



# EAGLE EYE



OCTOBER 11, 2021

## SOMETHING'S BREWING AT SOUTH PARK HIGH SCHOOL

A new partnership is providing new opportunities for students at South Park High School. And it is bringing one of our area's favorite coffee retailers to the school.

Since 2017, the South Perk Cafe has been part of the special education department's vocational programming at South Park High School. The cafe, located in the cafeteria, is staffed and operated by high school students, giving them valuable retail and customer service experience. In 2019, the redesigned cafe opened with a new counter and lounge area thanks to an Eagle Scout project by high school student Zack Huwalt. Now, the South Perk Cafe is an officially licensed Coffee Tree Roasters location, offering the coffee and specialty drinks customers enjoy at Coffee Tree's five Pittsburgh-area locations.

For months, district and high school administrators and high school teacher Mrs. Alexandra Youssef met with the owner and employees from Coffee Tree Roasters about the retailer's Brewing Success program. The initiative brings Coffee Tree Roasters retail locations to area high schools for job training and employment skill-building. The partnership with Coffee Tree Roasters allowed the district to

purchase equipment that can be found at Coffee Tree Roasters and coffee shops throughout the area. The Brewing Success program also connects South Park High School with training and support from Coffee Tree Roasters employees. Over the past few weeks, students and staff have learned how to operate the machines and the point-of-sale system from employees who use it every day.

Last week, the South Perk Cafe offered free samples to students and staff of the delicious drinks to be featured at the cafe. When the cafe officially reopens later this month, it will feature a rotating menu of hot and cold drinks including coffee, smoothies, cappuccinos, mochas, lemonade, cold brews, hot chocolate, and frappuccino. High school students, with the help of high school staff, including paraprofessional and cafe manager Mrs. Kathy Coologhan, will make and serve the drinks and

work the cash register. The cafe will be open from first period through all lunches, and students and staff can purchase a drink with cash or credit card.

The reimagined South Perk Cafe is also giving real-world experience to Mrs. Hecht's business students. Mrs. Hecht's students will develop marketing materials, including flyers and brochures.

Mrs. Youssef said this new chapter at the South Perk Cafe is especially exciting

because of the new doors it will open for her students. With the new equipment and technology, Mrs. Youssef's students will learn new skills that can translate to jobs at the retailer's locations or warehouse.

In the future, Mrs. Youssef hopes to launch mobile ordering for district staff and, eventually, for members of the general public.



## DATES TO REMEMBER

October 14	Board of Directors Regular Meeting, 6:30 p.m. in SPHS Auditorium
October 29	End of First Grading Period
November 1	No School for Students (Staff In-Service/Clerical Day)
November 2	No School for Students (Act 80 Day & Parent/Teacher Conferences)

## NOW HIRING

- ✓ CAFETERIA PREP SERVERS
- ✓ CUSTODIANS
- ✓ SUBSTITUTE CUSTODIANS AND CAFETERIA STAFF
- ✓ PARAPROFESSIONALS
- ✓ BUS DRIVERS (THROUGH MATTHEWS)

CLICK HERE  
OR CALL (412) 655-3111, EXTENSION 1000





# HOMEcoming 2021

South Park High School hosted Homecoming festivities on Friday, September 24 and Saturday, September 25.

The Homecoming Weekend kicked off with the football game against Brownsville at Eagle Stadium. During the game, the South Park School District welcomed back alumni from the Class of 1971 who were celebrating their 50-year reunion. Before the game and during halftime, the 2021 Homecoming Court was introduced. The 2021 Homecoming Court included Emily Coe, Faith Fetsko, Gianna Girol, Avery Morgan, Kyleene Vas, Kristen Villa, Cole Brdar, Preston Cecotti, Brandon Clifford, Joseph Hlavsa, Drew Lafferty, Giovanni Maffeo, and Luke Smith.

Kyleene Vas was named the 2021 Homecoming Queen, and Joe Hlavsa was named the 2021 Homecoming King.

The weekend concluded with a Homecoming dance on Saturday, September 25. This year, the dance took place outdoors at Eagle Stadium. Students enjoyed an evening of music and dancing on the field.



