August 5, 2026

South High School Families,

As we prepare to begin the 2026–2027 school year, there is a renewed sense of excitement around South High. This week, our campus has been filled with our marching band, athletic teams, and students returning for preseason activities. The activity is a great reminder that a new school year is about to begin.

I hope you and your family have enjoyed a relaxing summer and had the opportunity to recharge. As we look ahead to a new school year, I remain committed to keeping our families informed, connected, and prepared. Over the next two weeks, I will be sending frequent updates with important reminders, key dates, and information to help ensure a successful opening to the school year on **Thursday, August 20.** Our main office is now open Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you have any questions or need assistance, please don't hesitate to contact us at (440) 975-3648.

Below, you'll find a summary of important information and upcoming dates and to help you prepare for the weeks ahead.

Freshman and New-Student Parent Meeting - Wednesday, August 12 - 6:00 - 7:00
Parents and guardians are invited to attend an informational meeting on Wednesday, August 12, 2026, beginning promptly at 6:00 PM in our high school cafeteria. This session will provide important details and guidance for supporting students as they transition to Willoughby South High School. The evening serves as an opportunity for families to connect with school staff, understand key expectations, and become familiar with the resources available to ensure a successful start to the year.

Freshman and New Student orientation - Thursday, August 13 - 1:00 pm - 2:30pm
On Thursday, August 13, 2025, Willoughby South High School will host its 9th Grade/New Student Orientation from 1:00 to 2:30 PM. Students should be dropped off by 12:45 PM and picked up promptly at 2:30 PM. During orientation, students will meet their principals, counselors, and student leaders, receive an updated class schedule, choose their lunch period, and tour the building. They'll also have a chance to practice opening their locker (no lock required) and pick up essential materials for the start of school. This event is designed to help all new Rebels feel prepared and welcomed as they begin their journey at South High School.

Counselor Start Days
Our school counselors are back in their offices beginning today. If you need assistance from your child's guidance counselor, please send them an email directly and they will get back to you as .

- Ms. Mary-Hope Schmidt; Student with Last Names A to G: mary-hope.schmidt@weschools.org
- Mrs. Lindsay Scripp: Students with Last Name H to O: Lindsay.Scripp@weschools.org
- Ms. Virginia Joyce: Students with Last Name P to Z: virginia.joyce@weschools.org

Student Schedules

Student schedules will be released to **PowerSchool this Friday, August 7 at 3pm.** If students have a schedule conflict or need to add/drop classes, they may see their counselor on the dates and times below:

- Freshman - Monday, August 10 - 9am-12pm
- Seniors - Tuesday, August 11 - 9am - 12pm
- Juniors - Wednesday, August 12 - 9am-12pm
- Sophomores - Thursday, August 13 - 9am-12pm

Schedule changes will NOT be made for convenience, preference, or desire to be in classes with friends. Schedule changes will be considered only for:

- Missing a required class or lunch period
- Fewer than 5.5 credits or insufficient credits for eligibility
- Seniors who need credits to meet graduation requirements
- Medical necessity (with physician documentation)
- Administrative adjustments (class balance, schedule conflicts, or other exceptional circumstances.

Senior Immunization Records

Senior students are required by law to provide proof of MCV4/meningococcal meningitis vaccination (see district communication) It is very important that you submit updated immunization information to our clinic via fax (440-975-3645), or hard copy (return to clinic). If you have any questions, please email them to our School Nurse at lisa.kovacic@weschools.org.

Bell Schedule Change

The bell schedule has changed slightly this year. On Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, t**he student school day will begin at 7:40am.** We will continue this year with our delayed start Wednesdays. During Delayed Start, teachers meet in small groups called Professional Learning Communities, aka PLC's. During this time, teachers examine assessment data and plan ways to reach every student. School begins for students at 8:30am.

Please click 2026/27 HS Bell Schedule for a full copy of the bell schedules.

.

Mark Your Calendars

- August 7 — Student Schedules available in PowerSchool at 3:00pm
- August 12 — Freshmen & New Student Parent Mtg. 6:00 PM (Student Union)
- August 13 — Freshmen Orientation 1:00pm - 2:30pm
- August 17 — Rebel Ready Walk Through (Freshmen & New Students) 1-2pm
- August 20 — Student's First Day of School
- August 26 — First Delayed Start PLC Wednesday
- August 26 — South Open House 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM
- August 27 — School Picture Day
- September 3 — South Athletic Hall of Fame Induction at La Vera
- September 7 — Labor Day – NO SCHOOL
- September 11 — Homecoming Football Game 7:00 PM
- September 12 — Homecoming Dance 7:00 PM

- September 23 Financial Aid Night @ 6:30PM (LGI)
- September 23 Parent Teacher Conferences 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM

Supply List Reminder

Students will receive information regarding supplies from their teachers in each class on the first day/Week of school. There is not a general school supply list at South HS.

Thank you for your continued partnership and support. I'm looking forward to a great year together and will be in touch soon with more information.

Sincerely,

Mr. Suttell
Principal, South High School