



SOUTH AMBOY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Educate. Empower. Lead.

November 2025



As we embrace the crisp breeze and colorful charm of Fall, I would like to take a moment to reflect on the exciting and enriching journey our scholars and schools have experienced these past few months. Our administrators and teachers have poured their creativity and dedication into bringing innovative learning opportunities to life—classrooms buzzing with curiosity, field trips full of discovery, and arts events that continue to showcase the remarkable spirit of our school community.

This season has also been filled with countless moments that highlight our shared commitment to growth, collaboration, and student success. Whether through new instructional initiatives, schoolwide celebrations, or community engagement opportunities, our district continues to thrive because of the collective dedication of our staff, families, and scholars. I encourage you to stay connected through our monthly Board of Education meetings and via our administrator’s social media pages for the latest district news and updates.

As we head into the Thanksgiving Season followed by our much anticipated Winter Holiday Break looking towards a bright New Year, let’s continue nurturing the spirit of learning and community that defines us. Warm wishes for joyful celebrations and a blessed, prosperous 2026!

—Dr. Frederick D. Williams

VOLUME 4, ISSUE 2

HIGHLIGHTS

- Superintendent's Message
- District Vacancies/Events
- ES Highlights
- MHS Highlights
- Athletics & Activities
- Special Services

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QUICK LINKS

SCHOOL DISTRICT WEBSITE



DISTRICT SOCIAL MEDIA



SCHOOL PRINCIPAL PAGES



GENESIS PARENT PORTAL



District

South Amboy Board of Education



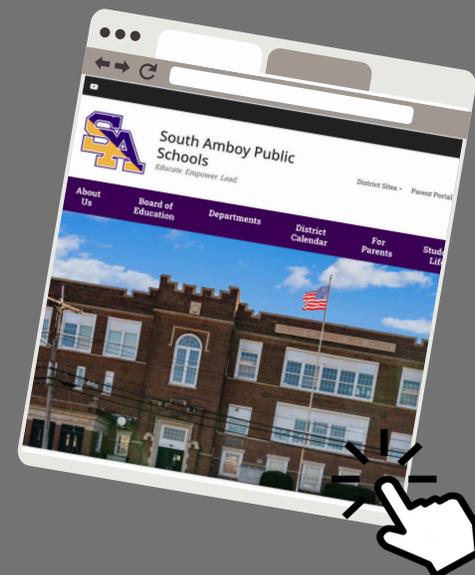
Vacancies

- Part Time Behaviorist
- Part Time Paraprofessional
- ELA Teacher Leave Replacement 1/16/2026-6/30/2026
- Part Time Paraprofessional Leave Replacement-1/23/2026-6/30/2026
- Special Education Pre School Teacher Effective 1/1/2026
- K-2 Self Contained Teacher Effective 1/1/2026
- Special Education Resource Teacher Effective 1/1/2026
- Part Time Lunch Aide at MHS
- School Psychologist



EVENTS/ACTIVITIES

- November 3rd: Veterans Day (Observed)
- November 3rd-7th: Fall Recess (Schools & Offices Closed)
- November 21st: ES Parent Teacher Conferences (Early Dismissal ES Only)
- November 24th: Early Dismissal Parent Teacher Conferences
(ES-Night Conferences/MHS-Afternoon Conferences)
- November 25th: Early Dismissal Parent Teacher Conferences
(MHS-Night Conferences/ES-Afternoon Conferences)
- November 26th: Early Dismissal - Staff & Students
- November 27-28th: Thanksgiving (District Closed)
- December 11th: Early Dismissal (Staff In-Service)
- December 23rd: Early Dismissal - Staff & Students
- December 24th-31st: Winter Recess (Schools & Offices Closed)
- January 1st: New Year's Day (District Closed)
- January 2nd: Winter Break (Schools & Offices Closed)
- January 5th : Schools Reopen
- January 14th : Early Dismissal (Staff In-Service)
- January 19th : Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (District Closed)



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SEAN DUNPHY, PRINCIPAL | MICHELLE BUCHANAN, VICE PRINCIPAL



Students of the Month

This year, SAES proudly launched our Student of the Month program! Each month, one student per grade level is recognized for demonstrating outstanding academic effort, positive attitude, responsibility, leadership, and attendance.

Please join us in congratulating our September and October Students of the Month for their hard work and dedication!