**EMILY COE**



**FAITH FETSKO**



**GIANNA GIROL**



**AVERY MORGAN**



**KYLEENE VAS**



**KRISTEN VILLA**



**COLE BRDAR**



**PRESTON CECOTTI**



**BRANDON CLIFFORD**



**JOSEPH HLAVSA**



**DREW LAFFERTY**



**GIOVANNI MAFFEO**



**LUKE SMITH**



## PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Parent/teacher conferences will be conducted on Tuesday, November 2, 2021. Like last year, the South Park School District will use online registration forms for interested parents/guardians to schedule a conference. Please [click here](#) to access the registration forms.

Conferences can be conducted virtually, by phone, or in-person. If necessary, all conferences may transition to virtual or phone. If you select a virtual conference, the teacher will share a link with you closer to conference day. If you select a phone conference, the teacher will call you at the number provided on the form at your scheduled time. In the event of a double-booking, your child's teacher will contact you directly to reschedule.

If you have questions, please contact your child's teacher or school office.

If you have questions about the online forms, call (412) 655-3111, extension 1002.

Conference forms will close at noon on Friday, October 29.

## MOVING ON UP

The South Park High School Eagle Blues Marching Band welcomed some new faces on September 10. It was the annual Move Up Night when the band invites eighth graders to join them under the lights at Eagle Stadium. The eighth graders performed the Star-Spangled Banner, alma mater and fight song with the band and then joined the band in the stands for the game.



## HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS RECOGNIZED

South Park High School instills the importance of the three Ps to its students (prompt, prepared, polite.) As part of its school-wide positive behavior initiative, the high school conducted a gift card raffle for students who showed up to class on time and ready to learn. Congratulations to the winners of the first round of Amazon gift cards!



## LUNCH MENU REMINDERS

The South Park School District's Food Services Department continues to deal with supply chain issues this school year. Whether it be out-of-stock items or unfulfilled deliveries, there have been many challenges this year when it comes to cooking and serving school breakfasts and lunches.

This uncertainty has forced the district to issue menus on a week-by-week basis until we are sure we have the necessary items in stock.

Menus can be found on our website by [clicking here](#).





## SHOW OF SUPPORT

September was Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. Students from the South Park High School MiniThon showed their support by holding a "Gold Out" on Friday, September 17.

One week later, MiniThon students helped to organize a collection for Joey Mihailoff. Joey, the son of South Park High School assistant football coach Tom Mihailoff and his wife Amanda, was diagnosed with cancer on September 2, a week after a tumor was removed from his brain stem. Joey is now undergoing radiation treatments in Cincinnati, followed by four rounds of chemotherapy in Pittsburgh.

MiniThon students were at the gates before the September 24 game against Brownsville collecting donations for the Mihailoffs to help them with travel and medical costs. More than \$3,100 was collected at the gates and donated to the Mihailoff family.



## HERO DAY

This year, South Park Elementary Center and the South Park Elementary Center PTO were happy to invite our area's first responders for Hero Day outside the elementary center on Friday, September 10. On Hero Day, elementary center students meet our community's heroes and learn more about the important work they do every day to protect and serve us.



## SPREADING KINDNESS

Students from Mr. Trozzi's, Mrs. Kwitowski's, Mrs. Lewandowski's, and Mr. Loftis' classrooms helped to spread kindness at South Park Elementary Center. The students participated in Circle of Friends and worked together to create kind, encouraging messages using sidewalk chalk outside the elementary center.





## WELCOME TO SOUTH PARK!

The 2021-2022 school year is in full swing. This year, the South Park School District welcomed many new faces to the district. The South Park School District welcomes these new administrators, faculty and instructional staff members:



