SOUTH PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

EAGLE EYE

E-Newsletter September 1, 2016

Welcome Back!

School Starts on Tuesday, September 6

We are anxiously awaiting the start of another school year. When classes resume on Tuesday, September 6, students, parents and staff will notice many new additions. This summer, the South Park School District welcomed a new superintendent of schools, continued the renovation of South Park Middle School, introduced a one-to-one technology initiative and launched a new website. We will introduce and explore some of the changes for the 2016-2017 school year in this and in future editions of the Eagle Eye E-Newsletter.

Transportation and homeroom assignments were sent to families the week of August 22. Home Access Center went back online on Wednesday, August 24. If you have any questions, please contact your school office.

Share Your Back-to-School Photos!

For the second straight year, we are asking families to share their back-to-school photos on the South Park School District Facebook page. You can post your pictures on our Back to School post on Tuesday, September 6. We'll use the posted photos to create a collage commemorating the First Day of School!

South Park Students Get 21st Century Tool as Part of New One-to-One Technology Initiative

Many South Park students in fifth through twelfth grade are already taking advantage of the new tool provided to them by the South Park School District as part of a new one-to-one technology initiative.

The district announced in July that all South Park students in third through twelfth grades would receive a Chromebook for the 2016-2017 school year. Students started to receive the Chromebooks the week of August 22 during Chromebook Distribution Days.

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South Park School District
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sparksd.org SouthParkSchools @SPSDInfo SouthParkSchoolDistrict

Board of Directors
John Innocenti, President Frank Wentzel, Vice President Mary Arrigo, Treasurer
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A New Look for South Park Middle School

A look inside the South Park Middle School cafeteria from August 26, 2016

Inside the new South Park Middle School library at the site of the former school office

When school starts at South Park Middle School on Tuesday, September 6, students will see some big changes. During summer vacation, work inside and outside the school picked up at an accelerated pace.

Classrooms on the first and second floors are scheduled to be completed in time for the first day of school. The kitchen and the cafeteria are also scheduled to be completed for the first day of school. Work on the new gymnasium will continue through October. The installation of new hardwood floors has begun. While the gymnasium is being completed, physical education classes will be held in alternate locations including the cafeteria, classrooms and outside. There is a health education component of physical education classes that involves classroom instruction. This instruction can take place during the weeks while the new gymnasium is being completed.

The 190-seat large group instruction room, located in the former gymnasium, is the next and final phase of the South Park Middle School renovation. The LGI room is scheduled to be completed when the entire project wraps up in December 2016.

Students who are car riders in the morning should be dropped off in the rear of the building near the cafeteria from 8:00 a.m. to 8:15 a.m. Parents/guardians who are picking up students in the afternoon should arrive between 3:00 p.m. and 3:10 p.m. and report to the rear parking area near the cafeteria. Parents/guardians will need to check in with the monitor before escorting their child to the car. Car riders will be dismissed at approximately 3:05 p.m. once the buses have departed.

If you know about an event, fundraiser or student recognition, we would like to know about it!

Email communications@sparksd.org and let us know!

Get to know...

Wayne Gdovic

Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Wayne Gdovic was named the superintendent of the South Park School District on Thursday, June 9, 2016. Mr. Gdovic previously served as the superintendent of the South Allegheny School District. At South Allegheny, Mr. Gdovic also served as the director of elementary education, principal, assistant principal, dean of students, athletic director, in-school intervention teacher and health and physical education teacher. He also was a principal in the Moon Area School District.

Mr. Gdovic received the 2011 Pennsylvania Association of School Administrators Award for Leadership in Public Education.

Dates to Remember

Monday, September 5
Labor Day
District Closed

Tuesday, September 6
First Day
of School

Thursday, September 8
Board of Directors Meeting
at 6:30 p.m. in the
South Park High School Cafeteria

Chromebook Program

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Families who were unable to make it to one of the Chromebook Distribution Days can access, print and complete the Parent Chromebook Agreement and Technology Protection Plan forms on the Chromebook Program webpage. Students can bring these forms with them to school. Chromebooks will only be distributed to students who have turned in the required paperwork.

Students in third and fourth grades will receive their Chromebook during the first week of classes.

To learn more and to read the answers to some frequently asked questions, click here to visit the Chromebook program webpage.

South Park School District Welcomes New Teachers and Staff

The South Park School District welcomes new teachers and staff for the start of the 2016-2017 school year.

