



Head of the Class

August 31, 2022

"You can accomplish anything with students if you set high expectations for behavior and performance by which you yourself abide." - Harry K. Wong

Message from our Head of School

Dear Sussex Academy Community,

Last week our faculty and staff returned to kick-off the first of two weeks of professional development and if I could only use one word to describe the collective energy that started the week, that word would be “inspiring.” Along with many of our veteran faculty and staff returning, we have many accomplished educators new to the SA community, who bring the experience and passion necessary to continue to provide the most exceptional academic experience in Sussex County and the State of Delaware. Just like the rest of the world, Sussex Academy felt the negative impacts of existing through a global pandemic, however, I am proud to say that despite the rest of the state seeing significant declines in academic performance, not only did the students at Sussex Academy not see significant declines in their academic performance, but comparatively improved the schools overall academic standing, outperforming all other districts and charters in several state testing categories. During the pandemic, Sussex Academy students were at school in-person, more than any other public school district, and I contribute that to our academic success during the pandemic. As we begin a new school year, we will continue to provide both a high level academic and whole child experience to our students and will continue to reflect on ways those experiences can be enhanced. Finally, in an effort to streamline communication, I will be sending a weekly email called "Head of the Class" to families every week on Sunday (beginning Sunday, September 4, 2022), that will include all pertinent information K-12 for families

to reference. This communication will serve as a sample of the format for future weekly communications. In addition to this communication being sent via email, it will also be posted on our school's website, with a direct link posted on the homepage. But wait, that's not all. Every Tuesday, following the Head of Class communication being released, I will be holding zoom coffee chats to serve as a forum to have any questions answered regarding any information that was in the weekly communication. Those chats will be held at 10am and a link will be included in the email and posted on the website. Again, I am inspired to believe that the 2022- 2023 school year is going to be an amazing school year, and I look forward to welcoming back our students next week! Enjoy these last moments of summer and have a great Labor Day Weekend.

Sincerely,

Eric M. Anderson
Head of School

Updates from the Elementary Campus

For all things elementary visit:

<https://sites.google.com/sussexacademy.org/sussex-academy-elementary/home>

We have one new elementary faculty member this year. Welcome to Jenna Dean! She is joining us as our 4th & 5th grade math teacher. Ms. Dean is a native of Delaware. After graduating from the Charter School of Wilmington she attended the University of Delaware. She earned a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and Middle School Mathematics. She was also a member of the women's rowing team at Delaware. In her spare time, she enjoys relaxing and reading a good book on the beach; and spending time with her family and their two dogs, Summer and Wrangler. This is her first year at Sussex Academy and she is excited to join the Seahawk family!

Wednesday, August 31 - Meet the teacher(s). Come anytime between 1:30 - 3:00 PM to say hello! And bring supplies.

Tuesday, September 6 - First Day of school for ALL K - 5th graders. Start 8:10 AM - Dismiss 3:15 PM

Thursday, September 15 from 6:00 - 7:00 PM Back to School Night (for parents only).

We have NEW backpacks and pencil boxes available - first come first served.

If you have not turned in paperwork for your child - please complete it and bring it to school ASAP or email it to colleen.eisenmann@saas.k12.de.us

English:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1fs6AFxyQeaXsRWVK648JQQGEKIT6_-hO?usp=sharing

Health Forms:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1leTQz6sJ_epAu6n_nI7fAwWngluk8NkZ?usp=sharing

Espanol:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1FCAQ7XomgOfANL_c9Q3OMtY9-AGThd3?usp=sharing

Formularios de Salud:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Umpmc1-POFZpBkNG7_29IR0IFopviKaK?usp=sharing

Physician physicals, immunization records, TB risk assessments, and lead screening levels are required for entry to school for Kindergarten or any child entering public school for the first time.

Annually, the required medical form is the emergency treatment card (front and back) which includes a health history update and is to be completed by parents/guardians.

