



Dear SEM families,

August arrives, and we switch gears at SEM. Our focus turns from summer projects and activities to the 2022-23 year. Although I enjoy all that summer brings, I look forward with anticipation and excitement to the new school year.

Before we make the transition to next year, I want to thank all those involved with our camp and summer projects. The youthful energy of our campers and counselors fills the halls, and the added sleepovers were a big hit. Thanks to Alexa Skomra and her camp team. The Niscah and Oishei houses have been home to Neglia ballet dancers from Argentina and Odo Technology interns. They love our homes and the activity of the Elmwood Village. Finally, renovations are underway in our residential houses. Fresh paint, new lighting, and new furniture will welcome our students upon their return.

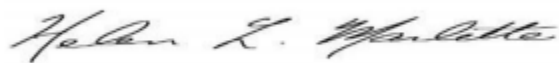
Summer also provides me the opportunity to connect with SEM alumnae. As always, they inspire the work we do at SEM. I joined an impromptu 97th birthday celebration for a graduate from the class of 1943 and her granddaughter '09 when they stopped in for a visit. They laughed and reminisced about the fun they had at SEM. Our 1943 graduate explained that SEM and Miss Angel provided her the constancy and support she needed when her mother battled illness. Her refuge was the art room on the third floor. Last week, I had lunch with three graduates from 1997, '98, and '06, respectively. One was a lawyer in surrogate court and is now in the admission office at UB law, another was an educational lobbyist in Washington, and the third just finished 9th in her age group in the Lake Placid Iron Man. We talked about their SEM experience. They are grateful for the academic challenge and variety their classes provided, and they appreciate the respect and trust the faculty gave them. This trust helped them gain independence and confidence, which has served them well since SEM. Finally, I had breakfast with a graduate from the class of 1961 and her 16-year-old granddaughter. They were on a road trip together - driving from Washington, DC to Buffalo. Her granddaughter navigated and she drove. Their time together allowed her to share stories of her youth and career in foreign service. Their route was a bit circuitous as they both enjoyed venturing off the Google map directions to explore independently.

SEM has a long history of graduating "scholars and citizens proud to shape society rather than be controlled by it." Our entering ninth-grade students will graduate in

2026, the year we celebrate SEM's 175th anniversary. Let's take a lesson from those who came before us and build a year filled with gratitude, laughter, respect, hard work, trust, curiosity, and compassion for one another. Like those before us, we will navigate all that the year presents with courage and confidence.

The following links contain valuable information for the opening of school and fall events that bring us together.

I look forward to seeing you on campus,



Helen L. Marlette

Important Back to School Information:

Required Health Forms and Vaccination Information

There is a new form on the SNAP Health portal requesting that parents either upload a copy of their daughter's covid vaccination card, or sign and decline if she is not vaccinated.

SEM has elected to use the [SNAP Health Portal](#) to better connect you with your child's school health and wellness information. This web-based system provides an easy, secure, and green way for you to update and review important school health information and medical documents throughout the year. With 24-hour access over the web, you will be able to:

- Electronically sign and submit all health forms safely over the internet.
- Review and update new health information such as vaccinations, health conditions, and screening results throughout the school year.
- Receive immediate notifications when there are changes in your child's health status
- Easily message Nurse Kim to expedite communication

If you have not yet received your login information for the Health portal, please contact [Beth Adamczyk](#). Please add noreply@studentehr.com to your email address book now to ensure proper delivery.

[CLICK HERE](#) to watch a short video overview

[CLICK HERE](#) for a checklist of items required to be entered

[CLICK HERE](#) to log in

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact [Beth Adamczyk](#).

Transportation and Photo Permissions

In our effort to use less paper, you will be receiving a separate email that you will ask you to officially give or restrict your daughter's permission for transportation to and from regular SEM events and for SEM to use pictures/videos of her on our website and other media.