New South Park School District staff members from left: Steven Thompson, Lori Duggan, Lindsey Faini and Kristy Kwitowski

- **Steven Thompson, School Police Officer**
  Mr. Thompson has 25 years of experience in law enforcement. He served as a state police deputy fire marshal, criminal investigator and patrol unit member.
- **Lori Duggan, High School Business Education Teacher**
  Mrs. Duggan was a high school business and computer teacher at Agora Cyber Charter School for five years. She also worked as a substitute teacher in the Baldwin-Whitehall and Northgate School Districts.
- **Lindsey Faini, Middle School Music Teacher**
  Mrs. Faini worked as a long-term music teacher at Eisenhower Elementary School in the Upper St. Clair School District. She also worked at Skyview Elementary in Morgantown, WV.
- **Kristy Kwitowski, Elementary Special Education Teacher**
  Mrs. Kwitowski previously worked at Family Links as a special education teacher. She also worked as an everyday substitute teacher with the Allegheny Intermediate Unit.

Entrepreneurship in the Spotlight at Teacher Professional Development Day

Author, speaker and former television news anchor Darieth Chisolm was the keynote speaker at the teacher professional development day on Tuesday, August 30. Ms. Chisolm spoke to teachers about fostering a sense of entrepreneurship in South Park students.

At a special meeting on Thursday, August 18, 2016, the South Park School District Board of Directors appointed Norman Solomon to fill the vacant position on the Board due to the retirement of Daniel McBride. The vote was 6-0. Solomon was one of four candidates for the position. Jan Beaver, Tamela Bowden and Shannon Bucci also interviewed for the position.

Fall Sports Schedules (As of Monday, August 29)

Middle School Girls' Volleyball
Tuesday, September 13
at Steel Valley- 3:45 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
vs. Elizabeth Forward-
4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20
at West Mifflin- 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 22
at Thomas Jefferson- 4:00 p.m.

Monday, September 26
vs. Ringgold- 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28
at Pleasant Hills Middle-
4:00 p.m.

Monday, October 3
vs. Peters- 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4
vs. Steel Valley- 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 6
vs. Elizabeth Forward-
3:45 p.m.

Tuesday, October 11
vs. West Mifflin- 4:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 13
vs. Harrison Middle- 4:00 p.m.

Monday, October 17
at Ringgold- 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 19
vs. Pleasant Hills Middle-
4:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 20
at Peters- 4:00 p.m.

Middle School Football
Wednesday, September 7
at Jefferson Middle- 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 14
vs. Elizabeth Forward-
4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
at Chartiers Valley- 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28
vs. West Mifflin- 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5
at Trinity- 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 12
at Mellon Middle- 4:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 19
vs. South Allegheny- 4:00 p.m.

High School Varsity Football
Friday, September 2
vs. Southmoreland- 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 9
at Mount Pleasant- 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 16
vs. Washington- 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 23
at Derry- 7:00 p.m.

Friday, September 30
at Aliquippa- 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 7
vs. Waynesburg- 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 14
at McGuffey- 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 21
vs. Elizabeth Forward-
7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 28
vs. Yough- 7:00 p.m.

High School Girls' Varsity Tennis
Tuesday, September 6
vs. Southmoreland- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 8
vs. Washington- 3:30 p.m.

Monday, September 12
at McGuffey- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
at Thomas Jefferson- 3:30 p.m.

Monday, September 19
vs. Greensburg Central
Catholic- 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
at West Mifflin- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 22
vs. Ringgold- 3:30 p.m.

Monday, September 26
vs. Keystone Oaks- 3:30 p.m.

High School Girls' JV Tennis
Friday, September 9
at Shaler Area- 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 13
at Bethel Park- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
vs. Thomas Jefferson- 3:30 p.m.

High School Cross Country
Tuesday, September 13
vs. Keystone Oaks, Steel Valley
and Winchester Thurston-
3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20
at South Allegheny- 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 27
at Serra Catholic- 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4
at Bishop Canevin- 3:30 p.m.

High School Varsity Golf
Thursday, September 1
at Thomas Jefferson- 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 6
at Bishop Canevin- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 8
at Burgettstown- 3:30 p.m.

Monday, September 12
vs. Bentworth- 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 14
at Chartiers Houston- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
vs. McGuffey- 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
at Fort Cherry- 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28
vs. Bishop Canevin- 3:30 p.m.

High School JV Golf
Friday, September 2
vs. Cardinal Wuerl North
Catholic- 3:30 p.m.

Friday, September 9
vs. Quaker Valley- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
vs. McGuffey- 3:30 p.m.

High School Girls' Varsity Soccer
Wednesday, September 7
vs. Trinity- 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 10
vs. Obama Academy- 2:00 p.m.

Monday, September 12
vs. Thomas Jefferson- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 14
vs. West Mifflin- 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 17
at Bethel Park- 2:30 p.m.