Don't forget to order breakfasts and lunches by Wednesday PM of each week!

<http://www.orderhotlunch.com/DE/Georgetown/SussexAcademy/>

Needs:

***Plastic Ice Cream TubS w/lids (classroom compost buckets) 1 per classroom and per kitchen.**

***Used Mens, Women's, Kids white cotton button-up dress shirts. They can be short or long sleeve and can be ones with yellowed collars, etc. (Donated shirts will be washed, tie dyed and turned into student lab coats.)**

As Fall approaches, please consider donating your seasonal hanging pots, tropical, annuals or any old house plants, etc. to our school green house and gardening program. Have extra potting soil lying around? It's also always needed.

School Garden Bed Adoption Program- In an effort to beautify our school gardens with native perennials, families are needed that want to adopt and maintain one of our many school garden beds. Have a spot you want to beautify with native trees, shrubs flowers, etc. or want to adopt one of our existing beds, please send an email to Mr. Ott. New to gardening or not sure what to plant? Don't worry Mr. Ott or Ms. Hendricks will be glad to help lead you in the right direction.

Don.ott@saas.k12.de.us



Girls on the Run will be offered for girls in grades 3, 4, and 5 at Sussex Academy Elementary this fall! The program will start on Monday, September 26th and run through the beginning of December. Practices will be held twice a week on Mondays and Wednesdays after school from 3:15 until 4:45. For more information and to register for Girls on the Run, please click the link below:
<https://www.gotrde.org/programs>

For more specific questions, please feel free to contact Juliane Hein at juliane.hein@saas.k12.de.us

Updates from the Secondary Campus

Secondary Campus start dates/times:

Tuesday, September 6: All students in **grades 6 and 9 only**

Wednesday, September 7: All Secondary students (grades 6-12)

*Students in grades 7,8,10,11,12 who are **NEW** to Sussex Academy are welcome to come to Sussex Academy on Tuesday, September 6 for tours.*

- ***New to Sussex Academy students in Grades 7-8 can tour from 9-10am on Tuesday, September 6***
- ***New to Sussex Academy students in Grades 10-12 can tour from 2-3pm on Tuesday, September 6***

Students are able to begin entering the school building at 7:50am, school starts at 8am.

Student Services department restructure:

For the 2022-2023, we have restructured our Student Services department. Our counseling staff is:

Mr. Scott Cleaver - **School Counselor** for students in grades 10-12

Ms. Stacey Alinkoff - **School Counselor** for students in grades 6-9

Mrs. Maureen McLaughlin, long time middle school Social Studies teacher at Sussex Academy, has accepted a position in our Student Services Office as **Academic Advisor**. Mrs. McLaughlin will be working with students in Grades 6-12 and coordinating programs such as Academic Challenge, PSAT/SAT, and Naviance.

Our goal is to continue to improve our counseling services by removing some of our academic program responsibilities from counselor roles. Having a dedicated person (Mrs. McLaughlin) to focus on all of our academic programs not only allows her to focus and engage families directly on all things academic but, provides our counselors with opportunities for more 1:1 and small group counseling.

Senior Parents:

Ms. Mews is sharing a document [here](#) regarding Senior Ads for the Yearbook.

Parking Passes:

Juniors and Seniors who will be driving to school, please follow [this link](#) to two documents: an overview of expectations and the form to complete to receive a parking pass. You can turn your form in to Mrs. Lynette Pierce in the main office. If you have any specific questions about parking, you can direct them to Mr. Mark Albert, our constable.

SAHS THEATRE FALL 2022 PRODUCTION:

NOISES OFF!

The SAHS Theatre Season is kicking off this week with set construction for the fall play *Noises Off*. Audition videos will also be due the first day of school (9/7), so please see below to learn how to get involved!