**Arianna Bracco**  
MS Paraprofessional



**Guinevere Bartley**  
ESL Teacher



**Shannon Cusick**  
MS Teacher



**Ellen DeFrances**  
MS Interventionist Teacher



**Lauren Giansante**  
EC Special Education Teacher



**Sarah Graham**  
MS Interventionist Teacher



**Kristie Gray**  
EC Special Education Teacher



**Cynthia Hawranko**  
EC Paraprofessional



**Megan Jones**  
MS Paraprofessional



**Dr. Erica L. Kolat**  
Director of Curriculum,  
Academics, & Innovation



**Sydney Larner**  
EC Special Education Teacher



**Anita Niecgorski**  
Kindergarten Teacher



**Taylor Reese**  
Second Grade Teacher



**Mikayla Ridgeway**  
MS Long Term Substitute



**Jamie Semkiw**  
MS Paraprofessional



**Michelle Smith**  
EC Interventionist Teacher



**Isaac Tarbell**  
Director of Special Education



**Taylor Woodrow**  
Speech and Language  
Pathologist



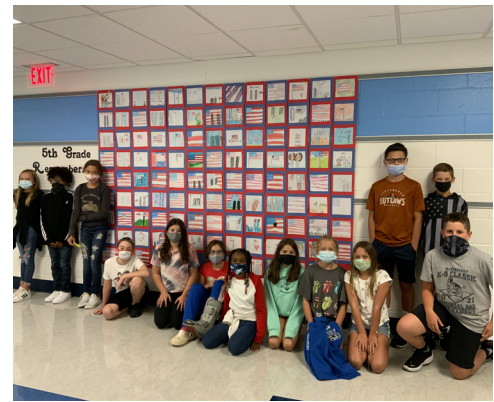
## REMEMBERING 9/11

On the 20th anniversary of the September 11 attacks, Mrs. Baldigowski's sixth graders and Mrs. Lauritzen's fifth graders partnered with 911memorial.org and the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial to learn about the tragic events that took place in 2001. While these students were not born at the time of the terrorist attacks, they learned about that tragic day in our nation's history through an insightful curriculum.

While the history of the September 11 attacks is taught annually to students, Mrs. Baldigowski and Mrs. Lauritzen expanded the curriculum on the 20th anniversary to include two meaningful webinars with the partnered organizations. The middle school students learned of the events through an interactive timeline and interviews with parents and relatives about their recollection of that day. Additionally, Mrs. Lauritzen's fifth graders created a large Patriot Quilt to mark the anniversary.

They also explored the various stories of everyday citizens—first responders, Flight 93 passengers, and the members of the 9/11 Boatlift rescue efforts—who became heroes. On Friday, September 17, fifth and sixth grade students participated in a live webinar with the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial. During this webinar, students learned about United Flight 93 and the specific role the passengers and crew aboard played on that day.

Students had a profound takeaway of the enormity of the events that occurred on that day and the immense sense of patriotism and pride that existed in the days and months that followed. Mrs. Baldigowski and Mrs. Lauritzen are grateful to 911memorial.org and the Friends of Flight 93 National Memorial for making these educational resources and webinars available for South Park students.



# *LIVE THEATER RETURNS TO SOUTH PARK*

## **SOUTH PARK DRAMA CLUB PRESENTS**

# **clue**

## **COMING IN NOVEMBER**



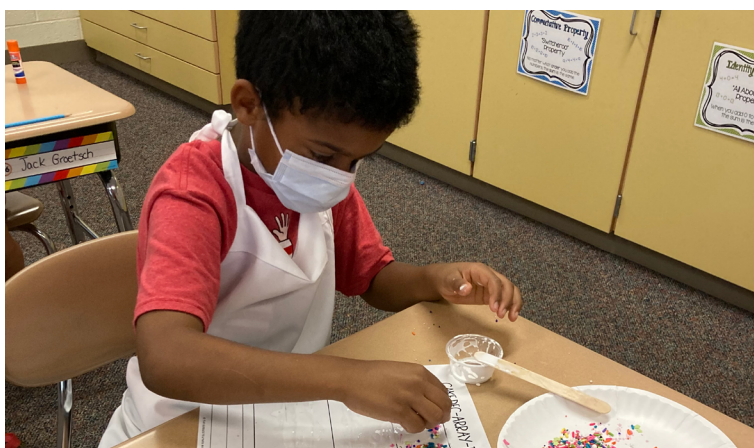
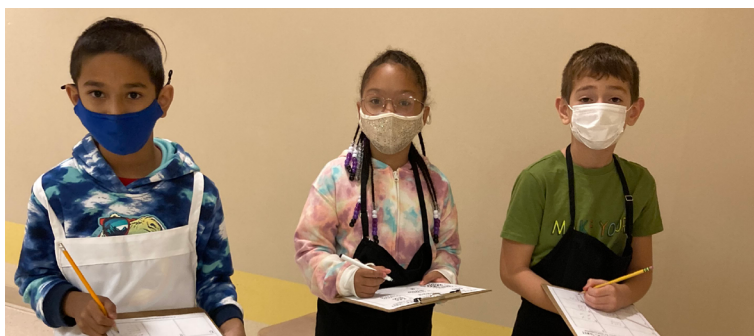
## GOLFERS SWING THEIR WAY TO WPIALS

