



# Newsletter

## Outlook Academy

A p r i l 2 0 2 4

Outlook Academy enjoyed the morning before Spring Break learning about Tornadoes and Severe Storms. Nick Bartholomew, founder, and lecturer, of Storm Science came to South Suburban College to teach our kids all about tornadoes and severe weather conditions. The kids learned so much and they were able to take part in the live demonstrations. Nick is a storm chaser and leads storm-chasing tours. He was able to give the kids firsthand accounts of being inside a tornado and what it feels like to nearly be struck by lightning. Many students stayed behind to ask him questions, we may have a couple of future Meteorologists representing District 205!



### ***Student Reminders:***

#### Student ID Procedures:

Students are required to wear their OA ID. Students are not allowed on campus without an ID. If you lose your ID, you must report to the main office to purchase a temporary ID. Students are not allowed in the hallway without a school ID.

### ***Ventra Cards:***

Lost, stolen, or damaged Ventra cards require new paperwork and a \$10 replacement fee. Please see Mr. Valant and/or Mrs. Verdin.

### ***Attendance:***

All student absences and/or early dismissals should be reported to the OA Main Office at 708-225-5875.

Our Truancy Department and Officer Owens conduct daily attendance checks. Questions about attendance should be directed to Officer Owens at 708-225-5871.



CONNECT WITH US

[brower.loribeth@district205.net](mailto:brower.loribeth@district205.net)

708-225-5875 or 708-225-5879

# Upcoming Events

**For parent Information**, comments, or concerns regarding attendance please contact Truancy Officer Owens at 708-225-5871.

- Remember to call the office when your student is going to be absent at 708-225-5875 or 5869.
- Please visit our webpage at [www.district205.net/domain/315](http://www.district205.net/domain/315) to view pictures, download forms, get access to other links, and much more.

Parents/guardians of students may access attendance, grades, and assignments using one log-in at: <https://powerschool.ttdistrict205.net/public>

## **District 205 Credit Recovery 2023-2024**

Mrs. Patricia Malopsy-Fortier  
District Credit Recovery Program  
Administrator

If you have any questions regarding Credit Recovery, please contact your Home School Counselor and/or credit Recovery Building Coordinator or visit the district website: [www.district205.net/areasofinstruction/creditrecovery](http://www.district205.net/areasofinstruction/creditrecovery)

Outlook Academy  
Mr. Josh Folsom  
OA Credit Recovery Coordinator  
[folsom.joshua@district205.net](mailto:folsom.joshua@district205.net)



ACCESS Testing for English Learners which assesses proficiency in the domains of reading, writing, listening, and speaking will be approaching quickly in January.

If you need assistance in your classes, please reach out to me in 3495 or email me at [cwest@ttdistrict205.net](mailto:cwest@ttdistrict205.net)

We will have another Honors and Attendance Awards Celebration in March and I hope students are aiming to be a part of it!

Look for information coming soon on a Girls' Group to meet for mentoring, discussion, and support.



**From: Patricia A. Malopsy Fortier, Program Administrator**

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

As we turn the corner into the vibrant season of spring, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible journey we have undertaken together this academic year. With each passing day, we have witnessed your growth, determination, and resilience, and it fills me with immense pride to see how far each of you has come.

As the days grow longer and the temperatures warmer, it is undeniable that the end of the school year is rapidly approaching. With that, our attention naturally turns to one of the most significant milestones in the life of every high school student: graduation.


For our seniors, this is a time of both reflection and anticipation. It marks the culmination of years of hard work, dedication, and unforgettable memories. While there may still be exams to conquer and final projects to complete, I encourage each senior to savor every moment, to cherish the friendships forged, and to celebrate the achievements earned.

To our underclassmen, I urge you to approach the remainder of the year with the same enthusiasm and commitment that has defined your journey thus far. While graduation may seem distant, the truth is that time flies, and before you know it, you too will be standing on the threshold of a new chapter.

In the spirit of spring, let us embrace the sense of renewal and possibility that permeates the air. Let us support one another, uplift one another, and continue to strive for excellence in all that we do.

As we prepare to bid farewell to another graduating class and welcome the promise of tomorrow, let us remember that the true measure of our success lies not only in what we achieve but, in the lives, we touch along the way.

