



The Shocker

Fall/Winter News

COMING THIS SPRING

- Feb. 17 (Mon.):** Make-up day for Feb. 7 closing
- March 4 (Wed.):** Early release day
- March 26 (Thurs.):** Last day of third quarter
- March 27: (Fri.)** Teacher workday, no school
- April 9: (Thurs.)** Teacher workday, no school
- April 10: (Fri.):** Holiday
- April 13-17:** Spring break
- April 29: (Wed.)** Early release day
- April 30-May 2:** Spring Musical, "High School Musical Jr."
- May 25 (Mon.)** Memorial Day Holiday, No School

Letter from the Principal

Dear Parents,

I hope your family is enjoying a successful school year. It is important to us that students are successful in many dimensions: academically, emotionally, physically, and socially. One does not have to look far to find articles in papers, blurbs on the internet, or news stories on the radio talking about the stresses of modern life and its impact on our emotional health. Our staff has taken this reality very seriously, and our counseling team has worked intently on targeting this need. I would like to highlight some of the ways in which our counseling team has been working with our South Charlotte parents and students to provide them with support to succeed academically and emotionally.

In October, our counselors hosted a morning and evening coffee with Dr. Tara Egan, who presented "Establishing Healthy Boundaries with Technology." Dr. Egan explained to parents how certain popular apps work and how to maintain healthy technology boundaries for their teens. In November, the Foundation for the Carolinas (FFTC) ran a focus group with parents, students, and teachers to discuss mental health and school support. The FFTC will use that data to drive programs that our counselors will offer in the second semester. Each Monday, our counselors present a Mindfulness Monday Moment on the morning announcements. The purpose of these moments is to share coping skills for managing academic and emotional stress. In addition to these events and programs aimed at large audiences, our counselors run weekly counseling

groups for students. Currently, we have a grief group and two emotional regulation groups meeting.

At our three-hour early release day in January, South Charlotte Middle hosted Lee Mun Wah, a national speaker on the topic of diversity training. Mr. Wah led our entire faculty in a three-hour training of how to be more aware and sensitive to social and emotional norms within different cultural groups. This workshop was funded by our wonderful PTO and the FFTC. The feedback from our faculty about this session was outstanding, and teachers feel better informed about the important topic of cultural sensitivity.

Kindness is a major theme at South Charlotte Middle. We strive to teach students about kindness and recognize students when they perform kind acts. Each year we have a big event to jumpstart our Kindness Campaign. In November, we hosted Craig Wright and his bicycle stunt presentation. Mr. Wright talked to students about bullying and highlighted positive character traits such as responsibility, respect, and kindness. He creatively wove his stories and lessons into his bicycle stunts.

I feel strongly that South Charlotte Middle has in place a strong social and emotional program so that we can respond to our students' needs. I am grateful that the PTO has supported our efforts by publicizing and attending the various events. Thank you for your continual work in making South Charlotte a good place for children.

Best,
Lisa Bailes, Principal

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PTO UPDATE

Nancy Knox, PTO president

As we begin a new year and a new semester, I want to thank you for your continued support of the PTO. Thank you to our PTO volunteers who give their time to support our students, teachers, and staff throughout the year. In the first semester, PTO volunteers honored our teachers and staff with back-to-school and holiday luncheons, hosted a Scholastic Book Fair, organized the Salvation Army Angel Tree service project, helped in the Media Center, sold school supplies and other fun merchandise in the school store, created fabulous bulletin boards, organized grade level honor roll celebrations, led school tours, created newsletters, coordinated all of the volunteers, kept us informed through our website, Facebook, and Instagram pages, and much more! We appreciate all you do!

Thank you also for your generous donations to our Building A Legacy Annual Fund, which has raised \$35,598 to date. Money from this fund is used throughout the school and has made it possible for us to provide teachers with back-to-school classroom supplies, purchase four metal outdoor tables for our courtyard and an additional trophy case, support the Kindness Campaign through a Bike Stunt Show, and provide four teachers with the opportunity to attend the Future of Education Technology Conference. We've also raised money through the Harris Teeter VIC, AmazonSmile, and Box Top programs. Thanks to these programs, we've earned nearly \$1,078 so far this year! It's not too late to link your VIC card to #1933, and please continue to clip your Box Tops and shop at smile.amazon.com with the SCMS PTO selected as your charity to support. Every dollar we raise benefits our school!

