

# Souderton Area High School

August 2022 Newsletter

## SAHS

### PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

Dear Parent(s)/Guardian(s),

The staff of Souderton Area High School is very excited about the start of the 2022–2023 school year. Two schoolwide goals that are very important to us are:

1. Rebuilding our senses of school community and school spirit.
2. Promoting civil conversations about sensitive topics.

Toward achieving the first goal, your student should see many opportunities to engage with school beyond the classroom. Among many chances to get involved in the beginning of the school year will be Career Week, from September 19th-23rd, and the piloting of a new morning opportunity called Red Zone. Regarding the second goal, we will continue to work with staff and students to provide more opportunities for respectful discussions to promote understanding of different viewpoints.

School should be a safe and fun place to learn and be active in as many ways as possible. In Souderton, we have also grown accustomed to our rather large high school community feeling more like a family. My hope is that we continue to build an environment where students feel the safety, fun, and family!

It is going to be a great year!

Sam Varano  
Principal

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# CALENDAR

## AUGUST

AUG 15: Fall Sports Meeting - 10:00AM  
 AUG 15: Fall Sports Practice Begins  
 AUG 15: Band Camp & Choir Camp Begin  
 AUG 24 Freshman Orientation - SAHS  
 3:00PM-5:00PM A-M, 6:00PM-8:00PM N-Z  
 AUG 30: Senior Sunrise - 6:00AM-7:00AM  
 AUG 30: First Day of School  
 AUG 31: Back to School Night - 6:30PM-7:30PM

## SEPTEMBER

SEP 1: Blacklight Dance - 7:00PM-9:00PM  
 SEP 2, 5: NO SCHOOL - Labor Day Holiday  
 SEP 9: Picture Day  
 SEP 14: Post-Secondary Night - 6:00PM  
 SEP 15: Movie Night - 7:00PM  
 SEP 19-23: Career Week  
 SEP 21: Club Fair - 8:00AM  
 SEP 26: NO SCHOOL - Rosh Hashanah  
 SEP 28: Parent Participation Meeting - 9:30AM

## OCTOBER

OCT 3-7: Spirit Week  
 OCT 5: NO SCHOOL - Yom Kippur  
 OCT 7: Homecoming Pep Rally  
 OCT 7: Homecoming Football Game - 7:00PM  
 OCT 8: Homecoming Dance - 6:30PM-9:30PM  
 OCT 12: PSAT  
 OCT 13: Fall Choral Concert - 7:00PM  
 OCT 17: Red Zone Pilot Begins  
 OCT 19: NO SCHOOL - Act 80 Day  
 OCT 25: NHS Induction - 6:30PM  
 OCT 26: Parent Participation Meeting - 9:30AM

## NOVEMBER

NOV 2: Picture Re-Takes  
 NOV 4: End of Marking Period 1  
 NOV 5: SAT - 7:00AM  
 NOV 8: NO SCHOOL - Election Day/ACT 80 Day  
 NOV 10, 11, 12: Fall Play - 7:00PM  
 NOV 12: Veteran's Brunch - 8:00AM  
 NOV 15: Report Cards Available on HAC  
 NOV 16: Parent Participation Meeting - 9:30AM  
 NOV 16: Orchestra Concert - 6:30PM  
 NOV 18: Winter Sports Meeting - 3:00PM  
 NOV 21: NO SCHOOL - Senior Project Presentations  
 NOV 22: NO SCHOOL - Conferences -  
 1:30PM - 8:30PM  
 NOV 23: NO SCHOOL - Teacher In-Service  
 NOV 24, 25: NO SCHOOL - Thanksgiving Holiday



Photo Credit: Lifetouch

## Parent Participation Meetings

Parent Participation Meetings are opportunities for parents to learn about school programs, events, and issues through presentations and discussions with school staff, usually the principal. All parents are invited to attend.

Wednesday, September 28, 2022

Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

**All meetings are at 9:30 AM in Room A101.**

## 2022-2023 End of Marking Period Dates

Parents/Guardians can continuously monitor student progress on Home Access Center (HAC)  
 (Dates are subject to change.)

	End of Marking Period	Report Cards Available on HAC
MP1	11/4/22	11/15/22
MP2	1/26/23	2/7/23
MP3	4/3/23	4/19/23
MP4	6/13/23	6/16/23

# Welcome Class of 2026!

## Freshman Orientation

We are excited to welcome the Class of 2026 to Souderton Area High School! All ninth grade students should come to the high school on **Wednesday, August 24th**, for orientation. Please see below for assigned groups and start times based on student's last name. The orientation program will last approximately 2 hours. ***Please note, students will need to provide their own transportation to and from orientation.***

Group #1 3:00PM - 5:00PM Student Last Names **A-M**

Group #2 6:00PM - 8:00PM Student Last Names **N-Z**

This is a great opportunity for ninth grade students to get to know the school and their classmates. We hope to see all of our ninth grade students at orientation, for which the Link Crew has been working diligently to prepare.

