# **Newsletter**

## Outlook Academy

February 2023

I am enjoying my new journey here at OA and am looking forward to the rest of this session! I am beginning my 18<sup>th</sup> year in education, my 13<sup>th</sup> year with District 205. I have been a lifelong learner with a B.A. in Sociology from DePaul University, an M.A. in Special Education from St. Xavier University, an M.A. in Educational Administration from Concordia University, and an ESL endorsement from National Louis University. I am an Ed.D. student in the National Louis University School of Teaching and Learning. I am passionate about meeting our students where they are to provide them with the support, they need to achieve their goals.



#### Vision and Mission Statement

The vision of Outlook Academy is to provide at-risk students opportunities to succeed by utilizing a non-traditional educational environment and approach to education to achieve success in education, and post-secondary career options, and in social, emotional, and behavioral supports.

The mission of Outlook Academy is to address the number of dropouts and non-graduating seniors within the district by providing these students with a non-traditional educational environment and instructional strategies that will support students through individualized education plans and differentiated instruction in a safe and nurturing environment. Students will successfully complete their graduation requirements and establish a choice in a postsecondary environment. The mission of Outlook Academy is to develop productive citizens who are <u>enrolled</u>, <u>enlisted</u>, or <u>employed</u> at the completion of high school.



#### CONNECT WITH US

brower.loribeth@district205.net 708-225-5875 or 708-225-5879

#### 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 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 and questions about attendance should be directed to Officer Owens at 708.225.5871.

## February



#### Message from our Program Administrator

#### Happy February Everyone!

The month of February brings us many things to celebrate. Nationally, we are celebrating this month: Black History Month, Humpback Whale Awareness Month, National Cancer Prevention Month, American Heart Month, and Jewish Disability Awareness and Inclusion Month. In addition, here at OA, we are celebrating and welcoming the district 205 Adult Transition Program and Staff to SSC (formally located at TR).

Please welcome the following individuals to our list of staff located at South Suburban College! You will hear more from them next month.

Mr. Kyle Anderson, ATP Teacher

- Ms. Cecily Neita, ATP Teacher
- Ms. Crystal Mitchell, ATP Teacher
- Ms. Ashley Slater, ATP Teacher
- Ms. Mechon Brownlee, ATP Paraprofessional

OA's Focus for this Month: Don't be so hard on yourself, be perfectly okay with being who YOU are. Fully embrace yourself, flaws and all and love yourself right where you are! Happy Valentine's Day to Everyone!

## **Black History Month**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	2
5	6	7	8	9	10	1
			Board of			
			Education			
			Meeting			
12	13	14	15	16	17	1
12	. 15	17	13	PTC	1,	-
		Valentine's		College and	PTC	
		Day		Career Fair	FIC	
		Day		Jason Hill's		
				Birthday		
19	20	21	22	23	24	2
	No School					
	President's					
	Day					
26	27	28				



#### STUDENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT

### Academic Support

#### SAT/PSAT

#### In other news...

Coming Spring 2023... The SAT is mandated by the state of Illinois as well as District 205 as a requirement for high school graduation. If you have any questions or concerns, please see me ASAP martin.pamela@ttdistrict205.net

SAT is an Illinois and District 205 graduation requirement. Any student who is absent from the test may not graduate.

#### Ms. Cheryl West MTSS/EL

Please stop by and see me in 3495 if you are struggling in any academic areas. We can come up with a plan to assist you.

Make sure you are utilizing the resources available to you to complete all graduation requirements.

We are currently taking the ACCESS assessment for English Learners to measure growth in the areas of reading, writing, speaking, and listening.



#### Mrs. Martin's Counselor's Corner

<u>Seniors (attending public high schools in Illinois) must complete</u> <u>the FAFSA to graduate! That is right! It is now a graduation</u> <u>requirement.</u>

## FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) APPLY SOONER RATHER THAN LATER!!

Families miss out on big aid opportunities by failing to **apply at** fafsa.ed.gov.

Key financial aid forms are now available to high school students and their families, and experts urge people to fill them out – even if they do not think they will qualify. The government encourages high school seniors to fill it out as soon as possible to obtain aid.

