



November/December 2021

# THE SWAHS UPDATE

Vol 4

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## Principal's Message

Dear SWAHS Families:

As we approach the midway point of November we wanted to share a few updates with families. The end of term two is upon us with the term finishing up on November 23rd. Work for all classes and all work experience paperwork must be submitted by the 23rd to be reflected on term two report cards. Report cards can be viewed on [parent portal](#) and will be available on December 1st. If you would like a hard copy of your students report card, please contact Patty Freeman at 651-425-7001 for a printed copy.

December brings us another round of parent/guardian/student/advisor conferences. Advisors will begin reaching out to families the week of December 6th. If you are unable to connect with your advisor and would like to schedule a conference please contact our main office at 651-425-7001.

Again we want to thank you for your support of South Washington Alternative High School and please call the school at 651-425-7001 or visit our website at [swahs.sowashco.org](http://swahs.sowashco.org) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Nick Falde

Principal, South Washington Alternative High School

# Carpenters Training Institute Field Trip

Mike Shelhamer and Anne Piasecki brought students to the Carpenters Training Institute earlier this month. Here students learned the benefits of apprenticeship, the steps to becoming an apprentice through the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and had the opportunity to walk on the training floor, witness classes in action, see past student work, and speak to year 2 apprentices. The students were great, they asked thoughtful questions, and seemed to enjoy themselves.

Additionally, we were informed of the APEX program. This is a grant funded opportunity where participants have a 5 week orientation to the carpentry industry. This orientation allows participants to try out the carpentry industry and find out if it is a good fit. If it is, graduates of the program will have a leg up on others trying to get into apprenticeships in the industry. The only requirements are having a high school diploma/GED and a driver's license. While the funding hasn't come through for 2022, the training center should know by February if it is possible.

## UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

NOV 23 - END OF TERM 2

NOV 24 - NO SCHOOL - TEACHER WORKDAY

NOV 25 & 26 - NO SCHOOL

NOV 29 - START OF TERM 3

DEC 2 - CONSTRUCT TOMORROW FIELD TRIP

DEC 16 -  
PARENT/GUARDIAN/STUDENT/ADVISOR  
CONFERENCES (4:00 - 6:15)

DEC 22 - JAN 2 - WINTER BREAK

SWAHS CALENDAR LINK -  
[SWAHS.SOWASHCO.ORG/GET-INVOLVED/CALENDAR](https://swahs.sowashco.org/get-involved/calendar)



# COVID Rapid Testing Community Sites

Minnesota is offering free community testing sites. Appointments are recommended but not required. More information can be found on the [mn.gov](https://mn.gov) website.

## Greetings from the Counseling Office

It's hard to believe that we are nearing the end of term 2 and the holidays are just around the corner! It truly amazes me how quickly the days go by. With that being said, the holidays can be a truly magical time for families, but it can also be challenging for some. Please know that there are resources available to help with the essential needs of food and clothing, as well as resources to help with mental health needs that may arise. If you would like to talk with me, if you would like for me to talk with your student or if I can provide you with any resources, please feel free to contact me at 651-425-7004 or email [kjenkins@sowashco.org](mailto:kjenkins@sowashco.org). If you are experiencing a crisis, you can reach out to the Washington County Crisis Response at 651-275-7400 or text MN to 741 741.



image taken from [dli.mn.gov](https://dli.mn.gov)

## Construct Tomorrow Field Trip - December 2nd

Construct Tomorrow was founded in 2013 to bring awareness to high school students about the remarkable post-secondary career opportunities in the construction and building trades industries.

Since then, Construct Tomorrow has connected with 50,000 students from more than 100 high schools across the state of Minnesota through experiential, hands-on learning activities that feature the construction trades. Students who attend a Construct Tomorrow event receive practical, one-on-one advice from experienced trades professionals, and from current apprentices -- young men and women not much older than the students themselves -- who are thriving in apprenticeship programs.

- info taken from [constructtomorrow.org/about](https://constructtomorrow.org/about) -

If your student is interested in this half day opportunity, please have them connect with Anne Piasecki by December 1st.