Student Schedules and Bell Schedule

The MYSEM portal is now open and live! You can access your first trimester schedule for the 2022-2023 school year. Please view our [bell schedule](#) which is also located under the "Back to School Info" header on the [mySEM portal page](#). For any questions or concerns regarding student schedules, please email Dean of Students, [Ms. Cunningham](#).

New Student Orientation

New Student Orientation will take place on Wednesday, August 31 from 8:30 AM - 12:30 PM. All new students can be dropped off at the front food of SEM starting at 8:15 AM. For a full schedule of the day, please click [HERE](#).

Athletics/Fitness

Fall sports will begin on Monday, August 22nd. To review the SEM Athletic Handbook and see practice times and locations, please go to the [SEM Athletics Page](#). Students who have not signed up for a fall sport can do so [HERE](#).

All students wishing to play a sport must have a valid NYS physical. In addition, the NYSED Interval Health History for Athletics form must be completed via SNAP Health. If you have any questions regarding physicals, please contact nurse [Kim Skomra](#).

Students participating on a SEM sports team are exempt from fitness class during that season but are welcome to schedule a time to meet with our fitness instructor during the school day. Any student not playing a sport will be scheduled into fitness class during the first week of school.

SEM Apparel

In need of new SEM gear? Want exclusive SEM apparel not found in the school store? Click the link below and place your order today! The store closes on Tuesday, August 16th at midnight.

[BUFFALO SEMINARY SPIRITWEAR](#)

Access Code: SEMSUMMER1

Items will be shipped directly to your house. Please allow 3-4 weeks from the closing of the store.

Student Handbook

Here is a copy of the [2022-2023 Student Handbook](#).

Dress Code

Here is a copy of the [2022-2023 Dress Code](#).

Parent Association

We are looking forward to having a school year full of community events! In order to make our school year a success, we need your help. At SEM, parents support the school by being a grade level representative, joining a committee, or chairing an event. Please take a moment to review our many opportunities to be involved and consider [signing up](#) to participate!

If you have any questions or would like additional details, please reach out to [Leah Kimmet](#).

All-School Picnic

Our Annual All-School Picnic will be held on Friday, September 9, 2022 from 5:00 PM - 7:00 PM at Larkin Field. For more information, click [HERE](#).

Class Trips

Planning for each class trip is underway! More information will be sent to you in the coming weeks. For general information and dates, please click [HERE](#).

College Counseling

Please review the following [information](#) from our College Counselor, [Ms. Leslie](#).

School Bus Information

For information regarding busing and transportation, please click [HERE](#).

Tech Orientation for New Students

New students should have already signed up for the tech orientation the week of August 8, or the late orientation the week of August 29. Please arrive 10 minutes early so that we can begin on time. Parents may attend if they choose, or they can plan to pick up their child after an hour. (We will try to keep the session to an hour). Students should bring a laptop sleeve or case so that they can take their new computer home. The sleeve should be about 9 x 13 inches.

Laptop Insurance

SEM laptops are covered for accidental damage, but are not covered for loss or theft. If a computer is lost or stolen, the family will need to pay the replacement

cost. Although this has happened very infrequently in the thirteen years we have had the program, families might want to consider spending \$60/yr for protection. School Device Coverage, an independent insurance provider will provide you with this coverage. If you are interested, [click here](#) to download the information.

Save the Dates!

It is a busy fall and we are looking forward to coming together as a community. Here are some important dates for the calendar:

- August 31- Grade 9 Parent Coffee - 8:15 AM
- September 15 - Grade 10 Parent Coffee - 7:30 AM in Colby
- September 16 - Grade 12 Parent Coffee - 7:30 AM in Colby
- September 17 - SEM Admissions Open House
- September 20 - Meet the Teacher Evening
- September 21 - Grade 11 Parent Coffee - 7:30 AM in Colby
- September 29 - SEM Admissions Open House
- October 23rd - Pickleball on the Parkway at SEM