Each year the Department of Education awards about \$120 billion in grants, loans, and other funds to help millions of students afford education costs. It is the largest provider of student financial aid in the country.



#### Secrets To Success:

- REP: Reputation is important.
- RAP: Communication is key.
- ROLODEX: Value relationships more than money.

~ Chris Gardner, Entrepreneur

## 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 <u>www.district205.net/domain/315</u> 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: <u>https://powerschool.ttdistrict205.net/p</u> ublic

#### District 205 Credit Recovery 2022-2023

Mrs. Patricia Malopsy-Fortier District Credit Recovery Program Administrator

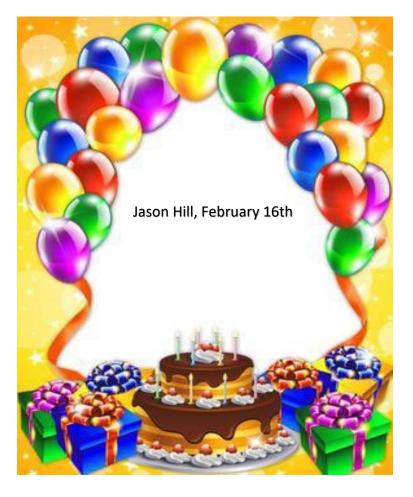
If you have any questions regarding Credit Recovery, please contact your Home School Counselor and/or credit Recovery Building Coordinator or visit the district website:

www.district205.net/areasofinstruction/c reditrecovery

> Outlook Academy Mr. Josh Folsom OA Credit Recovery Coordinator <u>folsom.joshua@district205.net</u>



## GETTING STUDENTS BACK ON TRACK





## Financial Aid Department

From the Desk of Mr. Earl King II and Ms. Brieana Holmes

**Transition Program** 

#### <u>Students must use District Gmail to</u> gain access to Google Classroom.

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

#### COMPLETE FAFSA

BEGIN 2022-2023 FAFSA TODAY! Enrollment has opened! South Suburban College CODE: 001769

https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-foraid/fafsa

#### **FAFSA Instructions**

https://www.ssc.edu/admissionsregistration/financial-aid/



#### <u>ATTENTION</u>

Outlook Academy 2023 – 2024 Potential Graduates,

Mr. King & Ms. Holmes have been contacting you repeatedly, by phone and email.

This is a Graduation and State requirement.

All Invites to join the google classroom have been sent to District Gmail.

All Information is located on the Transitional Google Classroom https://classroom.google.com/c/MTU0MzU0NTk2OTAz

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.

REQUIRED MATERIALS: Social Security Number and Valid Cell
Phone

COMPLETE SSC APPLICATION https://www.ssc.edu/admissions-registration/

#### COMPLETE FAFSA BEGIN

2022-2023 FAFSA TODAY! Enrollment has opened! South Suburban College

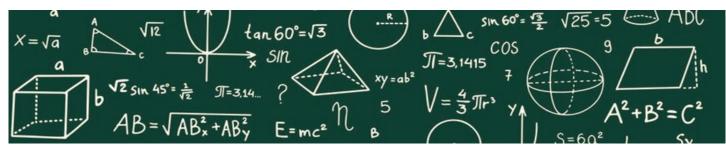
#### CODE: 001769

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

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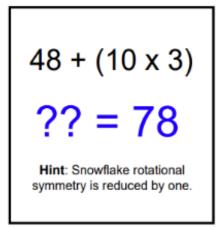


#### Math Department

From the Desk of Mrs. Garza

Mrs. Garza's Term 3 Math II and Math III classes have been working on sharpening their Algebra skills and Geometry terminology. We use a blended learning approach where students are given entire units to work on at their own pace, but with a daily percentage completion goal to assist with keeping them on track. During class time students are working either independently, in groups, or getting assistance from Mrs. Garza. Students also enjoy daily or weekly puzzles, and as promised, here is the answer to the last p last puzzle and the new puzzle for this month:

#### **ANSWER TO DECEMBER'S PUZZLE:**



#### FEBRUARY'S PUZZLE OF THE MONTH:





#### From the Desk of Mr. Bailey

In Mr. Bailey's Statistics class, we have been working on graphs. We have spent time creating and analyzing graphs. The current topic is how graphs can be used to mislead us. This chapter will culminate with a mock trial in which both sides try to use misleading graphs to sway the jury (the students). Students will have to truly unpack the real story to find the correct verdict.