September:

- *Daniel Mulligan*
- *Isabella Siciliano*
- *Noah Scott*
- *Liliana Nugent*
- *Mia Herrera*
- *Masah Khalil*
- *James Gallagher*

October :

- *Mila Sangiovanni*
- *Dominick DeAngelo*
- *Melanie Acevedo-Mercado*
- *AnaSophia Bodkin*
- *Mykyta Porokhnenko*
- *Alaia Mazile*
- *Layla Kwiatek*



Congratulations to all of these outstanding students! We are proud of your achievements and the example you set for our SAES community.

Keep up the great work!

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SEAN DUNPHY, PRINCIPAL | MICHELLE BUCHANAN, VICE PRINCIPAL



PTO/Boosterthon Fun Run

Our annual PTO/Boosterthon Fun Run was held on October 8, and while the weather forced us indoors, it certainly didn't dampen our spirits!



Students took to the gym with enthusiasm, running laps to the beat of popular tunes spun by our energetic fun run hosts.

As a special incentive, the top five fundraising students earned the chance to douse Mr. Dunphy with buckets of ice water—much to everyone's delight!

Despite the change in location, the energy was high, the smiles were wide, and a great time was had by all. Thank you to everyone who participated, volunteered, and supported this fun-filled event

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SEAN DUNPHY,PRINCIPAL | MICHELLE BUCHANAN,VICE PRINCIPAL



Halloween Parade

The students at SAES celebrated Halloween with their annual parade and class parties!

Students dressed in creative costumes and proudly walked from George Street to John Street, while families lined the sidewalks to cheer them on. Our staff joined in the fun with a “Pac-Man” theme, adding extra excitement to the day’s festivities. Thank you to our SAPTO class parents for helping the students celebrate in the classrooms.



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

SEAN DUNPHY, PRINCIPAL | MICHELLE BUCHANAN, VICE PRINCIPAL



Veterans Day Celebration

This year's Veterans Day Celebration was a heartfelt tribute organized by Mrs. Buchanan, Mrs. Russo, and many dedicated staff members. Families and community members were invited to contribute photos for our Wall of Heroes, creating a powerful display honoring veterans connected to our school community.

Local partners helped elevate the event by providing light refreshments and small tokens of appreciation for attendees. Many of our students took part in the celebration—reading reflections, singing, and sharing artwork they created to honor the day.

The program also included remarks from two alumni who have proudly served, as well as community speakers including Superintendent Dr. Williams and Assemblyman Craig Coughlin.

It was a meaningful and memorable celebration that highlighted the importance of honoring those who have served our country.



MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

ERIN LAMBERSON PRINCIPAL | WENDY DANZY, VICE PRINCIPAL



Students of the Month

We are proud to recognize our Students of the Month for September and October! These students have demonstrated exceptional academic effort, leadership, and kindness throughout the marking period. Each honoree exemplifies what it means to be a “Governor”—respectful, responsible, and ready to learn. Their teachers and peers consistently describe them as positive role models who go above and beyond both in and out of the classroom. Congratulations to all of our outstanding recipients!



September from left to right- Lydia Kolta, Emmanuel Henriquez Hernandez, Naseem Johnson, Vivian Calderon, Abigail Rowley, Jelia Caraballo, Eliza DeSouza



October from left to right- Ivana Cruceta- Hernandez, Janeece Berry, Adam Chihab, Alyssa Pellot, Kelly O'Neill, Thomas Downs, Mackenzie Novak

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

ERIN LAMBERSON PRINCIPAL | WENDY DANZY, VICE PRINCIPAL



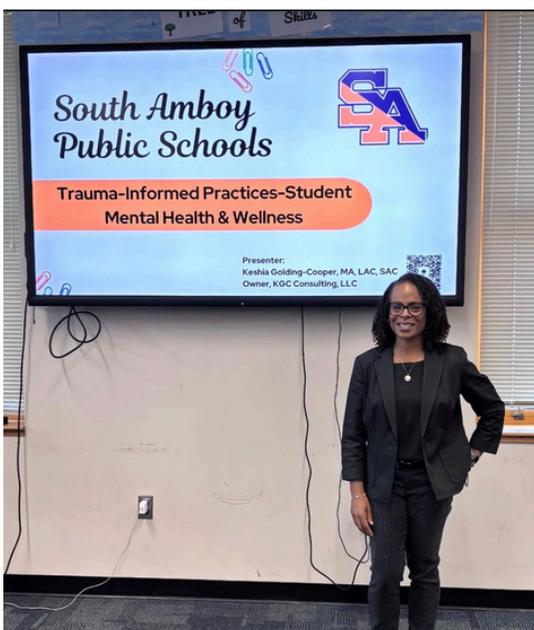
Perfect Attendance Winners

Consistency and dedication pay off! We're excited to celebrate our students who achieved perfect attendance for September and October.