I look forward to continuing to work with you. If you have any questions, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me at scmspto8040@gmail.com. Thank you for your support of South Charlotte Middle School and the PTO.

Spring at the School Store

Stop by the school store for fun supplies and more!

Questions?

Contact Shannon Kinlaw at skinlaw1@att.net.

Want to volunteer? Sign up [here](#).



- Matching binders, notebooks, pencil pouches, ear buds, pencils, staplers.
- PE uniforms are not sold at the school store.
- Open 11 a.m.-1 p.m., Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

SHOCKER SPORTS NEWS

SPRING TRYOUTS

Tryouts are open to 7th and 8th graders with at least a 2.0 GPA first semester. **Baseball and soccer tryouts** are after school until 6:30 p.m. on Feb 18 and Feb. 19. Track and field tryouts are after school until 6 p.m. on Feb. 24 and 25. All information is on the [SCMS athletics website](#), including sign-up posts.

Boys lacrosse will start Feb. 11. Information will be passed out in PE classes and be available during lunch. For all information about boys lacrosse, please email jeff1.konko@cms.k12.nc.us.



**Congrats
to all
2019
Shocker
fall
sports!**

PE UNIFORMS

PE uniform orders can be made on-line on the SCMS website or by check to PE teachers. Please have your student stop by to pick up an order form. Also, keep in mind that students are encouraged to bring CLEAR water bottles to PE class. This could be something as simple as a HT bottled water



or a clear colored plastic as long as we can see the liquid. Aluminum water bottles are not allowed.

IS YOUR STUDENT ABSENT?

Email scms.attendance@cms.k12.nc.us or call (980) 343-3670

REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER THROUGH THE CMS WEBSITE

Visit <https://www.cmsvolunteers.com> to volunteer at SCMS. You must register to volunteer. If you are already in the CMS system, go to your profile and add SCMS as one of your choices.

Chromebook Care 101

Nelda C. Smith, SCMS librarian



In the fall 2018, SCMS was a middle school pilot for allowing students to take Chromebooks home. Last year, 83 percent of our students participated in the take-home initiative. This year, all students take Chromebooks home every day.

School Chromebooks use filtering software called zScaler so that students may not access any websites or content that they could not access at school. Students have to log in to the filtering software each day.

We have seen a slight increase in breakage from the three previous years. Almost half of the cracked screens have happened in eighth grade, as students are not using the new always-on Chromebook bags. Please let Mrs. Smith in the library know if you would like to have the option to purchase one of these cases.

Parents are now responsible for paying for damages according to the chart below.

- Damaged keyboard—missing keys: \$47.99
- Damaged/cracked screen: \$27.99
- Defacing the Chromebook (etching, applying stickers, ink): \$10
- Lost charger: \$18
- Lost or total damage of Chromebook: \$191 (or less according to model)

Students occasionally leave their Chromebook at home, but this does not happen a lot because students want to have them available to use at school. Please help your student remember to charge their Chromebook daily.

We would like parents to reinforce Chromebook care that we practice at school.

- Students should not carry the Chromebook open or by the screen.
- Students should not eat or drink while using the Chromebook.
- Students should always transport the Chromebook in their Chromebook bag.
- Students should wear their Chromebook bag cross body, not carry it by the hand straps.
- Please adjust Chromebook straps so that Chromebook rests just below the waist.
- Students should take care to not close pencils or earbuds in their Chromebooks, as this will crack the screen.

Please contact Mrs. Smith in the library if you have any questions or issues with Chromebooks. We anticipate that our take home program will continue in 2020-2021.

SOUTH CHARLOTTE MIDDLE

Spirit Wear



Show your SCMS Pride with new gear from our online store!