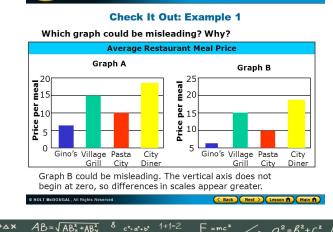
#### 7-10 Misleading Graphs

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tan 60°=53

+ cos²y =

V12



xy = ab²

ABC

 $a^2 = b^2 + c^2$ 

V25=5 K



## English Department

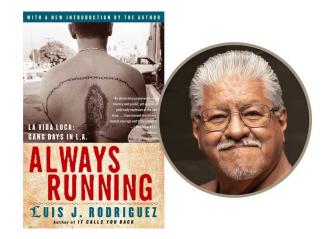
#### From the Desk of Mrs. Goodman

During the month of February we will be reading the memoir <u>Always Running, La Vida</u> <u>Loca: Gang Days in L.A.</u> by Luis J Rodriguez. Students are focusing on the themes in the memoir and how they pertain to their everyday lives. The students have also started their Individual Quest Projects, working toward a better self for their future.

#### From the Desk of Mr. Davidson

Outlook students will soon begin learning new vocabulary in an exciting event called the **VARSITY VOCABULARY PIZZA PLAYOFFS.** Students will learn new words and challenge the Outlook faculty to know those words. The class which defeats the teachers the most each week will hold the traveling **PIZZA PLAYOFF TROPHY.** Any class that controls the trophy for three weeks in a row will learn an amazing amount of words, increase their reading level and win a free PIZZA LUNCH. Game on!





#### From the Desk of Mr. Folsom

In Mr. Folsom's class, we are working on SEL strategies, like taking ownership and being accountable for our own actions.

We are also practicing using evidence to strengthen arguments in text and in conversations using research or textual evidence to back our opinions.

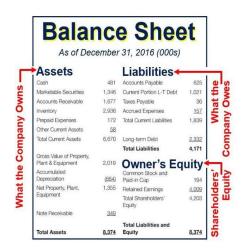
Students have also been doing some career research projects as they try to learn more about the careers they are seeking after school.







## Business Department



#### From the Desk of Ms. Digiacomo

#### Accounting Semester 2:

The students have started the semester preparing financial statements such as the income statement and the balance sheet. They can determine if a business has a net income or loss for the fiscal period.

In the next few weeks, the students will learn about payroll and all the aspects associated with it. They will be able to calculate both gross and net pay for employees.

#### **Introduction to Business:**

The students have learned about different forms of businesses such as franchises, sole proprietorships, partnerships, and corporations.

The next concept they will be working on is how to start a business and all aspects involved with that.

#### From the Desk of Mr. Arrington

In Education and Career Tech, students learn about the computer's motherboard, memory card, storage device, and operating system. Students also use word processing, spreadsheets, and presentation software to create a personal resume, research essay, and personal budget. As a reminder, students are encouraged to get permission before using a teacher, supervisor, or mentor as a reference on their resume. Advanced Computer Apps students continue making progress as they work towards getting certified. Outlook students have accumulated 48 MOS certifications during the 2022 / 2023 school year. Keep up the good work!