Their commitment to showing up every day, ready to learn, sets an incredible example for their classmates. Each student with perfect attendance was entered into a raffle and 4 students received a small reward to celebrate their efforts. Keep up the great work and continue making attendance a priority!

Guest Speaker: Keshia Golding-Cooper



In October, we were honored to welcome guest speaker Keshia Golding-Cooper, who delivered an inspiring and interactive presentation on peer relationships and positive decision-making. Students reflected on the importance of self-respect, empathy, and choosing friends who bring out the best in them. Ms. Golding-Cooper's message encouraged our students to lead with kindness, confidence, and integrity both in and out of school.

MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

ERIN LAMBERSON PRINCIPAL | WENDY DANZY, VICE PRINCIPAL



Fall Prep Rally

South Amboy Middle/High School kicked off the season with an exciting Fall Pep Rally that brought together students and staff to celebrate school spirit and teamwork! The gym was filled with purple and gold pride as each grade showed off their energy through cheers, games, and friendly competitions. Our student-athletes were recognized for their dedication and hard work, and performances from the cheerleaders and band kept the crowd energized throughout the event. It was a fantastic way to celebrate our Goves community and build excitement for the year ahead! Go Guvvs!



Halloween at SAMHS

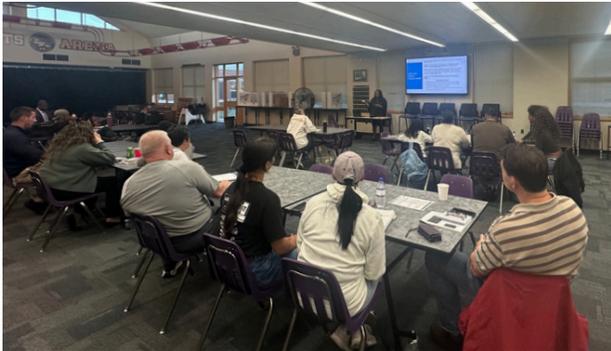
Our students and staff embraced the Halloween spirit with creativity and enthusiasm! From festive classroom decorations to a costume-filled half-day celebration, it was a fun day for all.

Costumes ranged from classic characters to clever, original ideas—showcasing the imagination and school pride that make SAMHS such a special place. Thank you to everyone who helped make this day both safe and spirited!



MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

ERIN LAMBERSON PRINCIPAL | WENDY DANZY, VICE PRINCIPAL



FAFSA Night & NCAA Sports Information Session

Families and students joined us for a combined FAFSA and NCAA Sports Night, where our counseling department along with the Director of Athletics Mr. Ja'mon Dunn provided valuable guidance on financial aid and college athletics eligibility. Attendees received step-by-step support completing the FAFSA, as well as insight into NCAA requirements for student-athletes pursuing college-level sports. Thank you to Mr. Dunn, our school counselors and partners for helping students prepare for the next step in their academic journey!



College and Career Fair

Our annual College and Career Fair was a huge success! Representatives from colleges, universities, trade programs, and local employers met with students to share information and answer questions about post-secondary opportunities. Students explored a wide range of pathways—from four-year universities to apprenticeships—gaining valuable insights to help plan their futures. We're so proud of our students for taking initiative and thinking ahead about their goals beyond high school!



MIDDLE/HIGH SCHOOL

ERIN LAMBERSON PRINCIPAL | WENDY DANZY, VICE PRINCIPAL



Hispanic & Latino Heritage Student Showcase

On November 18th, our school came together for the Hispanic and Latino Heritage Student Showcase, an uplifting celebration that filled the auditorium with music, movement, and meaningful storytelling. Students performed for both their peers and community members, sharing everything from heartfelt songs to expressive dance pieces and thoughtful poetry.

The showcase offered a beautiful window into the traditions, histories, and vibrant cultures represented within our school. Each performance helped deepen understanding, spark conversations, and remind us of the strength that comes from embracing the diverse identities in our community.

This year's event reflected the dedication and collaboration of many hands. We extend our appreciation to the Hispanic Heritage Committee, and an especially warm thank-you to our new Spanish teachers as well as our ESL teacher, whose energy, leadership, and creativity were central to shaping this year's program.

ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

JA'MON DUNN, DIRECTOR



Fall Sports

The Fall 2025 season was nothing short of inspiring! Our Varsity Boys and Girls Soccer, Varsity Cross Country, Varsity Girls Tennis, Middle School Soccer, and Middle School Cross Country teams showcased tremendous effort, growth, and school pride throughout the season. Every student-athlete demonstrated commitment, perseverance, and teamwork. Our dedicated coaching staff played an instrumental role in guiding and shaping our athletes, both on and off the field. As we look ahead to the next season, we remain committed to strengthening our athletic programs and nurturing a culture of leadership, sportsmanship, and excellence that will carry our student-athletes far beyond athletics.



ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

JA'MON DUNN, DIRECTOR



Unified Intramural Basketball

We are proud to recognize our Unified Intramural Basketball team for successfully completing their inaugural season. Throughout the program, our athletes brought tremendous energy, teamwork and enthusiasm fostering a positive and inclusive experience for all. Coaches Lopez and Solomon displayed outstanding leadership and dedication in guiding the program. We are excited about the future of Unified Sports in South Amboy!



ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

JA'MON DUNN, DIRECTOR



Group 1 Championship Qualifier



Junior Ethan Russo represented the Governors at the NJSIAA Group 1 Cross Country Championship on November 8th at Holmdel Park. This comes after a 9th place finish and an outstanding performance at the Central Group 1 Sectional Championship on November 1. Congratulations to Ethan on his memorable season!

GMC Fall Sportsmanship Summit

On November 19, select South Amboy student-athletes proudly represented our school at the annual Greater Middlesex Conference (GMC) Sportsmanship Summit held at the Woodbridge Community Center. This powerful event brought together student-athletes from across the county to promote leadership, integrity, and respect in sports. Through engaging discussions, dynamic guest speakers, and interactive activities, our athletes explored what it truly means to compete with class and lead by example.

GMC Sportsmanship Award

Our Girls Varsity Tennis program was awarded the GMC Gold Division Sportsmanship Award and voted as the All-GMC Sportsmanship Award recipient!! We are proud of our athletes for representing South Amboy with class, integrity, and pride!



ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

JA'MON DUNN, DIRECTOR



Athletes of the Month

The Athlete of the Month has become a proud tradition at South Amoy Middle High School. This recognition honors student-athletes who embody Governor Pride through sportsmanship, leadership, commitment, and character.

Our Athletic Department believes that success extends beyond the scoreboard. It's reflected in how our athletes carry themselves in the classroom, competition, and in the community. Each recipient serves as a role model for their peers and inspires them to lead with respect, dedication, and heart. Being an athlete means making an impact that lasts well beyond the game.

September 2025

Middle school Cross Country- Aden Perez
 Middle School Girls Soccer- Alessandra Cosme
 Middle School Boys Soccer- Bryce Errar
 Varsity Girls Tennis- Hali McNulty
 Varsity Cross Country- Ryan Russo
 Varsity Girls Soccer- Janiyah Jimenez
 Varsity Boys Soccer- Dillan Arevalo Crespo

October 2025

Middle school Cross Country- Divya Philips
 Middle School Girls Soccer- Abigail Rowley
 Middle School Boys Soccer- Hudson Daniell
 Varsity Girls Tennis- Yahirah Nicholson
 Varsity Cross Country- Ethan Russo
 Varsity Girls Soccer- Brittany Bixby
 Varsity Boys soccer- Mario Garcete



ATHLETICS & ACTIVITIES

JA'MON DUNN, DIRECTOR



All-Division Selections

At the conclusion of each season, coaches from each division meet to determine All-Division selections based on season results. The following student athletes have been recognized as members of the All-Division Team for their athletic performance during the Fall 2025 season:

Girls Soccer, Silver Division

Ashley Moreira-Burgos

Boys Varsity Soccer, Silver Division

Mario Garcete

Sebastian Roessle

Dillan Arevalo Crespo

Adam Vasquez

Varsity Cross Country, Blue Division

Ethan Russo



SAAC Athletes of the Season

The GMC Student Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) is an organization that was created to promote leadership and sportsmanship, and enhance positive relationships surrounding Athletics. Each season, the SAAC recognizes two male and two female athletes of the year. The GMC displays the Award winners on their website for acknowledgement. The award winners for the Fall 2025 season are:

Cross Country: Ethan Russo

Boys Soccer: Mario Garcete

Girls Soccer: Ashley Moreira-Burgos

Girls Tennis: Hali McNulty

Winter Athletics

The Winter season is officially underway, and our teams are hard at work preparing for competition. We are looking forward to an exciting and successful Winter season! Our Friends of South Amboy Charity Event takes place on December 13th in the South Amboy MHS Gymnasium. Come out, show your support, and enjoy a night of great basketball and community spirit. You don't want to miss it! Stay tuned for highlights and updates.