## Back to School Night

The First Semester Back to School Night is scheduled for **Wednesday, August 31st**, 6:30PM - 7:30PM. Parents will follow their student's **FIRST SEMESTER** schedule.

***Please bring a copy of your student's schedule.***

Plan to arrive early (pulling into the school by 5:45PM is recommended), and use both the Lower Road and Halteman Road Entrances. We will begin promptly at 6:30PM.

***NEW! NEW! NEW!***

Optional for parents: From 5:45PM to 6:15PM, a panel of 11th and 12th grade students will be in the Auditorium sharing ways in which your student can make the most of his/her high school experience.

## Canvassing the Town!

Parents of Souderton Area High School freshmen may find a surprise guest at their door one evening this summer when high school administrators, teachers, and members of the Link Crew make "house calls" at the homes of incoming freshmen. The brief visits will take place from 5:00PM-7:00PM, when the visitors will offer welcoming messages and information to parents and students in the freshman class. Principal Sam Varano said, "Our goal is to send the message to incoming 9th graders that the high school is excited to help them. We know that the transition between schools for students is always challenging in different ways."

The welcome team hopes to visit more than 100 homes during the three planned evenings (August 11th, 16th, and 23rd). If a family is not home at the time of the visit, information about the high school will be left at the residence.

# REDZONE

During 3 weeks in October, the high school will be piloting a special schedule called Red Zone. Like Lunch and Learn, the primary goal of Red Zone is to provide students with an opportunity each day to meet with their teachers to get extra help in courses and complete missed assignments. During this 3-week trial of Red Zone, teachers will hold office hours from 7:25AM - 8:05AM, to give students extra help. First Block will begin at 8:13AM. The high school will use parent, student, and staff feedback from this initial pilot to make improvements and run a second trial of Red Zone during the 2nd Semester. Students will learn more about the procedures and expectations for Red Zone during 5th Block prior to the start of our Red Zone pilot on October 17th.

## Guidance Counselors 2022-2023

If students would like to meet with their counselor, they may:

\*Email their counselor to schedule an appointment, or

\*Stop by the Guidance Office in between classes or during lunch to schedule an appointment

For immediate concerns, students may request a pass to guidance from their classroom teacher.

Grade 9/10	Last Name Beginning With	Grade 11/12
Alison Kircher <a href="mailto:akircher@soudertonsd.org">akircher@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20102	A-Fa	Tom Overberger <a href="mailto:toverberger@soudertonsd.org">toverberger@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20104
Nickole Trout <a href="mailto:ntrout@soudertonsd.org">ntrout@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20101	Fe-La	Dan Barber <a href="mailto:dbarber@soudertonsd.org">dbarber@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20110
Bryan McKeever <a href="mailto:bmckeever@soudertonsd.org">bmckeever@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20103	Le-Ri	Kate Hardgrove <a href="mailto:khargrove@soudertonsd.org">khargrove@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20107
Dan Glatts <a href="mailto:dglatts@soudertonsd.org">dglatts@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20105	Ro-Z	Tim Brown <a href="mailto:tibrown@soudertonsd.org">tibrown@soudertonsd.org</a> Ext. 20100



## Post-Secondary Night

SAHS will be holding a Post-Secondary Night on **Tuesday, September 14th, from 6:00PM-8:00PM**. This evening will replace our in-school college/career fair and will be open to all juniors, seniors, and their parents/guardians. Among the presentations planned will be one on the college admission process that will address the use of Naviance and electronic submission of college materials. Seniors will be **required to request transcripts and teacher recommendations through Naviance**. Unless specifically requested by a college for a specific reason, transcripts will not be sent until after the start of school.

## PSAT

The PSAT will be administered to all **11<sup>th</sup> grade students free of charge** on **Wednesday, October 12, 2022**. Any 10<sup>th</sup> grade student can also take the PSAT on October 12th, in school; however, **10<sup>th</sup> graders would need to pay a fee**. **Cost and online registration information will be available by mid-September**. We are pleased that we are able to provide 11<sup>th</sup> grade students with a free opportunity to learn more about Advanced Placement and their college readiness, as well as potentially becoming candidates for National Merit Scholarships.

## Scholars' Banquet

Following are the qualification criteria for the Scholars' Banquet 2023:

**10<sup>th</sup> Grade Students** = Distinguished Honor Roll (straight A's) for each of the first three marking periods of the year

**11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Students** = Top 5% of their class

**Reminder: Class rank is not publicly reported.**

Valedictorian and Salutatorian will be determined based upon applications from students in the top 5% of their class.

## Homecoming 2022

SAHS Homecoming begins with Spirit Week, **October 3rd-7th**, with daily themes to be announced. The week ends with a Pep Rally and Homecoming football game against Warwick High School at 7:00PM.

Be sure not to miss the Homecoming Dance on **Saturday, October 8th**, at the high school. Tickets will be on sale during Spirit Week.