I look forward to celebrating the achievements of each one of you in the coming weeks. Together, let us make this spring a season to remember.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
	Spring Break					
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
			Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Thornton High School			
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
		SAT Make-Up Day		Science Assessment Day		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				



# Outlook Academy

## STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

## Academic Support

### In other news...

#### **Seniors...**

All D205 Graduations will be at your home school on Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>. Make sure you meet all the requirements to be cleared for graduation.

If you have any questions or concerns, please see me in office 3481 or email me ASAP. [pmartin@ttdistrict205.net](mailto:pmartin@ttdistrict205.net)



- Congratulations to all the students who took the Digital SAT on all School Testing Day, Tuesday, March 26, 2024! Your SAT Student Score Release begins Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>, for students with College Board Student Accounts.
- Students who were absent on All School Testing Day, YOUR SAT Digital Make Up Day is Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 8 a.m. Be on time, with your charged Chromebooks, and ready to test.

### **Martin's Motivation:**

"All men should strive to learn before they die what they are running from, and to, and why."

~James Thurber  
an American cartoonist, writer, humorist, journalist, and playwright.

### **Announcements and Reminders**

Students, remember to access your PowerSchool by:

- Username: your ID #
- Password: Hit the reset/forgot my password button to make your own password.

**Your password can only be reset, using your Chromebook.**







## From the Desk of Ms. Cheryl West MTSS/EL

The final quarter of the school year can be both exciting and challenging for seniors as they prepare to graduate and transition to the next phase of their lives. Here are some strategies to help seniors make the most of their final quarter:

the school year. Break larger goals into smaller, manageable tasks to help you stay on track and motivated.

standardized tests that you may have coming up. Review material regularly. in extracurricular activities or receiving college acceptances. time you have with friends and classmates. Graduation marks the end.

We celebrated our 3rd term students who achieved High Honor Roll, Honor Roll, and Perfect Attendance with an Awards Luncheon. High Honor Roll students earned all As in their classes

and Honor Roll students earned As and/or Bs in all of their classes. Students enjoyed time with peers and staff as they received certificates and goodie bags for their hard work and dedication. We are very proud of each of these students!



### High Honors

Griselda Alencastro Delarosa  
Tyler Ronald Atkins  
Jayla Banks  
Yamilet Carachure  
Michelle Marie Dominguez  
Cortez  
Mollie Herrick  
Zyporah Jones  
Kassandra Lopez  
Laniya Dina Lopez  
Danielle N Marx  
Carla P Molina-Gutierrez  
Nicole L Scarbrough  
Fuhad M Sefah

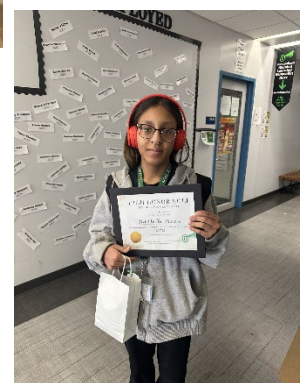
### Perfect Attendance

Dontae L. Amos



### Honors

Alondra Contreras  
Heaven English  
Solshecchid Gonzalez  
Beyonca Graham  
Kemari D Grinnage  
Samuel Guerrero  
Markel Hart  
A'Leyah Hicks  
Aniya James-Simpkins  
Antionette Johnson  
Ashley Mauricio  
Ariana Denise Patterson  
Enngye Quintana Diaz  
Kimora Reed  
Andrea Salvador  
Milan Savage  
Kaniah Shamsid-Deen  
Elijah Winston  
Ariel Cianna Woulard  
Kayla M, Wright



# WHAT'S YOUR NEXT STEP?

## Financial Aid Department

*From the Desk of Ms. Briana Holmes  
College and Careers*

**Students must use District Gmail to gain access to Google Classroom.**

Completion and Confirmation of FAFSA and South Suburban College Application is REQUIRED for Graduation from Outlook.