The online store offers continuous access to sizes, colors and styles. Multiple color options and personalization are available. Products are delivered to your home or to school for a nominal fee within two weeks of ordering. A portion of the proceeds from the store go to the SCMS PTO!

www.southcharlottemiddlespiritwear.com

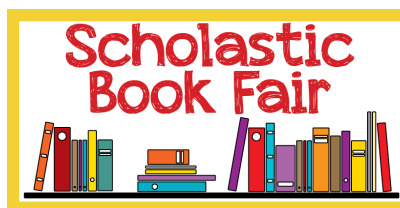
Yearbooks: jostensyearbooks.com



ORDER YOUR YEARBOOK

Early is good! Get ahead-of-the-game and check "order yearbook" off your list today!

This fall, South Charlotte Middle School, in partnership with Scholastic Book Fairs, hosted an on-site book fair for the first time in four years. During the week of Sept. 16, the Media Center was full of new books and excited students. Every SCMS student had the opportunity to preview the Book Fair with his or her ELA class and return to make purchases later in the week. Students also could use their math skills to win free posters and books with a game of "Guess How Many Pom Poms in the Jar." At the end of the week, we were



thrilled to learn that proceeds from the Book Fair brought in \$1,600 for the SCMS PTO budget. More importantly, SCMS students took home 937 books, which equates to 168,762 additional reading minutes! The PTO would like to thank the families, teachers, and staff of SCMS for supporting the Book Fair as well as the many parent volunteers who gave of their time to make this event a success. SCMS Media Coordinator Mrs. Smith and Academic Facilitator Ms. Bernier deserve special thanks for all of their support with planning and hosting the Book Fair.

SAVE THE DATE!

SCMS presents



Thursday, April 30 at 7 p.m.
Friday, May 1 at 7 p.m.
Saturday, May 2 at 2 p.m.

**FINE
ARTS**

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S**



Congratulations to the following students for making **CMS Honors Chorus!** These students were selected to sing in a concert on Feb. 14 at Northwest School of the Arts representing some of the CMS district's best vocal talent!

- Emma Hatmaker**-Alto
- Amelia McCarty**-Alto
- Cally Howell**-Soprano
- Claire Neeriemer**-Soprano
- Daniel Johnson**-Alto
- Emma Grace Purcell**-Alto
- Alyssa Kim**-Soprano
- Neve Taylor**-Soprano
- Natalie Kim**-Soprano
- Caroline Yurkutat**-Alto

Orchestra

Congratulations to the SCMS orchestra students who auditioned for the 2019-2020 Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools Honors Orchestras and were accepted with top rankings. The musicians were selected based on their superior musical performance, and they will participate in a rehearsal on Jan. 23 and a clinic with a guest conductor on Feb. 7-8.

Congratulations to Mr. Namkoong and the following SCMS students:

Sophia Kuncoro: ranked 1st,
Symphonic – Violin 1

Hayun Lee: ranked 11th
Symphonic – Violin 1

Siddarth Tewari: ranked 9th
Symphonic – Viola

Ben Uslan: ranked 9th
Symphonic – Cello



UPCOMING SCMS CONCERTS

Feb 13: 6th Grade Band Concert

May 7: Spring Orchestra Concert

May 11: Band Concert, A-Day

All
concerts
begin
at 7 p.m.

May 13: 7th and 8th Grade Dance Concert

May 14: Band Concert, B-Day

May 19: Spring Chorus Concert



Thank you to the families who have contributed to the 2019-20 Building A Legacy Annual Fund Campaign as of January 15, 2020

*Designates a corporate match contribution

PRINCIPAL'S CIRCLE \$750 +

The Hardwick Family *
Marc and Shari Sokolowicz
Song Family
The Caterino Family *
The Banks Family

PLATINUM LEVEL (\$500 - \$749)

Zusi Family *
The Buechler Family *
The Góis Family *
Kumar Family *
James and Helen Kim *
Larry and Jermeliah Martin
The Wallach Family
The Schubert Family
Jay and Lindsey Eich
Brady and Niki Koesel
The Im Family
Xiong Liu *
Kathy and Michael Brown
Paul and Julie Kinnavy *
David and Susan Alexander *
The Craft Family *
The Perez-Acevedo Family