Photo Credit: Yearbook Staff

## Class of 2023 Graduation

The date of the Graduation Ceremony will be announced after the inclement weather season.

## Activity Fee

An activity fee of **\$175.00** will be paid by all middle and high school students if they choose to participate in any co-curricular activity, either athletic or non-athletic. The fee is paid one time per year even if a student participates in multiple activities.

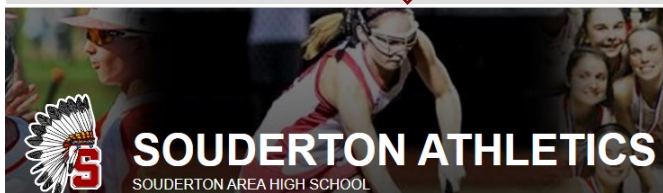
The activity fee will be collected for participation in all co-curricular activities excluding, but not limited to, the following: service clubs, student empowerment groups (Student Government and Student Council), and accredited courses.

Provisions will be made for exemption from paying either a part or all of the fee by students whose economic situation would otherwise preclude their involvement. Students who would qualify for free or reduced price lunches under the guidelines established for the federally funded lunch programs will not be required to pay the student activity fee.

### Athletics

For changes and cancellations, check the Souderton Area High School Athletics website. We are all looking forward to a great year for SAHS athletics!

[Click Link Below](#)



### Hands Across the District

The high school's Hands Across the District coordinator for the 2022-2023 school year will be Jane Hagan. Those interested in joining our Hands Across the District volunteers should complete the volunteer application found on the district website.

[CLICK HERE](#)

### SAHS Unified Track Team

**Took Silver at County Championship, Qualified for State Championship!**



## Bus Passes

If a student needs to take a bus other than the one to which he/she is assigned, an email sent to

[attendsahs@soudertonsd.org](mailto:attendsahs@soudertonsd.org)

is required from a parent/guardian. We do not accept permission over the phone.

## Food Service

Breakfast (All Schools) \$1.75

High School Lunch \$3.60

To get free or reduced price meal benefits for your children, you must complete an application and return it to school. A new application must be completed each school year. Applications will be sent home the beginning of each school year. [Questions?](#)

## 2022-2023 Bell Schedule

### Standard Day

<b>1st Block</b>	7:40AM-9:10AM
<b>2nd Block</b>	9:18AM-10:53AM
<b>3rd Block</b>	<i>11:01AM-1:07PM</i> <b>A Lunch</b> 11:01AM-11:31AM <b>B Lunch</b> 11:50AM-12:20PM <b>C Lunch</b> 12:37PM-1:07PM
<b>4th Block</b>	1:15PM-2:45PM

### 5th Block Day

<b>1st Block</b>	7:40AM-8:59AM
<b>2nd Block</b>	9:07AM-10:32AM
<b>5th Block</b>	10:40AM-11:05AM
<b>3rd Block</b>	<i>11:13AM-1:17PM</i> <b>A Lunch</b> 11:13AM-11:43AM <b>B Lunch</b> 12:00PM-12:30PM <b>C Lunch</b> 12:47PM-1:17PM
<b>4th Block</b>	1:25PM-2:45PM

## Military Opt-Out

The No Child Left Behind Act includes a provision mandating the release of student information (names, addresses, and telephone numbers) to military recruiters and institutions of higher learning, upon their request. Additionally, the district must also notify parents/guardians of their right and the right of their child to request that the district not release such information without prior written consent.

If you do not want the school to release the above information to military recruiters and/or institutions of higher learning, please download, complete, and print the Opt-Out form using the link below. Return the form by **September 30th**, to Mrs. Robin Johnson at [rjohnson@soudertonsd.org](mailto:rjohnson@soudertonsd.org) or mail to Mrs. Johnson's attention at the high school.

[Military Recruitment Opt-Out Form](#)



## Mentorship Camps

This summer, the SAHS Pathway 360° Program ran 13 In-house Mentorships including Engineering, Exercise Science, Hotel Management, Sales and Interior Design, Health Related Services, World Language, Law Enforcement, Finance, Marketing, Medical, Nursing, Trades, and TV Studio. We had 215 students complete the programs, earning a 20-hour mentorship credit. Each program was unique in making sure students learned about various careers within each field by visiting a university, touring a community business, and hearing from a variety of guest speakers. Students were exposed to their career of interest and had time to ask questions, discover new areas of interest, and make connections in their career fields.



## 2022-2023 Souderton Area High School Summer/Pre-Course Reading List

Honors and AP students can expect an assessment on their summer reading early in the semester. This assessment will count as not more than 15% of the First Marking Period grade.

Click here for the [Summer Reading List](#).

Alternative book choices must fall within the literature focus of the student's scheduled course. Prior approval must be obtained for an alternative book. To request approval for an alternative text, please fill out the [Alternative Book Approval Form](#) and email to Dr. Aronow at [saronow@soudertonsd.org](mailto:saronow@soudertonsd.org).