**COMPLETE FAFSA**

BEGIN the 2023-2024 FAFSA TODAY!  
Enrollment has opened! South Suburban College CODE: 001769

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>

**FAFSA Instructions**

<https://www.ssc.edu/admissions-registration/financial-aid/>

If you have any questions or concerns or call regarding your FAFSA please email at: 708-596-2000 ext. 3575 or email [bholmes@ttdsitric205.net](mailto:bholmes@ttdsitric205.net)

Graduation is coming and we are excited to be having a couple of our students going into the Nursing Program at South Suburban College for the fall semester. We are also pleased to report that OA graduates are returning and requesting assistance with registering for classes with South Suburban College. We appreciate our partnership with SSC and hope to continue to build on it for next year. We look forward to continuing to work with the Urban League and exploring more job opportunities for our students.

Anyone needing assistance with registering for classes/programs at SSC is encouraged to visit Ms. Holmes' Office for help (Office 3474). Additionally, anyone needing assistance with their FAFSA and/or looking for employment opportunities should see Ms. Holmes.

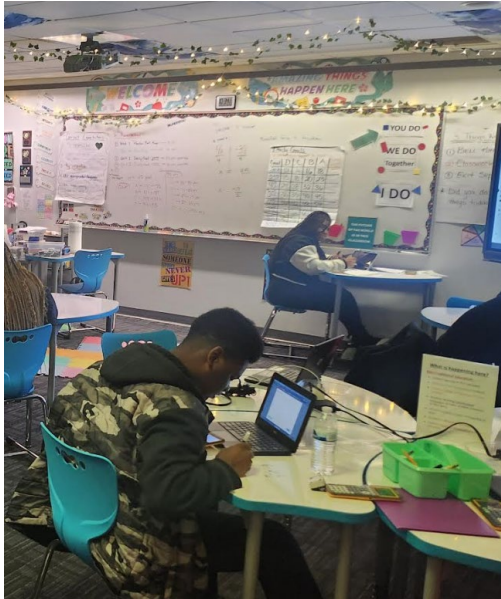






# Math Department

## *From the Desk of Mrs. Garza*



In our math class, errors are embraced as opportunities for growth. Students navigate challenges daily, understanding that mistakes are integral to the learning process. Rather than ignoring errors, we delve into them, extracting valuable insights. I guide students through this

journey, offering feedback and support, knowing that learning from mistakes builds resilience and confidence. This mindset empowers students to boldly pursue knowledge, fostering success not only in math but also in life beyond the classroom.



## *From the Desk of Mr. Bailey*

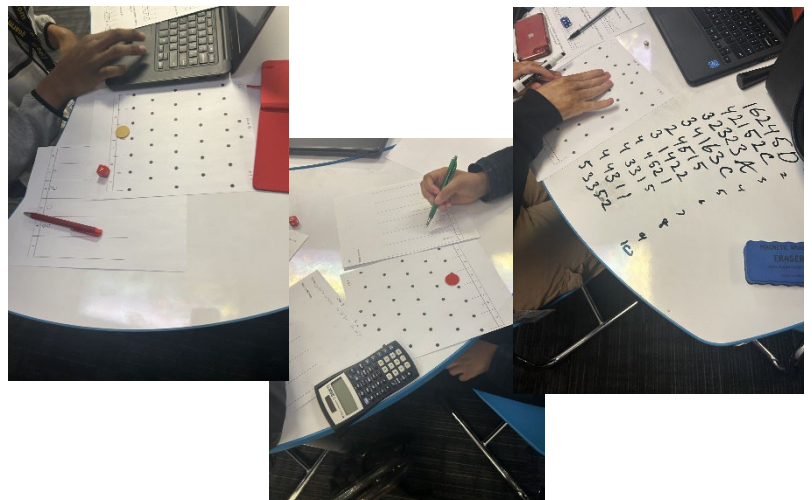
The second quarter of statistics has begun as we move into April. We have completed our lessons on terminology. The students will begin to explore the concept of a normal distribution. We have begun working on the measure of central tendency. During the next several weeks we will explore z-scores of the normal distribution. We will understand how percentiles and areas under the normal curve relate to total populations. We will then move on to frequency tables and graphs.

You should be receiving an email, at the email on record, with your student's current grades. If you have any questions concerning their grade, please email me. ([rbailey@ttdistrict205.net](mailto:rbailey@ttdistrict205.net))

The pictures below are of students creating their normal distribution using the properties of the binomial theorem. This property is used in the game Plinko on the Price is Right. Students used dice rolls to determine how the chip fell down the board and were able to evolve their theory of where the disk is most likely to land.