Special Services

Dr. Alain Mollinedo, Director Of Special Services



SEPAG MEETINGS

The Special Services Department was excited to conduct the first SEPAG meeting for the 2025-2026 school year on October 15, 2025 at South Amboy Middle/High School. We had a productive session meeting with parents to further explore and learn about their rights and the services offered to our community.

The district is actively seeking additional parents, faculty, and community members who are interested in being a part of the SEPAG Committee. The Special Services Department will share more detailed information about how to become a committee member prior to the next meeting.



Create a **POSITIVE** and **INCLUSIVE** Learning ENVIRONMENT

Tuesday 12/09/25

Wednesday 02/11/26

Wednesday 04/15/26

5:45 – 7:00pm

5:45 – 7:00pm

5:45 – 7:00pm

ALL SEPAG Meetings will always take place in The Middle/School Media Center

Special Services

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Perth Amboy Waterfront Cleanup



In collaboration with Save Coastal Wildlife, students participated in a local beach cleanup at the Perth Amboy Waterfront. Students used grabber tools and worked collaboratively to cleanup waste and other harmful items found on the beach. When students returned to class, a follow-up lesson was given on the importance of wildlife conservation and how they can help ensure places like the waterfront are protected. There will be a second beach cleanup at the South Amboy Waterfront next Spring.



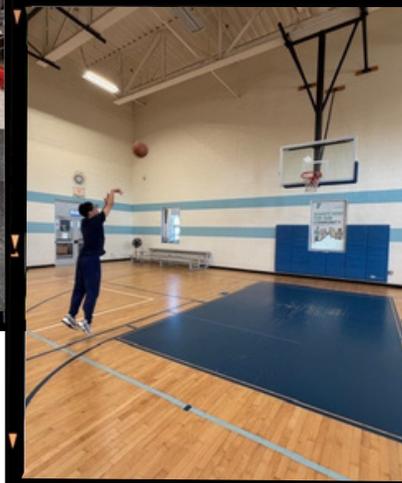
Special Services

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South Amboy YMCA Visit

Students are now visiting the South Amboy YMCA for both Work Based Learning and Community-Based Instruction. Students help maintain a clean workout environment in the fitness center. Afterwards, students enjoy some recreational time at the gym as part of their experience.



Petco CBI Visit

Our students are making great use of the local community staple, Petco, which has become one of our weekly CBI visit sites. The partnership with the awesome Petco staff gives students valuable real-world exposure and the special opportunity to meet and interact with new furry friends!

Special Services

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Avos Ria Mar (New WBL Site)

Ria Mar is a new Work Based Learning site for the 2025-2026 school year. Weekly visits to Ria Mar allow students to explore a career in hospitality and develop valuable, hands-on skills. Key student activities include; cleaning and sorting utensils and glassware, preparing dining areas and menus for customer service, and working directly in the kitchen to see the operations required to run a successful business.



Classroom Celebrations

(Birthdays and Hispanic Heritage Month)

Middle and High School classes recently celebrated Hispanic Heritage Month with an engaging and educational event. Students integrated their Community-Based Instruction (CBI) by purchasing items from their visit to ShopRite. They then worked together to prepare and share food in class with their peers. In addition to the shared meal, students delivered presentations about the positive impact of various Latino figures. The celebration provided a great opportunity for students to recognize and celebrate each other's successes while enriching their cultural knowledge.



Special Services

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Von Thun's Country Farm Market

Students were able to visit Von Thun's farm as part of their yearly CBI visit. Students worked together to select the best pumpkin to take home. Additionally, students were able to visit the farm where they saw different animals and learned about several species.



PRESCHOOL

family night



Come learn about our preschool curriculum, Tools of the Mind, while engaging in hands on activities! Learn how to extend the curriculum at home, meet our preschool coaching team, and enjoy some delicious snacks!

Doors open at 5:15 p.m.

Tuesday, December 2



**South Amboy Elementary School
Cafeteria**



PLEASE RSVP BY 11/26

Questions? Contact:
jkramerteheran@sapublicschools.com