THE MOTHERBOARD



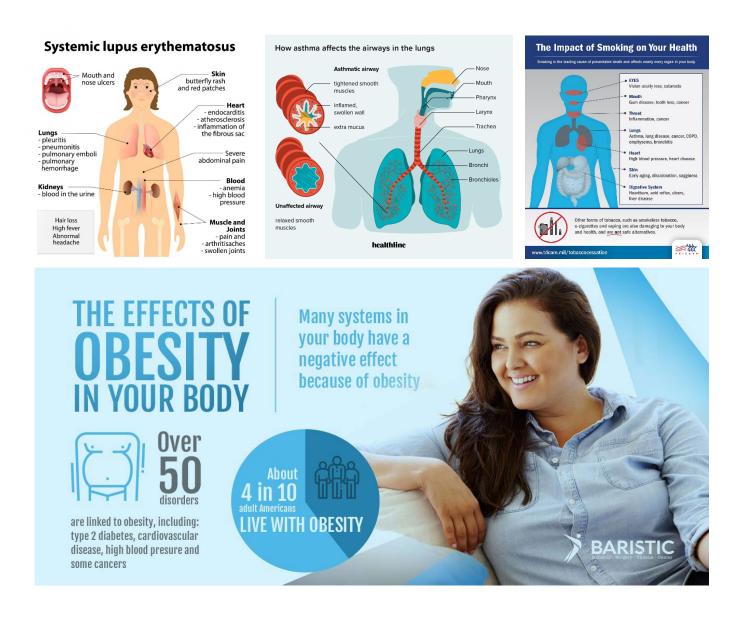


### Science Department

#### From the Desk of Ms. Anderson

Students in the Integrated Science – Science in Cinema course (session 1) are exploring body systems and the effects of illnesses, and drugs on those systems. Examples of topics students will study include hypertension, Cigarette Smoking, Lupus, Asthma, and Obesity.

Students in the Integrated Science – Science in Cinema Semester 2 course are taking a closer look at how gravity (or the lack thereof), will affect everyday life. Students are tasked with building a 3D model of either a kitchen/bathroom AND a living room or bedroom that will be completely functional in a zero-gravity space.





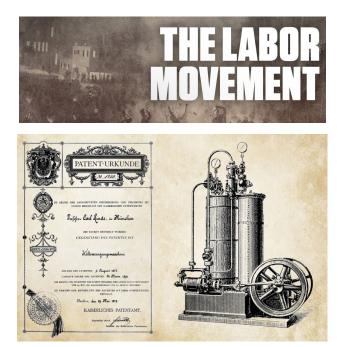
## Social Studies Department



#### From the Desk of Mr. Martin

World Film is currently watching films based on true stories that deal with real-life issues. Students are watching "Murder Without Motive, Police Brutality, Race Relations in private schools, Importance of Education and others".

In US History students are learning about the 19<sup>th</sup> century that changed life in society. For example, 19<sup>th</sup> Century Inventions, The Labor Movement, and The Great Strikes.





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

Graduation season is quickly approaching. Stay focused and keep working hard to pass all your classes.

Please make sure you are checking with Mrs. Martin, Mr. Folsom, or Mr. Valant to make sure you are on track to meet all your requirements.

If you need to complete the Constitution Test for graduation, please see me in room 3363 anytime. An additional 54 people passed the constitution test last quarter. If you have not yet taken Civics, you will take the Constitution Test in Civics.

Stop by my room anytime if you have any questions or concerns involving civics, economics, the constitution test, or anything else you may need, my door is always open (3363).