### Reminders:

- Week 4 – 4/8 to 4/12 - Plinko and Normal Distribution
- Week 5 – 4/15 to 4/19 - Z-Score and Assessment
- Week 6 – 4/22 to 4/26 - Area under Normal Distribution
- Week 7 – 4/29 to 5/3 - Assessment and Frequency Tables







### *From the Desk of Mr. Folsom*

In Mr. Folsom's classroom, students have been engaging in practical real-world skills to prepare them for their future careers. Here are some highlights of what's been happening:

1. **Professional Emails:** Students have been learning the art of crafting professional emails. From subject lines to proper greetings and signoffs, they are honing their communication skills for the workplace. Also, their feelings on Outlook.
2. **Job Searching:** Through interactive activities and discussions, students explore different job opportunities and learn about the application process. They are gaining insights into the importance of tailoring resumes and cover letters for specific positions.
3. **Resume Building:** Students have been working on creating impressive resumes that showcase their skills and experiences. They are learning how to highlight their strengths and stand out to potential employers.

Attached are some snapshots of student's emails:

#### **Student's Thoughts on Outlook**

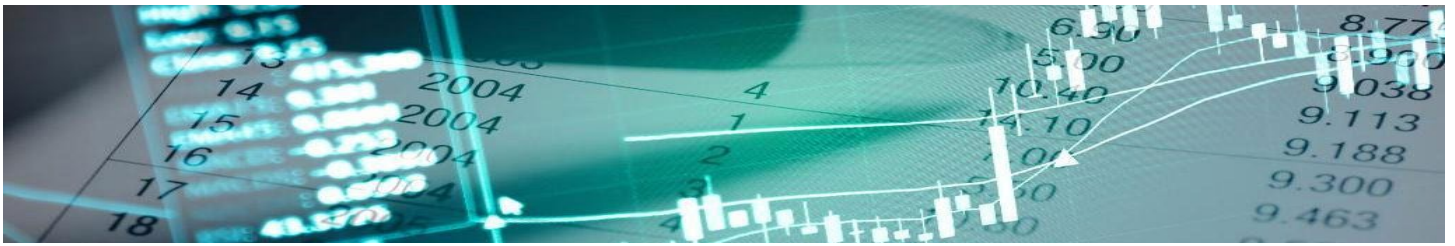
"First, I enjoy all the teachers I had these few months in Outlook. They are very organized and under no pressure. If there is pressure, it's because they want us to graduate on time! All my teachers had so much patience with me and understood me."

"The first thing I like about the program is its fast-paced nature. You get your work done quicker and you get your grades updated fast. The second thing I like is the environment and atmosphere. It's laid back and no conflict. The third thing I like about Outlook is your staff help you with your work and encourage you to get it done."

Outlook for my future has been great ever since I got into the program, I got a scholarship to a trade program for HVAC."

"I appreciate Outlook because it helps students who struggle with their classes, such as myself. I am thankful for receiving a second chance at completing High School. I appreciate how at my home school I realized it was the people I surrounded myself with that brought me down and distracted me so coming here made me avoid them and focus."

"I like how OA is more interactive with the students and tries to keep everyone on track for their education and careers. It shows how much this program cares enough to believe students deserve a second chance. I also like the help all my teachers provide and are versatile enough to help visual learners like me."



# Business Department

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## *From the Desk of Ms. Digiacomo*

The students just finished how transactions affect the Accounting Equation. They can differentiate between assets, liabilities, and owner's equity. They can determine if they analyzed the transactions correctly by proving the accounting equation is in balance after completing the assignment. They completed a project titled "Cell Check" which includes a business simulation in which they have to analyze transactions, determine the net worth of the business, and be able to classify various accounts into Assets, Liabilities, and Equity.

Next, the students will be able to analyze transactions using t-accounts. T-accounts are very useful to help students identify how to analyze transactions into debit and credit parts. They use the whiteboard desks in our classroom to assist them with this.

### **Accounting Semester 2:**

The students just completed learning about worksheets. Worksheets in accounting are a precursor to complete financial statements. It is considered an accounting tool. They just completed a project titled

"Burke's Bike Shop" which included determining how to adjust assets, update expenses, and determine net income for the business. It also included the students determining how to complete the four sections of the worksheet.