Monday, September 19
vs. Ringgold- 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
vs. Oakland Catholic- 7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 26
vs. Chartiers Valley- 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28
at Trinity- 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 1
at Obama Academy- 7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 3
at Thomas Jefferson- 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5
at West Mifflin- 7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 10
at Ringgold- 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 12
at Oakland Catholic- 7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 17
at Chartiers Valley- 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 19
at Peters Township- 7:45 p.m.

High School Girls' JV Soccer
Wednesday, September 7
vs. Trinity- 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 10
vs. Obama Academy-
12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 14
vs. West Mifflin- 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 17
at Bethel Park- 1:00 p.m.

Monday, September 19
vs. Ringgold- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
vs. Oakland Catholic- 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 26
vs. Chartiers Valley- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28
at Trinity- 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 1
at Obama Academy- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5
at West Mifflin- 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 10
at Ringgold- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 12
at Oakland Catholic- 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 17
at Chartiers Valley- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, October 19
at Peters Township- 6:15 p.m.

High School Boys' Varsity Soccer
Saturday, September 3
at Mount Pleasant- 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, September 6
vs. East Allegheny- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 8
at Obama Academy- 3:30 p.m.

Monday, September 12
vs. South Allegheny- 8:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 14
at Steel Valley- 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 19
at McGuffey- 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20
vs. Keystone Oaks- 3:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 22
at Elizabeth Forward- 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 24
at East Allegheny- 1:00 p.m.

Monday, September 26
at Ringgold- 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 27
vs. Obama Academy- 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 29
at South Allegheny- 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 1
at Beaver Area- 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 5
at West Mifflin- 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 6
vs. Steel Valley- 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 11
at Keystone Oaks- 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 13
vs. Elizabeth Forward-
3:15 p.m.

Saturday, October 15
at South Fayette- 6:00 p.m.

High School Boys' JV Soccer

Saturday, September 3
at Mount Pleasant- 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, September 8
at Obama Academy- 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20
vs. Keystone Oaks- following
varsity game

Tuesday, September 22
at Elizabeth Forward- 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 26
at Ringgold- 6:00 p.m.

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Fall Sports Schedule Continued from page 4

High School Boys' Varsity Soccer
Saturday, October 1
at Beaver Area- 12:00 noon

Thursday, October 6
vs. Steel Valley- following varsity game

Tuesday, October 11
at Keystone Oaks- 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 13
vs. Elizabeth Forward- following varsity game

Saturday, October 15
at South Fayette- 4:00 p.m.

High School Girls' Varsity Volleyball
Tuesday, September 6
vs. Serra Catholic- 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 7
at Keystone Oaks- 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 13
vs. Steel Valley- 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
at Seton-La Salle- 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20
vs. South Allegheny- 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
at Elizabeth Forward- 7:30 p.m.

Monday, September 26
at Brownsville- 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28
at Carlynton- 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, September 29
at Serra Catholic- 7:30 p.m.

Monday, October 3
vs. Ringgold- 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4
vs. Keystone Oaks- 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 6
at Steel Valley- 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, October 11
at Seton-La Salle- 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 13
at South Allegheny- 7:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 20
vs. Carlynton- 7:00 p.m.

High School Girls' JV Volleyball
Tuesday, September 6
vs. Serra Catholic- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 7
at Keystone Oaks- 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 13
vs. Steel Valley- 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
at Seton-La Salle- 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 20
vs. South Allegheny- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 21
at Elizabeth Forward- 6:00 p.m.

Monday, September 26
at Brownsville- 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday, September 28
at Carlynton- 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 29
at Serra Catholic- 6:00 p.m.

Monday, October 3
vs. Ringgold- 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday, October 4
vs. Keystone Oaks- 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 6
at Steel Valley- 6:00 p.m

Tuesday, October 11
at Seton-La Salle- 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 13
at South Allegheny- 6:00 p.m.

Thursday, October 20
vs. Carlynton- 6:00 p.m.

*Schedules subject to change. For the latest South Park schedules, click here.

2016-2017 Open House Schedule

The South Park School District will host its annual open houses later this month at all three of its schools. Open houses give South Park families the chance to learn more about the curriculum and meet their child's teachers and administrators. ***Students are dismissed two hours early on the day of their school's open house.***

South Park Elementary Center Open House
Monday, September 26, 2016
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

South Park Middle School Open House
Tuesday, September 27, 2016
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

South Park High School Open House
Wednesday, September 28, 2016
6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

WPXI Makes Back-to-School Visit to South Park

The South Park School District welcomed WPXI to South Park High School on Wednesday, August 31. Morning reporter Steven Fisher delivered doughnuts and coffee to the high school faculty and staff to welcome them back to school. While at South Park High School, the WPXI crew also recorded video for an upcoming promotional video. We'll be sure to post the video when we receive it.