

Good Morning Families,

I hope everyone is in the middle of an enjoyable and relaxing summer. I know that when the calendar turns to August the idea of school begins to creep into the minds of students and families. As SRS enters its fourth full year as a 7-12 school we are excited about the climate and culture the staff, students and community have created. Furthermore, the last 10 weeks have been dedicated to continued curriculum development, planned opportunities for growth and the allocation of resources that support the vision and mission of the school for the 2018-19 year.

Mr. Wicander, the custodial staff and grounds crew have done a tremendous job during a difficult summer, in regards to the weather, getting the building and grounds in shape for the students. The classrooms, halls, cafeteria and locker rooms are sparkling. The gym floor has been done over and the fields are plush.

Thankfully, it has been a quiet summer with hiring. The continuity and dedication from our staff will foster an immediate sense of comfort and support for the students. The one new face to the school is Assistant Principal Mike Pescitelli. Mike is a Westfield native that returned to his alma mater to teach math for a few years and then spent the last ten years as the math coordinator for grades 6-12 in the Enfield Public Schools. Mike's primary responsibility will be working with students and overseeing student affairs in grades 7-12. He had a fantastic interview and we are excited to have him as part of our community.

There are a couple of changes students and families will notice when returning to SRS this fall:

We are very excited to have both the high school and middle school operating out of one 7-12 Southwick Regional School office starting this school year. Middle school families will continue to be able to reach out to Ms. Romani as needed with specific middle school concerns while benefitting from a centralized location for all school business. All visitors to the school after entering the lobby will report to the main office on the right. All secretarial staff, resource officer, nurse and administration are accessible in this suite. I believe this will support our mission to truly become a 7-12 Regional School.

Transportation

All families will receive a letter from the District's Transportation Office that will identify the bus number and time of pick up. In order to create a more safe and secure building we will utilize only two student entrances each morning. All students taking the bus or being dropped off will enter the building through the front doors of the school. Student drivers will continue to use the entrance from the student parking lot. Mrs. Brooks will be outside to guide students from buses to the front entrance. In an effort to make student parking less stressful and chaotic, the class officers suggested numbering the parking spots in the student lot. The spaces will be numbered next week. Students will have the first two weeks of school to purchase a parking pass and be assigned a spot for the school year. Students can purchase the parking pass from Ms. Costa in the main office for \$50. Checks can be made out to SRS.

The school will again provide a late bus for students participating in after school activities. The late bus will not begin its' runs until mid September. An exact date will be announced in future communications. As a reminder the late bus departs from the school @ 3:45 with variable drop off times based on number of riders. Middle School students must have a pass from the office in order to stay after school and utilize the late bus.

Summer Reading

At this point in the summer we hope that all students have begun to think about their Summer Reading. Links to both High School and Middle School Summer Reading expectations can be found on the SRS website. Middle School students may also reference the information sheets received at the close of the school year.

Student Schedules

All students in grades 7 & 8 will report to the auditorium on the first day. They will meet with their homeroom teachers and will be brought to their homeroom class. Schedules will be distributed to the students in their homeroom.

All students in grades 9-12 will report to homeroom on the first day of school. Homeroom listings will be posted throughout the building. They will receive their schedules with teacher's name. If there is a conflict or problem, there will be a sign-up sheet in each homeroom. These will be returned to the guidance department, where we will call the students down to address any issues.

P.S.A.T. will be on Saturday, October 13th at SRS. Come to guidance for information.

Important Fall Dates

Please mark your calendars for our school community events this fall.

Any new student to the district or student entering 7th or 9th grade that would like a tour of the building, Student Ambassadors will be giving tours August 21, 11:00-2:00.

Open House on Thursday, September 13th, 2018 from 6:00- 7:30 p.m.

7/8 Afternoon conferences on October 11, 2018. Look for sign-up information from Team Leaders in your email during late September.

7/8 Evening conferences on October 18th, 2018. Look for sign-up information from Team Leaders in your email during late September.

High School Evening conferences on October 18th, 2018 from 4:00 -7:00 p.m.

A VERY SPECIAL PRESENTATION for parents and guardians by Jon Mattleman on *The Secret Lives of Teens & Tweens*, Wednesday, October 3, 2018 6:30- 8:00 p.m. You won't want to miss it!

Any further questions please contact the main office at 569-6171