



THE PRINCIPAL'S CORNER

South Woods Middle School September 2026



Dear South Woods Families,

What a great opening week of school. It was very evident among the students, teachers and support staff there was great energy and enthusiasm throughout the first week of school. Very meaningful welcome back assemblies were held over two days in small group settings by grade level in the auditorium. Our guidance counselors, Ms. Rebecca Carleo, grade 6, Mr. Mark Singh, grade 7 and Ms. Michele Goodman, grade 8, along with Assistant Principals Theresa Berke and Chris Ruffini did a wonderful job presenting Community Expectations, including the following topics:

- South Wood C.A.R.E.S.
 - Compassion
 - Awareness
 - Respect
 - Empathy
 - Service
- Students role in the community
- South Woods, “We Support Dignity for All”
- In Syosset, “We connect with each other”
- In Syosset, “We don’t tolerate HATE”
- HATE speech, school rules, and the LAW
- Code of Character, Conduct and Support
- Examples of Policy Violation
- Distraction Free School
- Do’s and Don’ts



I had the good fortune to sit in each of the small group meetings. The students asked questions and they responded to questions raised by our guidance counselors and assistant principals.

On a separate note, families are commended in helping to make a plan where each child's badge/lanyard is deposited after school, so it doesn't get lost and is easily remembered the next morning.

Arrival and dismissal went rather well considering it was the first four days of school. One of the best I have seen over the many years. We will continue to look for improvement regarding transportation.

- Please read our [Arrival/Dismissal Procedures](#) carefully. Take special note:
 - Students may only be dropped off in front of the school at the drop off point near the crosswalk.
 - Please only use the crosswalks to navigate the parking lot on foot.
 - The bus circle is closed to cars at all times.



REMEMBERING 9/11

Patriot Day is an annual observance that pays tribute to the victims and honors the survivors of the September 11th, 2001 terroristic attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon in Washington, D.C., and in Pennsylvania. We invite students and staff to wear **red, white and blue** or **patriotic** clothing on Friday, **September 11th** in commemoration of this day.

OPEN HOUSE

Open House will be held in person on Tuesday, **September 22nd** at 6:30 PM. Detailed information will be sent home separately.

OPEN HOUSE



PICTURE DAYS

- Thursday, **October 1st** & Friday, **October 2nd**
- Photos taken by PE class. No payment/order form required.
- Proofs and ordering information will come in about 3 weeks.
- **Retakes: Friday, November 13th.**

ATTENTION

6th GRADE STUDENTS

Save the Date for the Back to School Social -
Thursday, October 1st at 3:30 - 5:30 PM!



PTSA News:



FIRST PTSA MEETING

Join the South Woods PTSA and make a difference in our school! [Your membership](#) helps support school activities and programs while creating a fun, engaging, and positive community! We welcome all to attend our first meeting at 7:45 PM on **September 9th** in the South Woods Library.

Fall Sports Apparel Sale

Get ready for fall sports and show your South Woods pride! You don't have to be on the team to shop—athletes, students, fans, family, and friends are all invited to order and support their favorite South Woods sports!

Each sport has its own shopping link:



[School Spirit](https://syossetsw26.itemorder.com/) - <https://syossetsw26.itemorder.com/>



[Badminton](https://badmintonsw26.itemorder.com/) - <https://badmintonsw26.itemorder.com/>



[Cheer](https://swcheer26.itemorder.com/) - <https://swcheer26.itemorder.com/>



[Cross Country](https://swxc26.itemorder.com/) - <https://swxc26.itemorder.com/>



[Football](https://swfball2026.itemorder.com/) - <https://swfball2026.itemorder.com/>



[Soccer](https://swsoccer2026fa.itemorder.com/) - <https://swsoccer2026fa.itemorder.com/>



[Swim & Dive](https://swswindive26.itemorder.com/) - <https://swswindive26.itemorder.com/>



[Tennis](https://swtennis26fa.itemorder.com/) - <https://swtennis26fa.itemorder.com/>



We've teamed up with Woodbury Sports to bring you South Woods sports apparel! Each sport has its own shopping link, and you can shop for as many sports as you'd like. All orders will be picked up at Woodbury Sports. Thank you for supporting the South Woods PTA!

Sale ends 9/30

PTSA News Continued....

8th Grade Parents:

Welcome, 8th grade families! It's hard to believe our children are beginning their final year of middle school! We're looking forward to making it a memorable year and giving our 8th graders the amazing send-off they deserve.

Throughout the year, the 8th Grade Committee will be fundraising to help support special events just for our 8th graders, including the Picnic and End-of-Year Party.

We'd love for all 8th grade families to stay connected. Join our mailing list to stay up to date on fundraisers, events, volunteer opportunities, and everything happening throughout the year.

👉 JOIN THE 8TH GRADE MAILING LIST [HERE](#)

👉 Follow us on instagram- southwoodsgrads2027



8th Grade Sweatshirt Fundraiser — COMING SOON!



Reminders:



Help Your Child Succeed in Middle School

Check out this article from [KidsHealth](#) for middle school parenting tips!

Keep Checking Back!

The South Woods Middle School [Home Page](#) is updated regularly!



FROM THE HEALTH OFFICE

Please hand in your required [health forms](#), especially if you are an 8th grader going on the Washington, D.C. trip!



SEPTEMBER SCHOOL CLOSING

- Monday, **September 21st** - Yom Kippur

Have a great month!

Mr. Charlie Cardillo
Interim Principal