Now, they can prepare financial statements. Financial statements are a way for outsiders to determine if a business is making money or losing money. The financial statements they will be preparing are the income statement and balance sheet.

## *From the Desk of Mr. Arrington*

Intro to Business students will begin researching how companies incorporate cutting-edge technology including e-commerce and artificial intelligence (AI). Additionally, students will learn about company growth, development, and quality assurance.

Congratulations to Arikaton "Ricky" Robinson who is on track to be the first Outlook student to earn a MOS certification in MS Access after earning certifications in MS Word, PowerPoint, and Excel. Advanced Computer Apps students have accumulated 64 Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Certifications so far this school year.

Students are encouraged to attend CP for needed assistance.



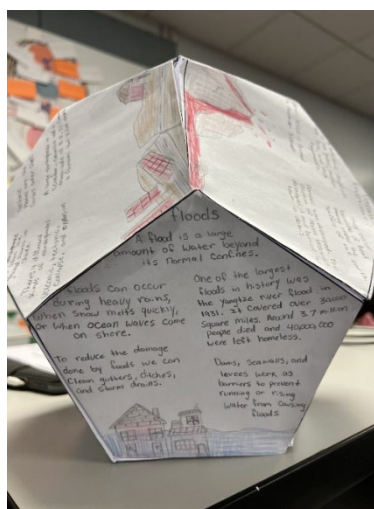
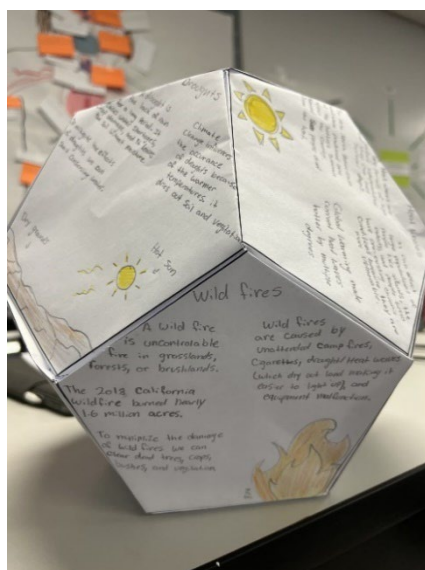
# Science Department

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## *From the Desk of Ms. Anderson*

Students in the Integrated Science – Science in Cinema class are in the middle of the Earth Science Unit. In addition to studying various types of Natural Disasters (see pictures), students will also be looking at life in a zero-gravity atmosphere. Students will end the unit modifying the designs of everyday inventions so that they will function in space.

Students in the Forensic Science Semester 2 course have just completed units in Digital and Medical Forensics. In Digital Forensics, students took an in-depth look at their personal devices for security risks and vulnerabilities. In medical Forensics, students played the role of diagnosticians to determine illnesses and courses of treatment.





# SOCIAL STUDIES

## Social Studies Department

### *From the Desk of Mr. O'Leary*

The fourth quarter is off to a great start. As students prepare for graduation, please make sure you have passed the constitution test. As March ends so does Women's History Month and April bring Diversity Month. Ms. West polled the students and decided to focus on the major world religions. We set up the room into learning stations for each of the 9 major religions. At each station, the students examined the main principles and beliefs of each religion. After The stations, the class examined the similarities and differences of the religions. The class then decided on a format to create religion sheets for the hallway board. Working with Ms. West the students designed and put together the hallway bulletin board for April.

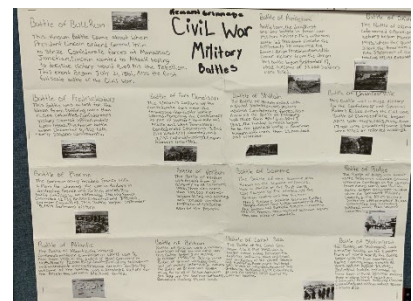


The overarching goal of Diversity Month is to encourage understanding, respect, and acceptance of all individuals regardless of their backgrounds or identities, ultimately promoting a more equitable and inclusive society. It's often observed in various contexts, including workplaces, educational institutions, and communities, to recognize and appreciate differences in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, disability, and other aspects of identity.