South Park High School golfers Ryan Tumas, JP Tusai, and Dom Dice advanced to the WPIAL Golf Individual Championships on Thursday, September 30 at Allegheny Country Club.



## MATH FUN

Students in Mrs. Lewandowski's math class were "Cooking Up Some Math" while practicing arrays with "Cake Dec-Array-Ting!"



## LADY EAGLES ADVANCE TO WPIALS

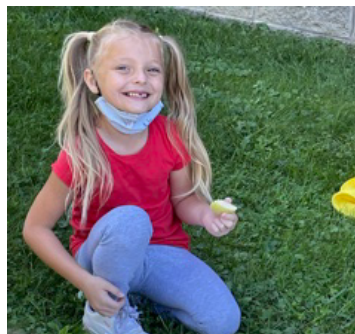
Nicole Kempton finished in first place and Haley Spitznagel finished in second place at the girls' Section 2-AA singles tournament. Both Nicole and Haley advanced to the WPIAL tournament where Nicole finished in third place.

Haley Spitznagel and Layla Gillis finished in first and Ava Rongaas and Larissa Mannheimer finished in second at the girls' tennis section doubles final. All four Lady Eagles advanced to the WPIAL tournament.



## AN APPLE A DAY

First graders recently marked Johnny Appleseed Day. There was a bushel of apple-themed learning activities and lessons and, of course, some delicious apples to enjoy.





## SIGNING THEIR NAMES

Constitution Day celebrates the formation and signing of the United States Constitution. On Friday, September 17, first graders capped off a day of learning about the Constitution by signing their name with a feather pen.



Find your  
**dream college**  
virtually

**South Hills Joint College  
& Career Fair**

*Click a Date  
to RSVP!*

**19  
OCT**

**20  
OCT**

In compliance with the federal McKinney-Vento Assistance Act, as reauthorized in 2015 by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), South Park School District is attempting to identify all children within the district who may be experiencing homelessness.

The term homeless children and youth defined as individuals who lack a fixed, regular and adequate nighttime residence. This includes individuals:

- Sharing the housing of other persons due to lack of housing, economic hardship or a similar reason;
- Living in a motel, hotel, trailer park, or campground due to lack of alternate adequate accommodations;
- Living in emergency or transitional shelters;
- Living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings; bus or train stations or similar settings;
- Living in substandard housing (no running water or working utilities, etc.)

Children who are experiencing homelessness may qualify for assistance with free school lunch, school supplies/materials, tutoring and transportation so that they can remain in their school of origin.

If you believe your child(ren) may qualify for this service, please contact the principal of your child(ren)'s school. You may also call 412-655-3111, extension 1000.

If your living situation changes during the school year, and you and your children becomes homeless, please be sure to contact the school. We will work with you so that your child(ren)'s education is disrupted as little as possible.

**South Park School District • 2005 Eagle Ridge Drive • South Park, PA 15129 • (412) 655-3111**

The South Park School District's mission is to provide an educational atmosphere where all students have opportunities to discover their talents, develop their abilities and achieve the expectations embedded in our educational program to become responsible and productive members of society.

### Board of Directors

**John Innocenti, President • Frank Wentzel, Vice President • Lorraine Blackburn • Mark Depretis  
Angela Girol • Wayne Perry • Nicholas Rudolph • Patrick Sable, Treasurer • Norman Solomon**

The South Park School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, sex, disability or any other legally protected classification in its education programs, activities or employment practices. Announcement of this policy is in accordance with state and federal laws including Title IV of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 and 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act.