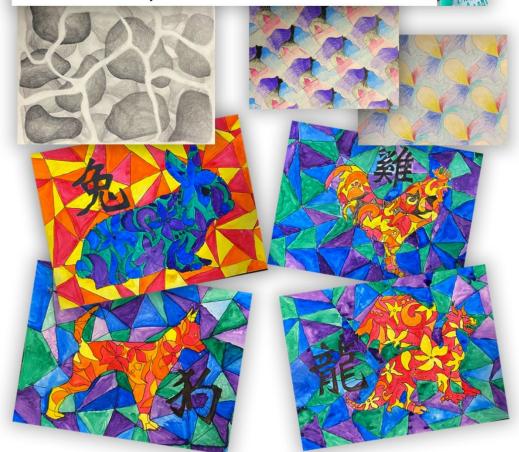


## Visual Arts Department

#### From the Desk of Mrs. Martinez

Welcome to the Visual Arts Classroom at Outlook Academy. With a fresh start to the term, comes new and creative art projects to challenge our students. Intro to Visual Arts S1, students learned about the Element of Art: Value by creating a value range in organic shapes thus creating an optical illusion artwork. Visual Design S1 students learned about Tessellation and how to create a repeat pattern. Students then used color theory and shading to make their Tessellation design more intricate and visually appealing. Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> marked the start of the Chinese Lunar New Year. 2023 celebrates the Year of the Rabbit. Students in Intro to Visual Arts S1 incorporated line technique and shading into their Chinese Zodiac Sign artwork while students in Visual Design S1 used warm and cool colors to demonstrate color theory in their artwork. To celebrate and honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., students reflected on Dr. King's famous, "I Have a Dream" speech and shared their own vision of the positive change they would like to see in our society for the future and now.





## Visual Arts



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### From Our Social Worker

### February is Black History Month



#### From the Desk of Mr. Hill

Black History Month is a time to celebrate the fullness of African American history and culture, but that cannot be contained in one month alone. No one has played a greater role in helping all Americans know the black past than Carter G. Woodson, the individual who created Negro History Week in February 1926 to ensure that school children be exposed to black history. Woodson chose February for reasons of tradition and reform to coincide with Abraham Lincoln and Fredrick Douglass's birthdays. The second black American to receive a Ph.D. in history from Harvard, following W.E.B. Du Bois by a few years, Woodson had two goals. One was to use history to prove to white America that blacks had played important roles in the creation of America and thereby deserve to be treated equally as citizens. Despite the profound change in race relations that has occurred in our lives, Carter G. Woodson's vision for black history as a means of transformation and change is still quite relevant and quite useful. One thing has not changed. That is the need to draw inspiration and guidance from the past. And through that inspiration, people will find tools and paths that will help them live their lives.

#### SEL RE-CAP Lesson 3.2 Standing in the Other Person's Shoes

Social perspective-taking is understanding how another person thinks and feels about a situation; the ability to see things from another person's point of view. Let's remember to utilize "EARS" Active Listening while social perspective taking.

#### EARS Active Listening Techniques

1. Eye Contact

- 2. Acknowledge that you are listening and ask open-ended questions
- 3. Reflect feelings
- 4. Say in your own words what you heard the person say Game Club



Outlook's SASP is offering to you the "Game Club". Game Club is a space where you can enjoy video games, board games, and is a place to connect with others. Game Club is up and running. Please keep your eye open for the weekly SEL time with Mr. Hill. All activities take place in Room L235A.

Thank you for your time!



## Final Thoughts

## Outlook Academy Assistant Program Administrator

Welcome to February everyone! Even though it is cold outside it is time to think about spring. There are many things to look forward to when the weather warms up, but none are bigger for seniors than prom and graduation. All three schools will be hosting graduation for the class of 2023 on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>. Times will be announced for graduation later in the term. As of now, all three schools are planning on graduation being held outside. As always this will depend on the weather cooperating on that day. All seniors have been provided with cap and gown information and should place their orders as soon as possible.

As for prom season, all three schools have picked separate venues and dates to hold their event. The following information is for all seniors in District 205.





Thornwood High School Junior - Senior Prom May 13, 2023, 7:00 - 11:00 pm Tuscany Falls 9425 W. 191st St Mokena IL 60448

#### Link to Prom Info.

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1\_wueHFKU3sSGpFdW4Rme d-Y3g0Ukp\_jp5tRVX5ns6ZI/edit?usp=sharing

Thornton Township High School May 12th 7-11p.m. The Skydeck (Chicago Willis Tower) Ticket sales: February 2023 & March 2023 Prom Sponsor: S. Scott-Moody Tickets \$165



## **ADULT TRANSITION PROGRAM**

Every student, every day.

Please welcome the following individuals to our list of staff located at South Suburban College! You will hear more from them next month.

Mr. Kyle Anderson, ATP Teacher Ms. Crystal Mitchell, ATP Teacher Ms. Cecily Neita, ATP Teacher Ms. Ashley Slater, ATP Teacher

Ms. Mechon Brownlee, ATP Paraprofessional