GOLD LEVEL (\$250 - \$499)

O'Keeffe Family *
Sun Family
Michelle Thiny
Jon and Laura Moore
The Dinkin Family
Seufert Family
The Zaidman Family
The Kirkland Family
Tara and David Hill
The Antshel Family *
The Kaeppler Family

The Fitton Family
The Hutchinson Family *
The Bashore Family *
Darrell and Haydee Johnson *
Ken and Shannon Burbe
The Knox Family *
Chris and Katie Nygren
Jacqie McWilliams
David and June Jebram *
The Patton Family *
Kevin and Kristin McNeil *

SILVER LEVEL (\$100 - \$249)

Anonymous *
Meg and Scott Garand *
The Kinlaw Family *
The Partel Family *
The Roof Family *
The Maddox Family *
Nicholas Mosca *
Nurit and Dror Kaelter
Sean Allen and Nancy Behrens
The Elmore Family
Asnot and Ivina Suivazyan
Fickling Family
Chris and Marty Metzl
The Derrick Family
The Milheim Family
Hutchens Family
The Crews Family
Zalomek Family
Rebekah Pauls
The Blackwell Family
The Bamert Family
The Manoim Family
The Mitchell Family
Ryan Family
The Berliner Family
The Bernath Family
Lisa and Ron Nelson
The McHaffie Family
The Nee Family
Tim and Jamie Hatmaker
Dalton Gang
The Chang Family
Andy and Nicole Love
Drs. Sumit and Sonia Kalra
Joel and Shelly Barber
The Peter Family
The Graves Family

The Herring Family
The Mitchell Family
The Jensen Family
Crowell Family
McLendon Family
The Dines Family
The Perrone Family
The Brooks Family
Mr. and Mrs. Bryan McRae
The Cremin Family
Ard Family
Cunningham Family *
Subin Family
Stewart Family
Stimart Family
Talluri Family
Kiker Family
The Harding Family
David Bolouri
Ms. Pintsch *
Cook Family *
The Joiner Family *
The Kraemer Family *
The Metzcus Family
Mukund Prayagkar
Kimber and Burt Arrington
The Fox Family
The Weingartz Family
Patrick and Aislin Reddin
The Drake Family
Philip and Anna Chandler
Ben and Margaret Thompson
Otero Family
Mike and Andie Taylor
The DiPierno Family
The Uslan Family
Matthews Family

The Blake Family
Gallinek Family
The Laws Family
Mr. & Mrs. Brock Hodge
Don and Susan Bernardo
Amy and Eric Virkler
The Filip Family
The Nordstrom Family *

Caulder Family
Mr. and Mrs. Scott Appleyard
The Wassell Family
The Douglas Smith Family
The Kyle Family *
The Douglas Family *
Guy Family *
Jake and Sarah Garbarino

PURPLE LEVEL (up to \$99)

Anonymous
Lisa Bailes
The Kern Family
The Hannon Family
Sheppard Family
Vijay Ganapathy *
The Spiegler Family
Tracy and Kristen Curry
Ken and Wendy Oettinger
The Tabor Family
Alex Wells
The Randle Family
Sumana Family
Marsh Family
The Silverstein Family
The Wilson Family *
The McWilliam Family
Mary and Matthew Wallace *
Dul Family
Ferro Family *
Pearce Family
Stacey Pazzula
The Asby Family
Daniel Ragona
Monahan Family
Pak Family

Orchard Family
Christopher Daniels
Yafit Reichenthal
Serrano Family
The Collins Family
Mr. and Mrs. Leach
Mrs. Blanco
The Hall Family
The Evans Family
Srivastava Family
Kruglov Family
Yls Virkler
Maddox Benton
The King Family
The Aguilera Family
Brad Grow
Chasa Park
The Bibhuti Family
The Siharat Family
Mohit
The Tabor Family
Isabella Hall
C. Alexander
Owen and Marcy Williams
Schulman Family
The Morales Family