Audition Materials/Applications for Performers & Behind the Scenes

In this [folder of Audition Materials](#), there is General Information about the show (including plot/character information and audition procedures), a Tentative Rehearsal Schedule, the Actor Agreement, Audition Monologues, and Callback Sides. Any student who wants a job Behind the Scenes should complete the [Behind the Scenes application](#). *Anyone* can help with the set construction - there is no need to apply to help with that (see below for more information about set construction).

SET CONSTRUCTION HELPERS (adults and students needed)

The set builder (Logan Lynch) is in need of between 2-6 adults and 8-16 students to help with set construction. No building/construction skills are required to volunteer.

So far, we have five work days established:

Thursday, 8/25, 2-3 (only students needed to help carry lumber to stage)

Saturday, 8/27, 10-4

Thursday, 9/1, 10-4 (might end early on this day)

Friday, 9/2, 10-4

Saturday, 9/3, 10-4

You do not have to attend all of the sessions to volunteer, nor do you have to stay the entire time if you have other obligations. Please [sign up for slots/times](#) to help.

A stage production of the show is available on Youtube:

[youtube.com/watch?v=RmJWPGZp1-Y](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RmJWPGZp1-Y)

There is also a movie version starring Michael Caine, which can be rented on YouTube, Amazon Prime, or Vudu.

Dates you need to know

INTEREST MEETING:

Wed., Sept. 7th (3:15-5:15) in Rm. 311

ONLINE APPLICATIONS/VIDEO AUDITIONS:

Due by 11:59pm on Wednesday, Sept. 7th

CALLBACKS:

Fri., Sept. 9th (3:15-5:15) in Room 311

FIRST REHEARSAL:

Monday, Sept. 12th (3:15-5:15) in Room 311

TECH REHEARSALS:

Sun., 10/23 (12:30-6:30) &

Mon. 10/24 - Thurs., 10/27

SHOWS:

Oct. 28 @7pm & Oct. 29 @ 2pm & 7pm

See [Tentative Schedule](#) for more info

Other important things to know:

Auditions are open to any high school student, grades 9-12.

Any high school student – regardless of gender or race – can audition for any role in the show regardless of the role’s scripted gender or race.

There are only 9 roles in the show – 5 male and 4 female. A British accent is **STRONGLY** preferred for all actors. There will be understudies cast for all 9 roles who will also work backstage.

Please contact erin.bobby@saas.k12.de.us with any questions.

Updates from our Athletic Department

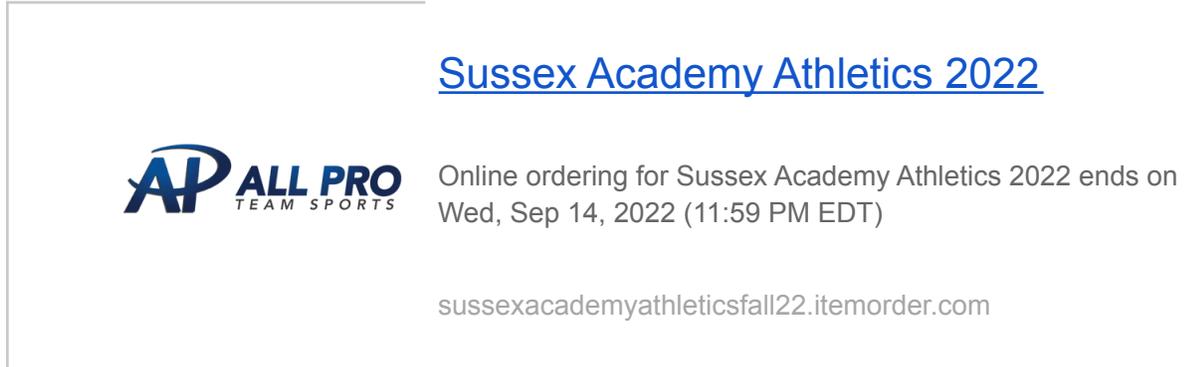
Highlights:

Follow us on Twitter @SASeahawks

Next orders from our stores will be processed on 9/14. This means you have between now and then to take advantage of the awesome discounts and gear that Under Armor provides us. Support our teams and look good at the same time.