### *From the Desk of Mr. Martin*

In our 4th Term, we opened with a lengthy discussion regarding Reconstruction. I asked the students this question "Why did Reconstruction fail to secure equality for African Americans?"

From that question, we discussed how the 13th Amendment abolished slavery, and the federal troops were stationed in the South to guarantee the protection of the newly freed slaves.



We watched the film "Freedom Road," which told the story of how newly freed slaves worked side by side with whites to purchase land. They developed new friendships and showed how the races could work together in peace and harmony. The students had study questions to answer during the film.

The students, along with myself, discussed the court case "Plessy vs. Ferguson" and the impact it had on society as the premise of separate but equal became the basis for American society. Some of the students articulated how the American democracy was threatened because the federal government refused to take a strong stand on equality. We discovered that many of the politicians in Washington were Southerners who were former Confederates that wanted to keep African Americans as second-class citizens.

Therefore, students concluded that Reconstruction ended because the federal government moved away from racial equality because we withdrew troops and began to concentrate on the Industrial Revolution and the Labor Movement.



# Welcome to Visual Arts

*From the Desk of Mrs. Martinez*

Welcome to Term 4 in the Visual Arts Classroom. We have been busy creating wonderful artwork while learning about the Elements of Art. We started off the term with a mini lesson on diversity and inclusion. While this may not relate directly to the arts, it is important to understand its value in the world we live in. What is diversity and inclusion and what does it mean for each student? Students completed an activity where they could express what diversity and inclusion meant to them.

Our next mini lesson was a refresher on understanding and practicing the Elements of Art. For those students that completed Intro to Art Semester 1 and Visual Design Semester 1, this mini lesson was a terrific way to reinforce what they learned in the Semester 1 classes and apply them to Semester 2 classes.

Our first big art project was creating a Tessellation artwork inspired by the artist M.C. Escher who is most famous for not only his incredible Tessellation artworks but also optical illusion artworks. The artist's official website, mcescher (2024) states, "He is most famous for his so-called impossible constructions,

such as Ascending and Descending, Relativity as well as his Transformation Prints, such as Metamorphosis" (main page, first paragraph). For this art project, students created their own Tessellation design template, then created a repeat pattern, and then applied color theory and shading to their artwork.

Our next project involved recreating a cartoon character (Intro to Art S2) or a branded chip bag (Visual Design S2). Using the grid enlargement method, students learned to break down objects into shapes and lines and connect them from one grid box to the next as they enlarged their example cartoon character or chip bag design. Once the enlargement was completed, students used acrylic paint to complete their grid enlargement.

The last art project the students completed before spring break was building and creating their kites. Our students were allowed to meet with a storm chaser where he talked about the anatomy and science of a storm and tornado. To reinforce the lesson on weather, students built and created their flying kites. Through this lesson, students learned a little about engineering, product development, and design.

The students have learned so much thus far and it has been enjoyable to get students to learn how the visual arts and visual design bring creativity into the world.

## Reference

M.C. Escher. (2024). Main Page. mcescher. <https://.com/>





# Visual Arts

## Student Class Work







## From Our Social Worker

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Taking responsibility for our actions is a cornerstone of personal development and social harmony. When we acknowledge our role in the outcomes we experience, we initiate a process of self-reflection and growth, fostering honesty and integrity. This not only builds trust and respect in our relationships but also empowers us with a sense of control over our lives. By accepting responsibility, we become better equipped to resolve conflicts, promote accountability, and learn from our mistakes, contributing to our own growth and the well-being of society. Ultimately, taking responsibility is not just about admitting when we're wrong; it's about embracing accountability, learning, and actively striving to become better individuals, fostering a culture of integrity and cooperation in our communities.

