based assessment for all students.

Please visit the SC Department of Education's website for more information regarding SCREASY & SCPASS.

Please feel free to contact me at 803-981-1260 if you have any questions or concerns regarding state assessments!

News from Mrs. Gray...Media Center Internet Safety Tips for elementary students and parents.

With so many students having access to various electronic devices, it is most important that they practice being good Digital Citizens. Because we live in an interconnected world, students must recognize some of the risk and dangers of being online. They must act appropriately to avoid some of the tactics intended to lure them while online. First and foremost, students should ask their parents before going online. Secondly, when online they must protect their private information (name, address, phone, email address, school or picture of themselves). Thirdly, beware of the Internet Bully, best known as a cyberbully. A cyberbully is someone who uses an electronic device to be rude, tease, make fun of, or harass someone. There can be legal consequences for this type of behavior and it should be reported to a parent, a teacher, or a trusted adult. Never agree to chat with someone you don't know. Finally, sending inappropriate emails, text messages, pictures and downloading inappropriate content is also wrong and unethical. Practicing these safety tips can help keep students safe.

ATTENTION:

We have several jackets, hoodies and hats that are being found around our building. Please put your child's name in these items so we can get them back to the correct owner. If your child is missing an item, please have them check the lost and found located in the cafeteria.

Counselor's Tidbits: Ms. Woods

Parents/ Guardians:

Your child will be participating in an abuse prevention curriculum during classroom guidance over the next few weeks. Some of the topics your child will learn about are: body boundaries, respecting themselves and others, listening to their Guiding Voice and telling a trusted adult when a situation makes them feel confused or uncomfortable. If you have any questions about the curriculum, please feel free to contact me.

Also, please note that SPCAS will be having our Career Day on Thursday, March 28, 2019. We are inviting parents, community members and professionals from various fields to volunteer their time to speak with students about their career choices. If you are interested and/or know someone who may be interested in participating in this event, please contact me to express your interest and learn more about our upcoming event.

Lastly, during the month of January we covered topic(s) including: Goal Setting, Tattling vs Reporting, Kindness, Expected Classroom Behaviors (grades K-2nd), and Team Building (grades 3-5). Please speak with your children about our guidance lessons and allow them to share with you what they've learned. Also, when you notice your child acting as a team player and/ or demonstrating positive behaviors; please let him know that you've noticed these actions. Your words and attention will encourage him/her to continue these characteristics in the future.

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 Fabulous February!

Meisha Woods, B.A., M.A.
Sunset Park Center for Accelerated Studies
Professional School Counselor

School Counselors Make a
World of Difference



Message from Mrs. Dieguez:

Just a few reminders...

Please call me if you have any questions regarding attendance.
Dana Dieguez 803-981-1263

The door in the car loop locks at 7:45am. If your child is tardy, please do not drop them in the car loop. You will need to come in and sign them in so we know they have arrived safely. Please make every effort to have your child to school on time. Drop off begins at 7:00am., the first bell rings at 7:40am, and the tardy bell rings at 7:45am.

If your child is absent please remember to send an excuse regarding the absence. You may send 5 parent notes during the school year if your child does not go to the doctor for the illness. In the afternoon, if you do not have a car tag, please come directly to the office to have one made for you.

Order Your
Yearbook

COACHES' CORNER: MRS. NIVENS & MRS. BLACKWELL

It's time! Yearbooks are now officially on sale. You may order two ways. Order forms were sent home last week. You may pay by cash or check with this method. Simply complete the order form, enclose your payment and return to your child's classroom teacher. Be sure to include the child's name as well as the teacher. You may also order online at: Ybpay.lifetouch.com. Our ID code is 5972119. All orders should be completed by March 8, 2019. You will also be able to include a shout out to your child in the yearbook. Information on this will be sent home later.

GT/Math/PBIS:

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



Ytzel Castaneda-Rivera
Jaelyn Hall
Amera Pendergrass
Treven Raymon
Julia Faircloth
Chloe Hudson
Michael Jones
Antonia Hopkins
Kaylin Pickett
Rylee Hall
Kaydence Turbeville
Marissa Olivo

Williana White
Denzia Alexander
Ayyah Mitchell
Brantlee Huddleston
Gracie Rockholt
Malachi Simpson
Davis Brown
Nicholas Ross
Robbie Collins
Markeviar Heath
Kristian Shaw
Henry Finn

Liam Mouyeos
Zoey Blake
Steven Linker
Skye Baxter
Makenzi Spradlin
Braelyn Jackson
Gavyn Murrell
Samara Pope
Mackenzie Leonard
Chloe Styles
Melonie Erby
Keilan Howze

Annabella Davis
Mayra Mejia-Pineda
Leo Depaz Barrera
Madison Howard
Jeremiah Agurs
Kayden Cherry
Jaylynn Harris

PBIS
POSITIVE BEHAVIOR
INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT

Erin's Law and Comprehensive Health Education:

Section 59-32-20 (B) of the South Carolina Code of Laws

York 3 – Rock Hill School District Overview and Implementation

Dear Parent/Guardian:

The South Carolina Legislature passed legislation in 2014 known as Erin's Law. This law requires that South Carolina school districts extend their current mandated educational programs regarding personal safety, abuse education and prevention curriculum to students in pre-kindergarten through twelfth grades. The goal of the law is to teach children to avoid situations that may lead to abuse and to report any instances of abuse they may have endured.

The intent of the law is to give students skills in knowing how to stay safe from sexual assault and how to report any incidents of sexual assault. Parents and guardians are encouraged to discuss all health safety topics with their children. Specific to Erin's Law, The Committee for Children and Darkness to Light (D2L) provides excellent resources for parents and families. Links to these resources are included here:

<http://www.cfchildren.org/families/sexual-abuse-prevention>

http://www.d2l.org/site/c.4dICljOkGcISE/b.6035035/k.8258/Prevent_Child_Sexual_Abuse.htm#.Vrj3SE_wtaQ

Providing abuse education in schools is not a new initiative. Mandates under the Health Education Act and Internet Safety Education Curriculum require instruction beginning in sixth grade. Erin's Law simply extends this education into grades pre-kindergarten through twelve. Some sample topics in elementary school include: Self-Esteem and Personal Power, Fitting In and Acceptance, Grooming and Boundaries, Staying Safe in the Virtual World; S.A.F.E.: It's Ok to Tell.

Our district guidance counselors, health teachers, and physical education teachers, under the leadership of our Lead Clinical Nurse and Associate Superintendent for Planning and Programs, worked together to select developmentally appropriate curriculum that will give our students the knowledge and skills they need to protect themselves. Your child's school guidance counselor will present age appropriate lessons Pre-K – 5. Parents are welcome to view the instructional materials at Safer, Smarter Kids. <https://safersmarterkids.org/>.

Luanne Kokolis, Associate Superintendent for Planning and Programs