SA Athletics Store

<https://sussexacademyathleticsfall22.itemorder.com/>

A promotional banner for Sussex Academy Athletics 2022. On the left is the logo for 'AP ALL PRO TEAM SPORTS', where 'AP' is in a large, stylized blue font, and 'ALL PRO' is in a smaller blue font above 'TEAM SPORTS'. To the right of the logo, the text reads 'Sussex Academy Athletics 2022' in a blue, underlined font. Below that, it says 'Online ordering for Sussex Academy Athletics 2022 ends on Wed, Sep 14, 2022 (11:59 PM EDT)'. At the bottom right, the website URL 'sussexacademyathleticsfall22.itemorder.com' is displayed in a smaller, grey font.

Sussex Academy Athletics 2022

Online ordering for Sussex Academy Athletics 2022 ends on
Wed, Sep 14, 2022 (11:59 PM EDT)

sussexacademyathleticsfall22.itemorder.com

SA Volleyball Store

<https://sussexacademyvolleyballfall22.itemorder.com/>

SA Soccer Store

<https://sussexacademysoccerfall22.itemorder.com/>

SA Field Hockey Store

<https://sussexacademyfieldhockeyfall22.itemorder.com/>

SA Cross Country Store

<https://sussexacademycrosscountryfall22.itemorder.com/>

Information:

[DIAA 2022-2023 PPE Form](#)

All student athletes need to have an approved DIAA physical form on file dated after 4/1/22. Fall Middle School Athletes should have already submitted their form but if not please do so ASAP.

Fall Sports will begin tryouts on 9/7/22. We will offer women's volleyball, men's soccer, women's field hockey, and co ed cross country. All students grades 6-8 are welcomed to try out.

Upcoming:

Cross Country - Jay Diaz

The team will open the season on 9/10 at the Lake Forest Invitational. Coach Diaz has brought a lot of excitement to the program as our number of runners continues to increase on a yearly basis. The team has been training hard and looks to build on the success that they had last season.

Field Hockey - Leah Hunsinger

The team just participated and did very well in a Playday with 5 of the top 10 teams in Delaware including last year's Division 1 and 2 State Champions. Going 2-1-1 in this playday gives the team tremendous confidence going into their opening game against Polytech on 9/9. The team returns a number of strong contributors from their state semi finalist team last year.

Men's Soccer - RJ Dina

Soccer opens the season at Cape Henlopen on 9/10. Our team is young but very talented. Coach Dina definitely has this program headed in the right direction and it will not be long before they are a force in the Mid-Atlantic Region.

Women's Volleyball - Hailee Gooch

Volleyball is off to a great start. They hosted a play day of 9 of the top teams in the state and everyone came away very impressed with the level of organization of the event. Our roster is a veteran group that has been through the rigors of the very competitive Henlopen Conference. This experience should serve them well and we are excited for the upcoming season.

Sports Boosters Information:

Sports Boosters welcomes the following officers for the upcoming year:

Denise Wells - President

Jennifer Jarrell - Secretary

Dawn Taylor - Treasurer

We are still seeking parent volunteers for the Office of Vice President, Team Liason Coordinator, and various booster committees.

Please reach out to Denise with interest at: Denise.z.wells@wilmu.edu

Please consider joining the Sports Boosters to help support our amazing student athletes and coaches.

Congratulations:

SA Athletics would like to congratulate Sanne Elling on her college commitment St. Mary's College of Maryland. Sanne will be competing in Swimming AND Women's Lacrosse at the collegiate level. This is a very impressive accomplishment. Here at SA, you can find Sanne competing in 3 Sports and taking a very demanding course schedule while maintaining honor roll level grades. Sanne is a perfect example of the type of student athlete we are trying to develop at Sussex Academy and we feel lucky that we get to watch her compete for one more year before we send her off to college.