### Here Are Some Pointers:

Taking responsibility for our actions is crucial for personal growth, interpersonal relationships, and societal harmony. Here's why it's so important:

1. **Self-Reflection and Growth:** When we take responsibility for our actions, we acknowledge our role in the outcomes we experience. This acknowledgment allows us to reflect on our behavior, understand the impact it has on ourselves and others, and identify areas for improvement. By taking responsibility, we actively engage in self-growth and strive to become better versions of ourselves.
2. **Building Trust and Respect:** Taking responsibility demonstrates integrity and honesty, which are essential for building trust and respect in relationships. When we own up to our mistakes or shortcomings, others are more likely to trust us and respect our integrity. Conversely, avoiding responsibility can erode trust and damage relationships.
3. **Empowerment and Control:** Accepting responsibility gives us a sense of empowerment and control over our lives. Instead of feeling like victims of circumstances or external forces, we recognize that we have agency and the ability to influence our experiences through our actions. This mindset empowers us to make positive changes and overcome challenges effectively.
4. **Conflict Resolution:** Taking responsibility plays a crucial role in resolving conflicts constructively. When conflicts arise, acknowledging our role in the situation can defuse tensions and pave the way for open communication and reconciliation. It fosters empathy and understanding, allowing all parties involved to work toward a mutually beneficial resolution.
5. **Promoting Accountability:** By modeling when we encourage accountability in others. When us taking ownership of our actions, they are the same. This ripple effect promotes a culture within families, communities, and organizations, ethical behavior and better outcomes for
6. **Learning from Mistakes:** Taking responsibility learn from our mistakes and failures. Instead of blame or feeling ashamed, we can focus on what went wrong and how we can prevent the future. This attitude of learning and growth personal and professional development.
7. **Contributing to Society:** In a broader sense, taking responsibility contributes to the well-being of society. When individuals hold themselves accountable for their actions, they contribute to a more ethical, cooperative, and harmonious community. This creates a positive environment where trust and mutual respect flourish, fostering social



responsibility, individuals see more likely to do of accountability leading to more everyone. allows us to dwelling on the understanding similar issues in is essential for



# Outlook Academy

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## Assistant Program Administrator

*From the Desk of Mr. Valant*



### Important Dates to Remember

Welcome to April Outlook! For all of our students, this month signifies that the end of the school year is fast approaching. For our seniors, this month takes on a special meaning. This is the last full month of your High School career if you are a graduating Senior. When you return to School on April 8th there are only 24 days of school before graduating seniors check out and prepare for graduation on Sunday, May 19th. Many parents ask, how do I know my student is ready for graduation? The following are several questions that every parent should ask their student. If your students are unsure or answer no to any of these questions, they need to contact their counselor as soon as possible to see what needs to be done to help them walk across the stage on May 19th.

1. Have you completed all of your required courses or are enrolled in the courses you need to graduate?
2. Are you passing all your current courses?
3. Are you in credit recovery and if so are you on track to finish by May 1st?
4. Have you completed your FAFSA and College Application with Ms. Holmes?
5. Have you completed your SAT and have a test score on file?
6. Have you ordered your cap and gown?
7. Have you informed your family and friends about the graduation time and date?
8. Most importantly, Do you have a plan in place for what you will do after High School? Whether it is attending college, entering the workforce, Military, or pursuing other opportunities you need a plan.

Any student who has completed all of the items above is well on their way to graduation. Just to make sure please have your student double and triple check with the staff here at Outlook so that there are no surprises on May 14th at Senior checkout day. Take care and let us go class of 2024.

# ADULT TRANSITION PROGRAM

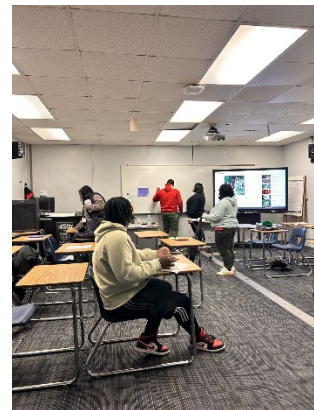


## Program Director

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### *From the Desk of Mrs. Wayne*

The Adult Transition Program is in full effect. We are working with Uplift Harvey on an Employability and Life Skills Training on Saturdays at Thornton Township High School. The college semester is a month away from ending and the young adults are doing well. The other young adults are still training at South Suburban, St. Coletta's, and Thornwood High School to gain skills for community employment. We will continue to develop our young adults during Extended School Year.



### *From the Desk of Ms. Neita*

Students effectively engaged in peer tutoring by helping their classmates with their class assignments. Students were assessed based on their ability to effectively explain concepts, provide guidance, and support their classmates in completing the assignments during the peer tutoring session.

